

Book Reviews

Clay County Place Names. By the Historic Sites Committee, Clay County [S. D.] Historical Society, Lloyd R. Moses, Editor. Vermillion, S. D.: Broadcaster Press, Inc., 1976. Pp. 202. Price \$8.95 hardback, \$6.95 paperback.

This very attractive volume, put together with infinite care over a period of several years, easy to read or consult, without typographical errors, and with many other fine qualities discussed in this review, should serve as a model for other S. D. counties to follow. Though not done as part of the state place-name survey but rather as a private project, it should certainly receive all the praise both the state and national surveys can bestow upon it.

After a short preface, a picture of the home of the Clay County Historical Society, and a page map, there is a brief historical overrun of the county (12 pages) by the most eminent authority on S. D. history, Herbert S. Schell. In addition, there is a large foldout map, 15 by 23 inches, enclosed but not bound in the volume. There might be some question about the amount of history included both here and in the lexicon, but this material helps so much in clarifying numerous references throughout the work that this reviewer would not remove a word of it.

The astounding number of 635 place-names in this smallest county of S. D. are dealt with alphabetically in 101 pages. Thirty-five additional pages in three groups in three different parts of the book are given over to pictures, two or more to the page except in two cases. Many of these are precious. Following the lexicon are 35 pages devoted to a study of the classification of the names.

After a one-page conclusion comes a bibliography of about 100 items consisting of the titles of books, records, maps, periodicals, and newspapers but containing no list of the "old timers" and many others who contributed so much to the work. Such an omission may be justified, however, because of the large number involved and the danger of inadvertently omitting someone. Some of the items in the bibliography, such as Greenberg's *Universals of Language*, Kurath's linguistic atlases, Marckwardt's *American English*, and several others, hardly seem to need inclusion in a work of this kind, but most of the references are distinctly germane.

The most important part of the work is, of course, the lexicon. All the current names are listed in alphabetical order with many cross references for earlier or less common names for the same places. In a few cases, especially with names of Indian origin, pronunciation has been indicated by application of the international phonetic alphabet. Location is given by township name and section number or by distance and direction from a well-known reference point. In efforts to be exhaustive, the editor has put in some material, the inclusion of which might be questioned: names from prehistoric or geological time such as Ancient Niobrara and White Rivers and Wisconsin Ice Sheet, names of early pioneer dugouts or log cabins, of plots of land (even without houses), of farms,

of houses in town and country, of unmarked graves, of university buildings, etc.; yet, if this reviewer had to list names to be excluded, he would be hard pressed making decisions. Especially valuable is the detailed information about country schools, practically all of which have been discontinued during the past ten or 15 years with often not even a trace of the building visible today. At the end of each entry there is no indication of the source, whether from old settlers, records, earlier place-name works, or what have you, but giving such information would have made the work excessively long, especially because of the number and variety of sources and informants.

To discuss the many questions which might be raised concerning the classification of names following the lexicon would exceed the limits of this review. Although perhaps somewhat repetitious, this part of the book is, on the whole, admirably done, with scholarly restraint and with every effort to be accurate in situations where there might be a difference of opinion.

A state place-name volume could obviously not include a great many of the details found in this book, unless one contemplated a state work of many volumes, but such information is invaluable not only in county place-name archives, but also, in large part, in state and national archives as well. As director of the survey of S. D. place-names this reviewer ardently wishes that every county in the state would produce a book like this. Only when groups in every county begin serious investigations will the state survey progress very rapidly. Some groups have been or are at work, but many more are needed. All hail to the definitive pioneer work of the Clay County Historical Society and to the very able editor, Gen. (ret.) Lloyd R. Moses.

Edward C. Ehrensperger

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Historia del nombre y de la fundación de México. By Gutierre Tibón. México: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1975. Pp. 877. Profusely illustrated. Price not shown.

ANS colleague Tibón has written what seems to be the most extensive study ever made of a single name. The only comparable study is Roberto Levillier's *América la bien llamada* (two large volumes, ed. Guillermo Kraft, Buenos Aires, 1948), but the approach is considerably different. Levillier's work is primarily a history of the Conquest with reproductions of documents and maps dealing with the name *América*, and there is relatively little attention given to the linguistic, etymological, or cultural implications of the name. Speaking of the name *América*, Tibón has also supplied the early background for that name in a time that predates the period which concerned Levillier (Tibón, *América, setenta siglos de la historia de un nombre*, México, 1945).

México as used in the present study refers to the national capital and its environs.

As suggested by the title, this work has a dual rôle in presenting the historical and mythical events that led to the establishment of the city as well as in studying the linguistic evidence related to the name itself. In the historical part the author has examined the codices and the early accounts, both contemporaneous with the Conquest and from the later years of the sixteenth century and has analyzed and compared what they seem to be saying about Aztec history.

The third and fourth chapters are devoted to the 70 different versions of the name *México* and the names given that place in neighboring but non-Nahuatl languages. Here the author analyzes the constituent elements that link the hieroglyph of the rabbit with the concept of the umbilical cord leading to the Moon. The mystic sense of the cactus plant (*nopal*) which appears on the national seal is traced back to the original concept of the heart of the Moon, sacrificed by the Sun, and this combination is shown to lie behind the basic form of the name.

In its early forms the name *Tenochtitlán* was inseparable from the name *México*, and one chapter is devoted to the analysis of the linguistic elements of that name as they relate to the *nopal*, the eagle, and the serpent.

All of these concepts are skillfully brought together in chapter nine, in which the myth of the founding of the City of Mexico is retold in terms of the new explanations of the basic meanings.

The last two chapters further support the reference to the Moon in the first syllable of *México* by applying the concept to other examples taken from Mexican toponymy. Here again the author tests the motif of the rabbit and the Moon as they appear in the mythology of surrounding areas.

Several new or original explanations appear in the discussions. The two most important perhaps are the discovery of the relationship between the 13 heavens of Old Mexican myth and the like number of openings of the female body and the use of the imagery of the umbilical cord in many expressions, particularly in toponyms.

In this analysis and in the linguistic data the author has absorbed and gone beyond standard studies and teaching about Aztec history and culture by delving into the cultural content of the names of places, persons, and spiritual and physical implications of these names—producing perhaps the most serious and penetrating study of cultural meanings since the efforts of Eduard Seler.

Fortunately for the reader who is interested in a single name that may be only distantly related to that of *México*, the extensive index will make the information quickly available.

Since language is the primary means of transmitting culture, this study searches out in great detail the basic meanings of the names, and these interpretations furnish our best understanding so far of the mental processes of the Aztecs as revealed through the medium of Nahuatl and neighboring languages.

Jack Autrey Dabbs

The Modern Book of Babies' Names. By Hilary Spence. London: W. Foulsham & Co. Ltd., 1975. Pp. 182. Price £.90

Hopefully labelled on the cover as "the most up-to-date book you can buy," this work consists of a list in alphabetical order of well-known girls' and boys' names with nationality and meaning, some with variant forms and nicknames. Numerous family names used as given names are included.

Many of the definitions given are superficial and frivolous but this book will provide the prospective parent with a list from which to select a name for the newcomer.

Elsdon C. Smith

GALE RESEARCH REPRINTS AND ORIGINALS. XVII

This survey of reprints and originals by Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit, Michigan 48226, is the seventeenth in the series of notices giving prominence to books of interest to readers of *Names*. Titles and bibliographical information appear below:

Anson, W. S. W. *Mottoes and Badges*. London: George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.; New York: E. P. Dutton and Co., 1908. Republished by Gale Research Co., 1975. Pp. 192. \$15.

Crowley, Ellen T., ed. *Trade Names Dictionary*. 2 vols. Detroit: Gale Research Co. 1976, Pp. xx + 666 (vols. are consecutively paginated). \$65, set.

Patterson, Margaret C. *Literary Research Guide*. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1976, Pp. xlii 385. \$18.50.

The aspirations, hopes, and ideals of groups, nations, families, and individuals are often embodied in mottoes and badges that adorn coats of armor, building entrances, letterheads, etc. All represent an attempt to show the rest of us who own no such mottoes or badges that our worth hardly recommends itself in face of such devices. No doubt, this ostentation has its publicity value, perhaps as much as the latest advertising jingle. Anson brought together some 2,000 phrases and initialisms that served as mottoes for families, regiments, schools, colleges, states, towns, livery companies, and societies (both British and foreign) in Latin, English, and other languages. Were it not that such mottoes, badges, and emblems still are taken seriously, we could look upon this collection as a matter of historical silliness. They were real and were like battle cries, often were such, that urged onward those grouped under the motto. Creating a motto or badge demanded talent, sometimes, and knowledge of the desires of the ones who were to be so marked. Shakespeare was so enamored of badges that he bought a coat-of-arms and even wrote, "Might I not know thee by thy household badge?"

A few examples from this collection should provide some intimation of the expectations and assertions of those who lived by, for, and of them: *Plustost mourier que changer*, "Rather die than change," was the motto of Friedrich, Duke of Saxony, among others. *Post nubila Phoebus*, "After clouds, sunshine," belonged to the Ahrends family. A popular one was *Res non verba*, "Deeds, not words." Bravery and boldness, usually in battle, are contained in *Fortem fors juvat*, *Forti favet caelum*, *Fortior qui melior*, and *Fortiter et constanter*. Since many of the mottoes reflect the faith of the bearer, the use of "God" and "Christ" occurs often. Most of these are serious, at least in wording, and stress honor, bravery, faith, virtue, endurance, salvation, glory, strength, patience, and humility. This is a valuable book and should be at hand when anyone has to frame a motto for a holistic need.

Margaret C. Patterson has compiled and arranged the best literary research guide I have ever seen. Although it has nothing much to do with onomastics, the volume will be useful for all who are involved in research, teaching bibliography, or going to school. It is directed to the user, whatever the profession or circumstance. The least serviceable for the experienced researcher will be the detailed directions for conducting a research project. This can be skipped, but a student in methods of research may wish to glance through it. The meat of the book is the annotated lists of reference books and periodicals on just about everything in literature and related fields. This text is indispensable for anyone interested in literature.

Trade Names Dictionary is a listing of over 106,000 trade names, with emphasis on consumer products. The title is somewhat misleading, for the guide covers brand names, product names, coined, model, and design names. The addresses of the manufacturers, importers, marketers, or distributors are given whenever known. The entries were compiled by Gale Research personnel, but sources, by arrangement with publishers, are cited. These include standard guides of companies that sell products in the same field, such as the *Intimate Fashion News* (formerly, *Corset Bra, & Lingerie Directory*), *Automotive News Almanac*, *Playthings Directory Issue*, and so on. The names and addresses of the publishers of these directories—and the cost of each—are listed.

For those doing research in trade names and the like, this is the best compilation of names and addresses that can be found. Furthermore, it is eminently usable, since names of products and companies are listed in alphabetical order, so that "both brand-name entries and company-name-and-address entries are interfiled in this single alphabet." Also, many entries, in fact most of them, explain what the trade name represents. For instance, SECOND CHEF is "Old-fashioned cornmeal mush"; PETTICOAT is the name of a kind of glassware. Beluga Caviar Corporation sells a brand named SERVIETTE. More than 500 brand names begin with *Super-*, while about 175 begin with *Mini-*, and probably as many with *Star-*. Such popular suffixes as *-ex*, *-ette*, *-matic*, *-ite*, *-ire*, and *-rama* cannot be numbered, of course, without some other method of listing or compilation. It is doubtful that the entries have been computerized for such categories.

Nor can infixes be found easily: *A* (HIDE-A-WAY, DANG-A-LANG, or FILL-A-BUSTA). These infixes are really connectors, usually for reasons of euphony or as a mnemonic device. They occur as both vowels and consonants: *E* (FLUFF-E-FILL), *I* (GER-I-BON), *O* (FLASH-O-FREEZE, "beef steaks"), *U* (GIB-U-LANT, "plant growth stimulant"), and sometimes *Y* (FLUFF-Y-FILL). Some consonant connectors are *-N-* (FRAME-N-HANGS, "flocked postcards"), *'N* (FILL 'N THRILL), *N'* FREE N' SOFT), *IN* (TIP-IN-DEX, "indexing system"—the pronunciation is needed here), *-R-* (FILT-R-PURE), *-T-* (BIKE SAF-T-FLAG), *-L-* (MOD-L-STIX), *-B-* (BAR-B-CUTIE, "barbeque accessories"), and *-Z-* (LOU-Z-ANA, "seafood"). Other connectors could probably be found by searching carefully. By centering on trade names beginning with BIG, I found BIG, A, B, D, G, H, I, J, K, M, O, R, V, X, and Z. The omissions also deserve comment.

The origins of these names, the stories behind their choice and survival, need investigating, if only to show the cultural situations out of which a need for them arose. Just how can we explain such names as BIG MOUTH ("chewing gum"), POOPATROOPERS ("toy"), SLOPPY JOE, SLURP ("paper towels"), SHIRTINI ("lingerie"), RAT CAFETERIA ("rodenticide"), SNIFFLES ("balsam-scented pillows"), COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO ("fast-food franchise"), DOO TEE ("infant trainers and nursery chairs"), LONG JOHNS ("cigarettes"), DETHDIET (product not listed), DEAR ("eardrops"), DEVILIQUE ("foundation garments"), and ("foundation garments") THE END?

Kelsie B. Harder

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How to Change Your Name California Edition. By David Ventura Loeb. Occidental (Calif.): Nolo Press, 1975. Pp. 123. Price \$4.95.

This work, aimed principally at women, is an excellent "how to do it" book for all who are, for one reason or another, dissatisfied with their names. Although this book explains California law, the law as to personal names is the same in most other states of the country.

The author first points out that there are two ways of changing one's name: first, the usage method, that is, by using the new name in all transactions without any official or other permission, and second, by filing a petition in court and obtaining a court order for the change. Both methods are equally legal and the author discusses the advantages and disadvantages of each.

A great deal of attention is given to married women's names and the author clearly shows that use of the husband's name and reacquisition of one's former name is easily accomplished. A chapter is devoted to the question of children's names, often a puzzling problem for parents who wish to change their names.

The author points out that parents can give a child the mother's maiden name or any surname they wish if both parents agree. For children, however, a change of name must usually be by court order.

Detailed instructions are given as to how to present one's petition before a judge in California. The book closes with copies of the necessary forms with definite instructions as to what to put in the blank spaces, all clearly stated. This is a valuable help for one who is intent on changing his or her name by court order, and the author even concludes the book with blank forms that can be torn out and used in the court proceedings.

Elsdon C. Smith

How Place Names Began. By C. M. Matthews. Guilford and London: Lutterworth Press, 1974. Pp. 191. Price £2.20.

The author of this work ably and in an engaging manner surveys British place-names from their earliest Brittonic names: *Corwy*, "glorious river"; *Moridun*, "fort by the sea," to names carried by the English to the lands they explored and colonized throughout the world. These names reveal a great deal about the character of the English, their reverence for royalty and for prominent soldiers and statesmen: Virginia, Kingston, Victoria, Marlborough, Wellington, Melbourne and Kimberly.

Mrs. Matthews begins with the Anglo-Saxon names as the base, since the Angles and Saxons became predominant about A.D. 450 and remained to give the name England to the country. They survived invasions and conquests and either defeated or assimilated their enemies. The author's accounts of the Danish, Viking, and Norman invasions of England, the earlier Roman incursions into Briton and their influence on the language of the Anglo-Saxons present a brief but graphic history of the development of the English Language.

The Norman French conquest of England in 1066 was the most significant, since it resulted in both military and linguistic domination for over two hundred years until the two peoples and languages merged into one. The land then became truly England, the language Middle English.

Mrs. Matthews states that the Norman French came too late to contribute many place-names, but that they often added one of their own words to an already established name, although the meaning of the extra word was already there: River Avon, Lake Windermere, Westminster Abbey, Sherwood Forest.

She adds that a few French names are of Norman origin: *Beaulieu* (pronounced "Bewley"); *beau chef* (became Beachey Head); *grand pont* (Grampound); *Richemont* (Richmond); and *Blemonde beri* (Bloomsbury). Norman surnames were often used as the second part of English place-names: Melton Mowbray, Milton Keynes, Stoke Mandeville, Stoke Poges, and numerous others.

The significance of Latin to English place-names is not neglected and

interesting examples are given of the combination of Latin and Old English: *Sheepy Magna*, *Pheepy Parva*, *Kingsbury Episcopi*, and *Ashby Puerorum*. A further instance of Roman influence is noted in the wide use of variations of the Latin *castra* and *strata* to form such place-names as Chester, Gloucester, Stratton, Stretton, and Streatham.

The Gaelic names of Wales, Ireland, and Scotland are briefly presented. The author states that, although Welsh was never assimilated into the general English vocabulary, the Welsh Gaelic survives in place-names, even in England. In their own land the Welsh particularly venerated holy men and preserved their memory by names given to their churches: Llangollen, Llandudna, and Llanberis were named for Collen, Tudno, and Peris, all holy men. The similarity between place-names in Ireland and Scotland is illustrated by the many places beginning with the Gaelic word, *Kil*, meaning church: Kilkenny, Killarney, Kilmarnock, Kilreggan.

Interesting accounts of the naming of places in North America, Africa, and islands in Asiatic waters which became a part of the British Empire are included in Mrs. Matthews' wide-ranging survey. Such names as Frobisher's Bay, Hudson Bay, Nova Scotia, New England, Virginia, Carolina, New York, Rhodesia, New Zealand, and New South Wales appear. Happily the author has not omitted some less significant names which possess descriptive charm, such as those which Captain Cook gave to places on the coasts of New Zealand: Poverty Bay, Twilight Bay, and Cape Foulwind.

Mrs. Matthews has not attempted to write a scholarly work on the diverse toponymy connected with England and the British Empire. She has rather produced a delightful book on the fascination and significance of place-names. In covering 2,000 years of the history and mystery of English place-names she has selected both those of linguistic and historical importance and others with human appeal because of their interesting and bizarre origins. For the onomastic scholar she has added a section on sources for serious place-name study, including such works as *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* by E. Ekwall; the invaluable studies of English county place-names by the *English Place-Name Society*; and *The Names of Towns and Cities in Britain* by W. H. F. Nicolaisen, M. Gelling, and Melville Richards.

Claude H. Neuffer

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Know & Claim Your African Name. By Becktemba Sanyika. Dayton: Rucker Press Publishing Co., 1975. Pp. 40. Price \$3.50.

In a short Foreword, Mr. Sanyika argues that respectability is not something that can be bought with automobiles or clothing outfits, but that social acceptance and status come from a separate identity which begins with a name in the truest sense. It is difficult to have black identity with a white man's name given by a slave owner to an ancestor.

The main part of this work consists of two sections: (1) Male African Names, and (2) Female African Names, each a list of names in alphabetical sequence with pronunciation, meaning, language, and country of origin. After these two sections is a third part listing more African names of men, women, brothers and sisters from different parts of Africa. This work will be an important aid in helping an Afro-American to select a meaningful black name.

Elsdon C. Smith

Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary: A Guide to Alphabetic Designations, Contractions, Acronyms, Initialisms, Abbreviations, and Similar Condensed Appellations. 5th ed. Vol. 1. Edited by Ellen T. Crowley. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1976. Pp. xiii + 757. Price \$38.50.

This edition contains more than ten times the number of entries in the first edition of 1966. The growth from 12,000 to 130,000-plus items is an expansion somewhat on the other side of phenomenal, making this area of vocabulary intake the most significant of all word coinages during the decade, or, for that matter, any other time of the recording of "sound" in print. Although only Volume 1 is in print, two other volumes will follow: Vol. 2, *New Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations*, the two supplements being available in late 1976 and late 1977; and Vol. 3, *Reverse Acronyms, Initialisms and Abbreviations Dictionary*, available in the fall, 1976. The acronym *AID* is now replaced by the initialism *AIAD*.

Several thousand entries from foreign countries are included. Trends are also indicated: one, obvious to anyone who observes language and print-spelling changes, is that a person or a group deliberately will create an acronym and then find "ords" to flesh it out "with more-or-less appropriate" sounds. This is called "back formation" by the editor.

No doubt, the compilation of these additions, which have taken on more than ordinary linguistic freightage in recent years, is necessary for those who have to cope with commercial and mercantile alphabetical shorthand that appears everywhere under the guise of "efficiency." We are fortunate to have the staff of Gale Research Company assume the onerous duty of recording and glossing these squirmers and crawlies.

The problem of definition of *acronym* and offshoots, however, still has to be solved. The Preface to this edition should be read in tandem with the favorable review by John Algeo of the fourth edition [*American Speech*, 48 (1973), 269-274], where the cultural and linguistic development of these usages has been summarized and analyzed. One of his conclusions is that this compilation is "not significantly different from most dictionaries of abbreviations, . . ." True, but the

work is actually done here, and for that an appreciation is due to the indefatigable compilers at Gale Research Company.

Kelsie B. Harder

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The Study of the Personal Names of the British Isles. Proceedings of a Working Conference at Erlangen 21 - 24 September 1975. Edited by Herbert Voithl. Erlangen (Germany): Institute für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, 1976. Pp. 135.

This is an account of a conference of scholars, specialists in the field of personal name studies. Only 20 anthroponymists were invited, none American, of which 11 attended. Here is the full text of the five papers read with summaries of the discussions held after the papers and at the end of the conference, plus three other short articles.

Dr. Olof von Feilitzen presented his paper on "Planning a New Old English Onomasticon," starting with an account of what had been done on this subject in the past, especially that by the Reverend William George Searle, and then discussing and illustrating the elements that a new, proposed Onomasticon should include.

Dr. Gillian Fellows Jensen discussed "Some Problems of a Maverick Anthroponymist," dwelling mostly on the difficulties of recognizing and classifying personal names found in place-names. The relationship of the person whose name is found in the place-name (was the person the founder, resident, or recipient of the income?) was examined. He concluded the essay with something on the preferred terminology of onomastics — is *forename* or *font name* to be used; what about *surname*, *family name*, *nickname*?

Dr. Gillis Kristensson, in "Computer-Processing of Middle English Personal-Name Materials," described his proposal for the use of the computer in *English Name-Studies*. Dr. George Redmonds' paper entitled "English Surnames Research" discussed problems encountered in the Surnames Survey by those working in the University of Leicester *English Surnames Series* and outlined the need for an authoritative Dictionary of English Surnames, pointing to some of the misleading entries in Dr. Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames*.

Dr. Herbert Voithl described his "A Computer Archive of Present-Day British and Early Modern English Family Names" which he compiled over a period of 12 years. Interest in the continuance of these studies of English personal names will grow as the results of the research are made public.

Elsdon C. Smith

Illustrated Dictionary of Place Names, United States and Canada. Edited by Kelsie B. Harder. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1976. Pp. 631. Price \$18.95.

This fat and attractive volume, edited by the Executive Secretary of the American Name Society, who is also associate editor of this journal, has been more than 15 years in compilation, according to the jacket. Professor Harder's scores of articles on this subject and on similar subjects in allied fields are well known for their excellence. This must have been a grueling task, as Dr. Johnson implied in calling lexicographers poor harmless drudges, but the quality of this text shows that it was time well spent: the investigation has been thorough and the scholarship is sound. Slips are remarkably few for the first printing of a book of this nature and size. It can be referred to with confidence.

Necessarily selective, as the introduction states, it nevertheless contains thousands of entries for states, provinces, counties, cities, and towns, as well as for natural features such as mountains, rivers, lakes, capes and bays, islands and gulfs of the United States and Canada. The basis of the selection and the arrangement of the material are carefully explained in the introduction and note on style. For example, what is possibly an innovation in this kind of reference work is the listing as main headings the names of important persons, like presidents and generals, who have had places named after them, following with thumbnail sketches of their careers, and then entering as subheadings place-names which are derived from these names. Take the name *Grant* to illustrate. First, three main entries call attention to two counties and a river named after obscure persons called Grant. Then comes the main entry on President Ulysses S. Grant, with a short paragraph on his career. There follow subentries for the dozen Grant counties in the U. S. which are named for him. These are arranged in the alphabetical order of the names of the states containing them (and including the names of the county seats). Then come subentries for seven towns and a mountain range named after him. Very properly, the next entry, for Grants, N. M., is a main entry because this town is named after a different Grant.

No pronunciations are given. Perhaps most entries need none, but including a few in special cases, though spoiling parallelism of construction, would have helped. *Pierre*, S. D., *Madras*, Ore., *Ovid*, N. Y., *New Madrid*, Mo. (under *Madrid*), *Deaf Smith Co.*, Tex., *Des Moines*, Iowa, vs. *Des Plaines*, Ill., *Elgin*, Ill., vs. *Elgin*, Tex., and *Beaufort*, N. C., vs. *Beaufort*, S. C., come to mind as examples of tricky pronunciation. The former standard abbreviations for the names of the states are used instead of the shortened ones now declared official by the U. S. post office.

Some good points are made in the introduction, such as the observation that Indian names tend to point out, locate, or direct, whereas the European names usually reveal "a sense of history, ancestral pride, and nostalgia." Thus we have, on the one hand, *Kapuskasing*, Ont., Indian for "divided waters," referring to the confluence of two rivers, and on the other, *Edmonton*, Alta., for Edmonton, Middlesex, England. Many of the entries contain fascinating bits of historical information (*Mount Vernon*, Washington's estate, was named by his half-

brother Lawrence for Admiral Edward Vernon, of the British navy) and linguistic learning (*Coeur d'Alene*, Ida., from the French "heart of awl," was used by an Indian to describe a trader's heart). From the caption to a picture of Williamsburg, Va., this reader was surprised to learn that one of the buildings at William and Mary College is the only one in the western hemisphere which was designed by Christopher Wren. I wonder if it is the only one of his buildings which he never saw.

The comparatively few biblical names is surprising. A rough check reveals *Jerusalem*, 0 (but *Salem*, a shortened form, 17); *Hebron*, 2; *Jericho*, 1 (maybe); *Bethel*, 1; *Bethany*, 3; *Bethlehem*, 1 (but *Ephrata*, its second name, 2); *Nazareth* 1; *Palestine*, 2 (but hardly biblical); *Lebanon*, 18 (chiefly referring to the cedars of Lebanon); *Moab*, 1; *St. James*, 3; *St. Joe*, 3 (*St. Joseph*, 16; *San Jose*, 3); *St. Mark*, 1 (*San Marcos*, 2); *St. Mary*, 10, (*St. Marie*, 2); *St. Matthew*, 3; *St. Paul*, 5; *St. Peter*, 1 (*San Pedro*, 2; *San Simon*, 1; *St. Simon*, 3); *Santa Anna*, 1; *Shiloh*, 2. This list is not much for a continent largely settled by markedly religious people.

The numerous pictures, chiefly by nineteenth-century artists, but including modern photographs, have informative captions on historical, biographical, and geographical matters. Though maps are mentioned on the jacket, there are none. The selected bibliography is good. The quality of the print and the page layout are excellent.

While this reference work might be thought to be particularly fitting for high school and undergraduate libraries, it should also be useful in public libraries and on the shelves of many sorts of professional people. Everybody should like it, not only for its information, but also for dipping into and sampling for the fun of it. Within the limits set it is one of the best in the field.

Eugene B. Vest

Emeritus, University of Illinois, Chicago Circle

The Living Landscape: Kilgalligan, Erris, County Mayo. By Séamas O Catháin and Patrick O'Flanagan. Dublin: Baile Atha Cliath, 1975. Pp. x + 312. No price listed.

Occasionally, a book is produced that seems to be just about as complete as the mind and art of man can make it. Such is *The Living Landscape*, the product of an archivist in the Department of Irish Folklore, University College, Dublin, and a lecturer in geography at University College, Galway. They have analyzed upwards of 800 place-names in an isolated area, the townland of Kilgalligan, on the west coast of Mayo County, Ireland, in an attempt to provide "an analysis of life in a West of Ireland townland which has much in common with many other isolated communities around the Atlantic fringe of Europe." Their reasoning from the particular to the general may be audacious, even fallacious, when the area comprises of only 852 acres and when only one local informant provided

much of the material, although some material from printed sources in archives outside Kilgalligan were used. Still, they have melded together their materials and have written a model in place-name study.

The main objective, say the authors, was to establish “the principal categories of placenames which have been bestowed in Kilgalligan and to illustrate the functions of these names today; . . .” Other objectives included attempts at understanding the processes “governing the creation of placenames,” to account for the large number of such in a small area, to isolate changes through “an analysis of the names,” to date the life-span of the names, and through such study and interpretation to “gain an insight into the consciousness Kilgalligan people have, and had, of the world, present and past.” The authors have been more than relatively successful.

The place-names are listed in Irish, with English translations, and classified under seven headings. The headings are listed also as classes, in order: toponyms, items of the cultural landscape, supernatural names, possessive names, commemorative names, metaphorical names, and biotic names. In general, these follow the classification by George Stewart, *Names*, 2:1 (March, 1954), 1-13, with some modifications. Names are keyed to grids within the area. Locations are carefully pinpointed. Each entry is listed in Irish, with a phonetic rendering (apparently following the system of Daniel Jones). In parenthesis is a literal English translation, along with the key to the grid and the classification. The latter causes some difficulty, for names are not so easily categorized. The authors make a defense of their decisions by pointing out that classifications may be ambiguous unless all available information is brought out to be considered and weighed. This will include everything: fanciful folk etymologies, popular superstitions, and any other connotations.

Nevertheless, classifications slither around. One of the problems facing researchers in place-names is the matter of categorization. Sometimes, I wonder why we have become involved in this sort of contention. It probably derives from the Western World desire to reduce everything to its lowest common denominator. Classification has been a plague on all such studies, but perhaps a necessary one. The authors here come to this conclusion: “Even to separate any one placename from the corpus of names, for the purpose of separate and individual classification, would seem to be a pointless exercise, so closely are the names cemented together in their geographical, historical and social contexts.” Still, they go right ahead and do this.

After the listing of place-names and their classification, the authors address themselves to “placename lore,” information concerning the genesis of the names, including false etymologies, legends, or factual material, “ranging from truisms to gossip and from the mundane to the fantastic.” Another complementary section includes stories in the fairy lore that provide further insight into the place-names. These two sections constitute a large proportion of the book.

What we have is a tripartite study: place-name entries, with locations and classifications; place-name lore, both factual and fictitious; and fairy lore, another ingredient that “impinges” on life in Kilgalligan. That the study centers on such a small and particular area is probably beside the point. It is so far as I

know the first time such a detailed study, with such far-ranging implications to onomatology, has been made.

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How Georgia Got Her Names. By Hal E. Brinkley. Revised. Privately printed and copyrighted by the author, 1973. Pp. 196. Price \$2.95 (paper).

With the Goff and Krakow volumes on Georgia's place-names (the latter was reviewed in *Names* in December, 1975), this little book is hardly necessary. The brochure publicizing the book bills it as a "gazetteer" but it neither locates (except by county) nor gives pronunciations. It merely names over 4,000 places and a few geographic features while seldom revealing, except where the generic is included, the kind of place or feature. It does offer, in one or two short sentences, the meaning of each name and its derivation but gives no sources and little history, and makes no effort to place it in any kind of perspective. The only thing to recommend the book, even to the most casual reader, is that it can fit into one's pocket or the glove compartment of one's car.

Robert M. Rennick

Prestonsburg, Ky.

Norfolk and Suffolk Surnames in the Middle Ages. Vol. II. of English Surnames Series. By Richard McKinley. London and Chichester: Phillimore & Co. Ltd., 1975. Pp. xiii, 175. Price £5.25.

The author commences this book with a chapter on the rise of hereditary surnames in which he correctly observes that, in a study of the surnames applied to the various generations of one family, important insight into the rise of hereditary surnames can be obtained. One unusual point given some attention is that many surnames are derived from the personal names of the previous holder of the lands occupied by the man so surnamed. Dr. McKinley concludes that by 1350 probably a large majority of the inhabitants of East Anglia had hereditary surnames. But during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries little or no prestige attached to the possession of a hereditary surname.

Then Dr. McKinley turns his attention to the surnames in East Anglia derived from occupation, status, or office. He notes that surnames derived from the social classes of the countryside are relatively scarce. Names like Vilein (villein) and Coterel (cottager) were found very early but died out. Bonde, he thinks, does not derive from servile status but from the Scandinavian personal name Bonde.

Husband occurs in East Anglia but is not common. Names like Knight, Squire, and Page are usually nicknames. Ample footnotes support each conclusion.

In his chapter on locative surnames he notes the care that must be taken to ascertain the exact place from which each surname is derived and to examine the way that early occurrences of each one are distributed geographically. A locative surname may be spelt in a bewildering variety of ways—Hasted, Haisted, Heighsted, Hekhsted, Heysted, Haysted, Hoysted, Hysted, Highsted, and Histed—but derive from a single place and originally even from a single family. Names derived from the general topographical elements of the country he calls toponymics which he distinguishes from the surnames derived from place-names. Attention is called to some toponymics, such as Goter, Nabb, and Budd, with local meanings different from those usually ascribed elsewhere in England.

Surnames derived from personal names, Dr. McKinley perceives, are borne by a larger proportion of the East Anglian population than surnames in any other category, and he lists many of them in different forms with numbers found in Norfolk and Suffolk. In the chapter on social class and its influence on surnames Dr. McKinley states that most royal officials and persons holding directly from the king have locative by-names or surnames, which supports the general view that the wealthy, landed families tend to have locative names.

A work of this nature on the historical origins and geographical distribution of surnames rather than on meaning and philology of surnames is not easy reading but is an important part of the study of onomastics that has not received enough attention in the past. Perhaps if more of the important information had been set out in tabled lists, it would have been easier to grasp. As I noted in my review of Volume I of the English Surnames Series, *Yorkshire West Riding*, by Geoge Redmonds [*Names* 23:2 (June, 1975), 112-114], the only completely satisfactory way of establishing the origin of a particular family name is by tracing the history of an individual family or first bearer of the name, and, thus, regional studies of this nature are most valuable.

Elsdon C. Smith

Place Names of New Zealand. By A. W. Reed. Wellington (New Zealand): A. H. and A. W. Reed, 1975. Pp. 510. Price \$10.50.

This is the magnificent product of years of research and dedication (his first book was published in 1934). It is a thorough study despite the author's modest assertion, " 'Every place in New Zealand' is a claim that can never be properly made." He brings to this work not only a lifetime of interest in place-names but also a mastery of the history of the area. The form of the entries and the careful qualifications of some of the explanations attest his scholarship. The sources of information for this work have been deposited at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington.

Of particular interest to a foreigner is the wealth of Maori names and the careful literal translations accompanied by suggested phrases that provide choices in English equivalents. Another interesting feature is Appendix C which lists "Superseded Place Names Including the Original Form of Current Maori Names," some 1,300 entries.

In a work of this scope and depth, the wealth of "choice" items tempts the reviewer. Even though excerpts do not display the total perspective, perhaps they may be indicative. For this, two entries about the name "New Zealand" itself have been chosen.

New Zealand: The islands were named Staten Landt by Abel Tasman, but changed to Nova Zelandia or Nieuw Zeeland. (An early name for the Dutch was people of Holland and Zeeland.) When Australia was called New Holland it was natural to give the name of the other Dutch province to the land to the east. Tasman gave his reasons for bestowing the name Staten Landt: "In honour of Their High Mightinesses the States-General we gave to this land the name of Staten Landt, since we deemed it possible that this land is a part of the great Staten Landt, though this is not certain." Staten Landt was a mysterious will-o'-the-wisp of the Dutch navigators of the seventeenth century. The other Staten Landt, subsequently discovered to be a small island, but believed to be part of the great unknown southern continent, was to the east of Tierra del Fuego. Although there is no certainty as to who bestowed the name or when, it appeared in the form Zeelandia Nova on Thevenot's map in 1663. Nieuw Zeeland was obviously analogous in Dutch minds with Nieuw Holland. The survivors of Marion du Fresne's expedition gave the name Austral-France to New Zealand.

Maori name: Aotearoa, q.v. (p. 284)

Aotearoa: The accepted traditional name for New Zealand. When Kupe, the Polynesian discoverer of these islands, arrived in sight of land, his wife Kearoa cried, "*He ao!*" (A cloud!) when she caught sight of the land on the horizon. It is thought that the words of her exclamation [sic] were expanded by *tea* (white) and *roa* (long). At least, that is the usual explanation, but it must be admitted that two adjectives do not normally follow a noun. It may be that *Aotea, q.v.*, was treated as one word, followed by the adjective long.

The name has become famous as Land of the Long White Cloud; but each of the component syllables has a number of meanings. It may therefore also be rendered: Long clear day; Long white world; Long bright world; Land of long-lingering daylight (which it would certainly be to voyagers from nearer the equator); Land of shimmering twilight; Big glaring light; Continuously clear light; Long bright land.

When Kupe returned to Hawaiki he was asked why he had not called the islands he had discovered after his homeland. "I preferred the warm breast to the cold one," he replied, "the new land to the land forsaken." (p. 13).

Also of interest is the fact that Mr. Reed is no stranger to the American Name Society, inasmuch as a review of one of his books was published in *Names* in 1962 and other reviews have been published here since. In the introduction to this volume, he holds up the American Name Society as an example for a similar society he hopes will be founded in New Zealand.

The knowledge contained in this volume would interest anyone who has an inquiring mind; it is obligatory for anyone who would claim familiarity with onomastics around the world.

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Placenames of Georgia: Essays of John H. Goff. Francis Lee Utley and Marion R. Hemperley, Editors. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1975. Pp. xxxviii, 495. Preface and Introduction, Maps on both inside covers. Index. Price \$16.

This is the book for which many U. S. place-name surveyors have long been waiting. Though we knew little about John Goff until this volume appeared in print, he had been much heralded by the late folklorist and one time ANS President, Francis Utley, as a thorough, accurate, and indefatigable researcher with an uncommon ability to present, in eminently readable form, what could be dull, highly repetitious descriptions of many very similar geographic representations. This book was well worth waiting for; Utley's proclamation was justified.

The volume is not only a good introduction to the place-names of Georgia, of appeal to both specialists and persons with but a casual interest in the subject, but an inspiration and standard for researchers everywhere. As Utley predicted, Goff's essays reflect his great attention to detail in locating and describing specific places, his concern for accuracy, and his honesty in presenting variant, often conflicting, accounts of a name's origin or meaning; and reveal his cautious tentative conclusions, with speculations and assumptions so labeled while disavowing a good story in favor of a more prosaic, but more accurate, account when known (as witness his preference for the origin of *Hiawassee* from the Cherokee word *ayuhwasi*, referring to a "level, fertile, open area. . . covered with a thick expanse of reed or switch cane," to the popular legend about the Catawba maiden named Hiwassee or Pretty Fawn, p. 68). In short, though apparently too polite to say so, Goff disliked the ever present tendency of the dilettante to take things for granted and accept the plausible rather than to learn what really happened on the scene or what may be present there today.

Goff emphasized equally field work and meticulous search through original records; that is, sources contemporary to the discovery or naming of a feature—

platbooks, colonial and early Republican records of land grants and deeds, surveyors' maps, travelers' journals, and other papers stored in the State Archives.

Unlike most volumes with so prosaic a title, this is not a dictionary of a state's place-names but a collection of short sketches and longer essays. These, however, are relatively independent and one can read what and where one wishes. Roughly the first three-fourths of the book contain a series of sketches on specific places that were first published by the Georgia Geological Survey for quite limited readership in its *Georgia Mineral Newsletter*. The rest of the book, to me the highlight of Goff's efforts, consists of his longer essays on more general topics, groups of names or places rather than specific ones, that had originally been published in the *Georgia Review* and the *Emory University Quarterly*. All were brought together with a minimum of tampering by Utley and Hemperley, the latter an archivist in the Georgia Survey General Department.

In most of his sketches, which are arranged chronologically by date of original publication rather than in any kind of topical order, Goff traces the specific name from earliest known references, including maps, to the present, noting changes in spelling and, when known, pronunciation. The places are located as precisely as words (not geographic coordinates) will allow, and an attempt is made to trace derivations. Reference to the historical and geographic significance of each place or name is given and comparisons are made to similarly named places elsewhere.

Since so many of Georgia's less obvious place-names are of Indian origin, at least half of the sketches and several of the essays deal with names of this kind. It is with these that Goff, no scholar of Indian languages himself, showed his remarkable ability to compile from the works of others as full an explication of meaning and derivation as one can hope to find anywhere. He explained quite clearly how Creek and Cherokee (indigenous populations of the state) constructed their place-names and illustrated the problems faced by early whites when they "tried to set down a strange expression from a language they did not understand" (pp. 232-33). The Creek language, with its many unpronounceable sounds, gave them special difficulties (e.g., the voiceless *l* in *Withlacoochee*). Goff decried, though understanding, the wholesale butchering of Indian names by the white man. These names "are not always what they seem; most. . .are distorted to some degree; and...others were so poorly recorded in the first place, or...changed so drastically with the passage of time [that] their original forms and intended meaning are not clear" (p. 416).

Goff's essays are to me, however, far more interesting and useful than his sketches. Of specific significance are those dealing with Cherokee personal names and naming customs, the Great Pine Barrens (actually a longer sketch) Devil names and "poor mouthing" names, the ubiquitous Beaverdam and Buffalo names, name changing (*passim*), and the three brief items on the pronunciation of Georgia names that are not always obvious to outsiders (Cairo, Bremen, Vienna, Albany, Louisville).

Of interest to folklorists are the several accounts of legends that are offered, as

such (e.g., Shake Rag, Rising Fawn, Hard Money and the other “poor mouthing” names). I do not really share Utley’s implied disappointment that not enough of these were given; I believe that enough were to avoid distracting the reader from the purpose of Goff’s presentations.

My own personal criticisms of the volume are minimal. I was disappointed that Goff did not at least attempt an explanation of some of the coined names given in #41. And *Pole Bridge*, as a specific, is not, as Goff suggests, peculiar to Georgia; we have these in Kentucky too.

In sum, this is a fine book, offering future Georgia place-name surveyors much preliminary information and many research possibilities. Goff’s work should be a valuable precursor to their more systematic and comprehensive efforts. His wedding of field work and the examination of archival material should be inspiring. What lacks and should be more than made up for by the current Georgia Survey is a sophisticated computerization of all names and relevant data. If only each state survey, mine included, had had available for its examination such a volume prepared by as careful and competent a student of its place-names.

Robert M. Rennick

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Handbook of Pseudonyms and Personal Nicknames. By Harold S. Sharp. Metuchen (N.J.): The Scarecrow Press, Inc. 1972. Pp. 1104. Price \$30. (two volumes). First Supplement, Metuchen (N.J.): 1975. Pp. 1395 (two volumes).

In these four volumes by Dr. Sharp are collected some 30,000 classical names, names of medieval and modern rulers, authors, poets, popes, judges, elected representatives, musicians, men of all times and occupations, prominent and obscure, with the 50,000 pseudonyms, stage names, pen names, and nicknames by which they were known. In one alphabet for each of the two-volume sets are listed the true names in capital letters and the alternate names in lower case.

Thus one can look up Lincoln to find that he was known as Honest Abe and by 22 other nicknames. Or one can look up Honest Abe to learn that Lincoln was the only Abe so known. One can look up Shakespeare to find who was known as The French Shakespeare, The Welsh Shakespeare, and the other Shakespeares. Under John Smith one can find which authors were concealed under this well-known moniker. A most useful work.

Elsdon C. Smith