

Book Reviews

Wood County Place Names. By Robert S. Rudolph. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1970. Pp. ix, 121. Paper. Price \$3.95.

A place-names study such as *Wood County Place Names* inevitably invites comparison with Frederic Cassidy's justly praised *Dane County Place-Names* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1968) and its earlier version, *The Place-Names of Dane County, Wisconsin* (Publications of the American Dialect Society, No. 7, 1947). Now a member of the English Department at the University of Toledo, Robert Rudolph worked under the guidance of Professor Cassidy and in fact modeled his study on the earlier treatment of Wisconsin place-names. The new work clearly benefits from the relationship.

Wood County Place Names is a comprehensive study, apparently embracing, as Cassidy put it in his own volume, "all the place names that have or have had any sort of public status. . . ." Thus the study includes in a single alphabetical list names of "railroads, towns, cities, flagstations, spur lines, post offices, rural schools, corners, additions and subdivisions of villages and cities (through 1928), parks, all streams and bodies of water (including swamps and marshes), all named elevations, roads and streets with historical significance, important dams, lumber mills with historical significance, and a lumbering camp . . . whose name was for a time relatively important as a place name" (p. vii).

Drawing upon a substantial range and number of sources, including 14 informants, *Wood County Place Names* provides a readable and well-documented discussion of the usual place-name matters, including spelling variants, location (in conventional surveyor's abbreviations), type of feature, date range, origin, and type of name. The relationship of the location of settlements to the county's development is undergirded by a sketch of its settlement history (Appendix I), which delineates the sequential influence of water and lumber, railroads, and agriculture on the region. As Rudolph remarks, the pattern of settlement has been somewhat circular, beginning with the lumber industry's dependence on water power and ending with the paper industry's similar dependence.

Although the new Wisconsin study provides essentially the same kinds of information as its predecessor and treats it in a similar manner, the discussion is in at least one respect less thorough: Rudolph notes all spellings that were found but includes only a few pronunciations, those he takes not to be obvious. The problem is that some obvious pronunciations may not correspond to local usage or, to put it the other way, pronunciations that are obvious to the local inhabitants may seem strange to outsiders. The pronunciation of an Indiana place-name is a case in

point. One obvious pronunciation of *Terre Haute* is [tɛrə 'hɒt], but this (spelling) pronunciation unfailingly marks the outsider (commented on in the reviewer's article, "The Americanization of *Terre Haute*," *Indiana Names*, II:1 [Spring, 1971], pp. 13-18). Cassidy himself indicated pronunciations of most names, on the basis that "what appears commonplace in this region may be unusual or unknown in another . . ." (p. xiii). It would seem, in fact, that indication of all known pronunciations would be as useful as the inclusion of spelling variants.

The naming practices, analyzed and charted in Appendix II, appear to be fairly consistent with those of other midwestern counties. Thus the names for artificial features outnumber those for natural features by almost three to one; and in both natural and artificial the most frequent types are those for people (mostly local), for nearby places, and the descriptive, the three types accounting for some 70 percent of the names. Given Cassidy's "strong impression that Dane County may prove to be a microcosm of the state of Wisconsin at large" (p. 225), it is interesting to note that in Dane County the names for artificial features outnumber the natural by about two to one. The most frequent types, while the same as in Wood County, account for over 83 percent of the names. The influence of water power in Wood County may be reflected in the fact that water courses account for a little less than 30 percent of the natural feature names in Dane County, compared with some 45 percent of the natural feature names in Wood County.

Though place-naming is a relatively sober process, the settlers of Wood County could jest about their good fortune or hard luck or that of their neighbors, as evidenced by such names as "Aristocracy Hill," "Quality Row," and "Society Corners," on the one hand; and "Hungry Hill," "Hungry Hollow," and "Poverty Flat," on the other. The frontier spirit is well displayed in the designation of a tiny logging railroad as the "Texas and Southeastern Railroad."

As an end in itself, *Wood County Place Names* is a worthwhile addition to place-names study. As a means to an end, the work is likewise admirable; for it will surely stimulate further studies of the sort.

Marvin Carmony

Indiana State University

Place names of the Avalon Peninsula of the Island of Newfoundland. By E. R. Seary. Published for Memorial University of Newfoundland in Toronto: Univ. of Toronto Press, 1971. Pp. 383. Price \$15.00.

Members of the American Name Society will welcome Dr. Seary's contribution to the field of toponymy. The thoroughness of his research and

his methodology of presentation are models that other researchers in the field might well emulate.

Although the area that Dr. Seary chose to analyze is not large, the long history of its nomenclature, the complexity of sources available and the multiplicity of languages from which the names are derived make the study of toponymy there very difficult and challenging.

Dr. Seary introduces his book by commenting on the field of toponymy in general and assessing his source materials. A short chapter follows on the geography of the area, the names of Amerindian origin and the names derived from Portuguese, Spanish and Basque sources. A chapter is devoted to the names of French provenance. Two chapters are devoted to names of English origin in the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries. A chapter on nineteenth century names is followed by another on names derived from Irish sources. At this point many a writer might have concluded his study but Dr. Seary devotes more than half of his book to the following: examination of name distribution, investigation of single-element names, assessment of generics, analysis of names according to the system devised by Dr. George Stewart in 1954, presentation of an alphabetical list of all names found in the peninsula and review of his sources.

Dr. Seary notes that he was denied access to the records of the Nomenclature Board of Newfoundland, but does not explain why public documents were withheld. Certainly the records of the Canadian Permanent Committee in Ottawa would have been made available to him, although, for Newfoundland, the records date only from Confederation in 1949. However, he would have learned how the stock of names on the current topographic maps was selected, and would have been able to determine that the Committee only endorses postal designations selected by the Post Office Department that are acceptable to the people being served.

Dr. Seary's critical analysis of names of uncertain origin appears quite good with the possible exception of *Quidi Vidi*. His conclusion that the name is probably from a French family name is not convincing, based on the evidence he has provided.

Throughout his book Dr. Seary keys the names to the topographical maps. Unfortunately he does not provide a map illustrating the distribution of current names. Ideally a reader should have a set of the 1:50,000 maps at hand when reading the book. Lacking a set, which costs \$18.00 for coverage of the whole peninsula, a reader is advised to acquire the four 1:250,000 sheets embracing the area (1K, 1L, 1N and 2C). These can be obtained from the Map Distribution Office, 615 Booth Street, Ottawa for 50 cents each.

J. A. Rayburn

Ottawa, Canada

Familiennamen in Ostfalen. By Rudolf Zoder. Hildesheim: Georg Olms Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1968. Pp. 1017 (I, A–K), 900 (II, L–Z), with separate pagination. Price DM 398.–, or about \$ 123.40.

Eastphalia (German *Ostfalen*) is a historical Low German area that is not as well known as Westphalia or *Westfalen*. But thanks to an Eastphalian-derived dynasty in Britain, two Eastphalian place-names, Hanover and Brunswick (Low German *Brunswiek*), have spread with British and English settlements far beyond the shores of Europe. Hamelin, the good Eastphalian town of Pied Piper fame, is known to every schoolchild where English is spoken. Rudolf Zoder defines Eastphalia, the area of his study, as lying roughly between the Middle Weser at Hamelin and the Middle Elbe at Magdeburg, with the two main centers of Eastphalian Low German: Brunswick and Hildesheim. He disclaims as part of his area, as part of Eastphalian Low German, "South Low German" to the south, within which lies the famous university town of Göttingen.

As the starting point for this study of family names in Eastphalia are *Adreßbücher* or directories of seven cities, of those five named above as well as of Goslar and Halberstadt. Zoder's ideal year for directories chosen was 1935, before the great *Völkerwanderung* ("wandering or migration of peoples") at the close of, and as an aftermath of, World War II, which brought swarms of refugees from the German East-that-was. With their coming, the family names they brought with them profoundly altered the fairly stable distribution of family names in Eastphalia and elsewhere. A regional omission was made further to ensure the Eastphalian-ness of the family names studied: The Upper Harz, where mining accounts for a strong East Central High German strain from Upper Saxony. Contrastive non-Eastphalian name material is, however, admitted from Göttingen for neighboring "South Low German" and from Lüneburg for neighboring North or Coastal Low German, to the north.

A wealth of published archival material provided the author with the backbone for his rich historical documentation. To this was added unpublished material from the City Archives of Hildesheim. In the documentation for family names of some third of a century ago, it is not only older entries that are made. Sixteenth-, seventeenth- and even eighteenth-century entries are also brought in, with the justification that it was in these later times that most family names took on their definitive forms, be it owing to an arbitrary transcription or to what was frequently a conscious, oftentimes euphemistic modification of a name made by the bearer thereof. In the name etymologies given, those allowing of an Eastphalian explanation are presented first.

In the first volume between pp. 25 and 143 there are 88 categories of anthroponymic observations. They are supported by numerous examples

given in full or, exceptionally, near-full complement. The last 37 observations are classified as “linguistic” (*sprachlich*). So might likewise be Observations 21 and 29 (word order), and 47 (name shortening). Eastphalian Low German *-ing* > *-i* (as in *Henning* > *Henni*) is found as two observations: 8 and 67, the latter being “linguistic.” Under Observations 85 (High and Low Germanization) and 86 (Transition to High German) there is nothing on the family name *Burmester* (Low German)/*Burmeister* (half High Germanized)/*Bauermeister* (High Germanized), although a minimal pair is cited in the dictionary.

Now for some “criticism” that is less on the trivial side and relevant as an answer for help. The writer is at a loss to know what to make of the given-name suffix *-oys* (Observation 15). It is an Old French borrowing in South Middle Dutch names. I refer him to p. 128 of Part 1 of Vol. 1 of a work that he lists in his own bibliography: Adolf Bach’s *Deutsche Namenkunde*. On the same page he will also find something on *-dei* (Observation 88), for which he searches diligently, but with little success, in the literature for enlightenment. Later than the Bach reference (1952) and highly recommended reading on the subject of *-dei* is R. Haeserijn’s article on pp. 168–173 of the eleventh or 1959 volume of (Willem Pée’s) *Taalen Tongval*: “De verspreiding van een ingweonisme: de namen op *-dei*.”

The *-dei* of *hern Cord Stekeldeyge*, a.d. 1440, and of six other bearers of six other *-dei* names given by Zoder, bespeak for Eastphalian Low German a North Sea Germanic (Anglo-Frisian-like) link seaward to Coastal Low German and Coastal Dutch. *Thyloys*, a.d. 1285 and *Ludoys*, a.d. 1335 (*Ludolf* in 1334), on the other hand, bespeak migration from Flanders or elsewhere in the Southern Netherlands, whence came “Fleming” in *Conradus Flamingus*, a.d. 1242, and in 1302 *Mechtildis relicta Reyneri dicti Vleminc* (Observation 25).

We can indeed be grateful to Rudolf Zoder for his monumental handbook on family names in Eastphalia. It contributes substantially to our emerging knowledge of the anthroponymic provinces of Germanic Europe, past and present. A first supplementary volume titled *Personennamen in Ostfalen* will soon be in the offing.

Geart B. Droege

Capital University

GALE RESEARCH COMPANY REPRINTS IN ONOMASTICS: VI

This survey of books reprinted by Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226, is the sixth in the series of articles giving prominent notice to books of interest to readers of *Names*. Titles and pertinent bibliographical material are given below.

Deems, Edward M. *Holy-Days and Holidays*. New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1902. Pp. 768. Republished, 1968. \$19.50.

Chambers, R. *The Book of Days*. 2 vols. London: J. B. Lippincott Co., [1864]. Vol. I, pp. 832; vol. II, pp. 840. Republished, 1967. New intro. by Leslie Shepard. \$38.50.

Hone, William. *The Every-Day Book*. 2 vols. London: Published for William Hone, 1826–1827. Vol. I, pp. 1,719; vol. II, pp. 1,711. Republished, 1967. \$45.00.

– – *The Table Book*. Vol. I and II, as one. London: Hunt and Clarke, 1827. Pp. 1,742. Republished, 1967. \$22.50.

– – *The Year Book*. London: William Tegg and Co., 1832. Pp. 824. Republished, 1967. New intro. by Leslie Shepard. \$22.00.

Gale Research Company has on occasion been strongly criticized for what seems to have been an indiscriminate reprinting of texts better forgotten. In the field of onomastics, this censure cannot be applied fairly, although some of the texts must be cited with caution, as befits any text that has, to an extent, been superseded. Usually, Gale has republished books on names that were difficult to find in libraries or anywhere else. Consequently, a great service has been performed for onomatologists who need the books for their research or for knowledge of previous work in the field.

The texts under consideration here are only tangentially concerned with names, but they contain information that is usable, and therefore have value for members of the American Name Society. Each text belongs more properly to studies in folklore, containing some original material, but unfortunately only slightly documented. The most welcome to me is Chambers' *Book of Days*, long a favorite for its collectanea of miscellaneous notes and articles on each day of the year, on lives and deaths of famous or notorious persons, and on just about everything else that Chambers took a fancy to write about. The first volume of my inherited edition has disappeared and the other has lost both covers and is limply surviving as a piece of nostalgia. It was a popular book. *Book of Days* is physically a huge work filled with the quaint and arcane knowledge so typical of the gentleman amateur writer of the Victorian period. Notes on names are scattered throughout, but they tend to occur in short biographical sketches, usually pertaining to nicknames of historical figures. An excellent index appears at the end of Volume II. The price of the reprint, however, precludes its finding shelf space in private libraries, except for those affluent enough to afford it.

The Every-Day Book, by William Hone, precedes Chambers' work and may have been the stimulus for it. A liberal, Hone was constantly harassed by authorities, a consistent business failure in printing and book-

selling, and once in debtor's prison. *The Every-Day Book* was first published as a weekly, then in book form. Comments on names of days and historical figures can be found scattered in the entries. The succeeding *Table Book* and *Year Book* contain much the same type of material as the *Every-Day Book*, only somewhat more varied. All three are substantially notes and queries, with entries on customs, recipes, antiquities, festivals, poetry, and occasionally names. Hone, whose historical importance extends beyond his compilations and anecdotal writings, probably deserves a biography for his liberal and reformist position taken during the early part of the nineteenth century.

Holy-Days and Holidays is indeed a curious book, but not necessarily an uninteresting one. The author apparently intended to write a digest: "The object of this book is to help busy people in our busy age to find and enjoy the very best that has been written on vital events and great men whose memory society is trying to perpetuate." This watered-down Arnoldian assertion is somewhat out of tune with present readership, mostly because we have lost patience with pompous, though well-intentioned, sermons and speeches, of which this text is heavily garnished. Eighteen holy days and 17 holidays (some duplicating each other, such as Children's Day and Rallying Day, Emancipation Day and Lincoln's Birthday) are entered. Each has an introductory statement, listing variant names as well as giving background information, and a selection of speeches or sermons about each one. The end matter contains a bibliography, a topical index, and an index of authors.

It is good to see the books by Chambers and Hone in print again in attractive, albeit costly, editions. Of limited use for the study of names, they nevertheless are valuable for folklore historians and for students of the nineteenth century middle-class, for whom most of the books were primarily intended.

Kelsie B. Harder

The State University College at Potsdam, New York

The Place-Names of Cheshire, Part Three: The Place-Names of Nantwich Hundred and Eddisbury Hundred. English Place-Name Society Volume XLVI. By J. McN. Dodgson. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1971. Pp. xvi, 329. Price \$18.50.

With the appearance of Part Three of the Cheshire place-names, Professor Dodgson has given shape to the more thorough approach to the study of place-names which he announced in Part One. Although there is no certain way to compare the superior investigatory method of Dodgson's work with that of, for example, the merely outstanding scholarship

of the Worcestershire volume,¹ a superficial contrast will reveal the difference in depth and in near-exhaustiveness of sources.

Dodgson apparently became aware of the importance of the enormous amount of source material during the early stages of the projected five-volume study: "The scope of the county surveys is constantly expanding in response to the growing demands upon place-name research made by students in other fields."² In a way, the needs of researchers in history, archaeology, sociology, and geography forced the editors of English Place-Name Society volumes to modify their approach and to include more information, much of which was not available to earlier editors. For instance, the section on abbreviations and bibliography in Dodgson's work is more than four times as long (20, as opposed to five pages) as that of the Worcestershire volume. Of course, the length of a bibliography is not at all proof of superior work, but an item-by-item comparison proves that Dodgson had recourse to additional printed sources and manuscripts. He surely had in mind such volumes as the Worcestershire, Surrey, and Buckinghamshire ones when he wrote, "Whereas in former days a county might be covered in part of a volume, or in one or two volumes, it may now take three or four volumes, even more."³

Part Three contains the place-names of Nantwich and Eddisbury. Parts One and Two covered the hundreds of Macclesfield, Bucklow, and Northwich, leaving now only Broxton, Wirral, and Chester for the final two volumes. The last volume will contain the Introduction, as well as notes on dialect, "the analyses of elements and personal-names, and the index." Addenda and corrigenda are listed for the first two parts and also for Part Three. Considering the mass of material, these are minor, mostly slight changes in spelling or in placing of diacritical marks. The format and method follow exactly those of Parts One and Two, with a detailed and documented introduction to each hundred, and then the townships treated the same way in geographical order. Places that cannot be located are listed with probable sites, followed by a discussion of lost or unidentified places.

Space does not warrant a more thorough treatment here, although an example of completeness of listing and documentation will give some intimation of the scope of Dodgson's technical care. In the ecclesiastical parish of Tarporley is the township of Rushton, now a civil parish. First, Dodgson gives the coordinates (109-5836), taken from the Ordinance Survey map 109. Then he lists and documents each variant spelling from the earliest recording that was available to him, followed by other vari-

¹ A. Mawer, F. M. Stenton and F. T. S. Houghton, *The Place-Names of Worcestershire*, English Place-Name Society Volume IV (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1927).

² *Part One*, p. xi.

³ *Ibid.*

ants in chronological order: Rusitone 1086DB, Risetone, Risedon Hund', on through 22 others until 1471. A final paragraph gives the etymon as "rush farm," *risc, tūn*, along with some information concerning its history as the meeting place of one of the Domesday Book hundreds in Cheshire.

Each volume that has appeared so far is a monument to the diligence, scholarship, and sometimes probably the patience of Professor Dodgson. If there are better books on place-names than the Cheshire volumes, I have yet to see them.

Kelsie B. Harder

The State University College at Potsdam, New York

Of Edsels and Marauders. South-Central Names Institute Publication 1.

By Fred Tarpley and Ann Moseley, eds. Commerce, Texas: Names Institute Press, 1971. Pp. 126, paper. Price \$1.50.

Many names institutes have been held in the United States during the past ten years, but *Of Edsels and Marauders* is the first volume of the proceedings of one to be published. Others that have been promised have not appeared. The first South-Central Names Institute was held in 1970, initiated by Professor Fred Tarpley and presented by the Department of English of East Texas State University in cooperation with the American Name Society.

The contents include a miscellany section and other sections on ethnic, place, American literary, and English literary names. The title of the proceedings is taken from the first article, a survey of the scholarship on the naming of the unfortunate Edsel by Ford, the name being chosen despite the efforts of Miss Marianne Moore to provide a name that would "convey, through association or other conjuration, some visceral feeling of elegance, fleetness, and advanced features and design. A name, in short, that flashes a dramatically desirable picture in people's minds." Miss Moore contributed such names as Ford Silver Sword, Pluma Piluma, Mongoose Civique, and Utopian Turtletop. It probably underscores the point that poets should stick to poetry and not meddle in the finagling of feudal business barons. If Edsel is in the family, then Edsel is the name, successful or not. Professor D. B. Graham, author of the article, surveys the history of car naming, graphically demonstrating that imagery dominates, with such entries as Mustang, Cobra, Road Runner, Sting Ray, Hornet, and all those other "violent beings" we see or drive.

Additional articles in the miscellany section include names of early Texas literary magazines and editors, patterns of names in Texas oil fields, and outhouse names. In the ethnic section articles appear on names

for black Americans, names for white Americans, names viewed through the "racial looking glass," and "savage" names. Apparently, the ethnic names section is the first attempt to explore this sociological phenomenon in onomastics. Phillip R. Rutherford has an excellent article, "Censorship and Maine Place Names," as the lead to the place-name section. Included here are articles on place-names of Concholand (Texas), mythological names in the United States, and Arabic place-names in Andalusia. The literary section includes papers on charactonyms in the works of Hawthorne, Tennessee Williams, Jonson, John Gay (*The Beggar's Opera*), Fielding, Dickens (especially the sexual connotation of the thinly veiled name of Charley Bates, whom Dickens calls several times Master Bates in *Oliver Twist*), and Lawrence Durrell (*Alexandria Quartet*). One article, "The Great Revival of American Outhouse Names," by Lee Hensley and Betty Crapson (a real name, I have been assured), was read as dialogue. The authors uncovered about 200 names, many of them taken from advertisements appearing in the most pristine magazines, for what Americans have euphemistically called the "bathroom."

Although the articles are of uneven quality, some excellent, others little more than sketches, the collection of such a wealth of onomastic material should stimulate directors of other institutes to emulate or surpass it. Professor Tarpley has furnished an example of how such proceedings can be published. His ingenuity should be appreciated by all of us.

Kelsie B. Harder

The State University College at Potsdam, New York

A NOTE TO AUTHORS

Authors are requested to send to the book review editor copies of all works published in order that they may be reviewed in *Names* and thereby be made known to the members of the society. In addition, the society will gratefully accept duplicate copies of such works in the event that authors wish to donate them to the archives at Potsdam.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN NAME SOCIETY

For the period beginning January 1, 1971 and ending December 31, 1971

Checking account balance as of December 31, 1970	\$10,593.51	
Gibraltar Savings & Loan Co., December 31, 1970	5,980.20	
 Revenue:		
Memberships (regular and supporting)	\$7,955.43	
Memberships (sustaining and life)	75.00	
Memberships (emeritus)	24.10	
Donations	74.50	
Sale of back issues	41.75	
Miscellaneous	213.85	
Interest (Gibraltar Savings & Loan Co.)	<u>366.96</u>	
	8,751.59	
		\$25,325.30
 Expenditures:		
Names Institute subsidy		
(E. W. McMullen — \$91.10		
F. Tarpley — \$100.00)	\$ 191.10	
Postage (including 2d class deposits)	447.20	
Archives	34.88	
Refunds on subscriptions	45.75	
Office supplies and stationery	372.73	
Printing of <i>Names</i>	7,266.51	
Publication grant (Henri Diament)	500.00	
Bank exchange charges	15.11	
Miscellaneous	<u>7.50</u>	
	\$ 8,880.78	
Checking account balance as of December 31, 1971	10,097.36	
Gibraltar Savings & Loan Co., December 31, 1971	<u>6,347.16</u>	
		\$25,325.30

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A CORRECT ACCOUNT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE AMERICAN NAME SOCIETY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1971.

Anthony O. Tyler
Acting Treasurer