

Book Reviews

GALE RESEARCH REPRINTS AND ORIGINALS: XX

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

Grant, Francis J. *The Manual of Heraldry: A Concise Description of the Several Terms Used, and Containing a Dictionary of Every Designation in the Science*. New and rev. ed. Edinburgh: John Grant, 1929. Republished, 1976. Pp. viii – 142. \$9.

Kelly, Patrick. *Irish Family Names*. Chicago: O'Connor and Kelly, 1939. Republished, 1976. Pp. viii + 142. \$12.

Lindsay, Thomas S. *Plant Names*. London: The Sheldon Press, 1923. Republished, 1976. Pp. viii + 93. \$8.

Mather, Frank Lincoln, ed. *Who's Who of the Colored Race*. Chicago: Memento Edition Half-Century Anniversary of Negro Freedom in U.S., 1915. Republished, 1976. Pp. xxxii + 296. \$28.

Thomas, Joseph. *Universal Pronouncing Dictionary of Biography and Mythology*. 2 vols. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott and Co., 1870. Republished, 1976. Pp. xii + 2,345. \$85/set.

Gale Research has published several books on heraldry, so there must be a market out there or out here somewhere for them. One original is in the group, that of R.M. Urquhart, *Scottish Burgh and County Heraldry* (1973), a book of thorough scholarship and documentation. Another, *Handbook of Heraldry*, by John E. Cussans is a 1970 reprint of the 1893 edition, a comprehensive work that first appeared in 1869, reissued in 1872, and finally going through four editions by popular demand. It is a better book than is the *Manual* by Grant, but the beginning student of the "science" probably should turn to Grant first. It makes no pretension "to enter fully upon the heraldic history of even the peerage"; still, it gives definitions of arms, shields, tinctures, furs, and lines used to part the field. Each symbol, of course, has great signification, and each is described in detail and in dictionary form. A most informative chapter is the one that sets out the order of precedence for both men and women. This text should be used with histories of heraldry, where it will make reading and understanding much easier. It definitely is an excellent reference source.

Irish Family Names is a small book that packs a great amount of material into it, some of it the business of the Irish only. Indeed, all who pretend to Irishness should own this one, if only for purposes of pride. The introduction is a history of the Gaelic clan system and the origin of family names. Each entry consists of a drawing of the coat of arms, the surname in Gaelic type, the surname in Gaelic

script, the various anglicized forms, origin and meaning, motto, and notes showing translation of the Gaelic root word. A detailed, even dense, index lists all names in Anglicized type, all alphabetized, with page numbers provided for easy use.

Plant Names is another short manual, more like a monograph on how to understand the names of plants. About 1,000 names are defined, discussed, and sorted into categories. This barely touches on the thousands of names now available to us. What Lindsay does, however, is to make us appreciate both the local—in this case, English—name and the scientific one, which probably had much the same origin, only in a “classical language” and, thereby, has attained a kind of prestige among the learned. Good gardeners tend to use local names, whereas the pedants insist on the “difficult” ones. On the other hand, the scientific name has international currency, which eliminates confusion. Botanical names, then, can be interesting to the etymologist and the gardner, in that something is learned about the origin of the plant, the people who named it, and why it was named. The classification of the names and the examples are so well organized that it is difficult not to quote extensively. In short sections, the author gives examples of medicinal, fancy, commemorative, place of origin, use, classical, animal, habitat, and descriptive names. It is the type of book that deserves fleshing out into a much larger study.

The next two in this grouping properly belong to biography. *Who's Who in the Colored Race* is the first general biographical dictionary to be devoted exclusively to blacks, including about 12,000 rather extensive sketches of black women and men who had achieved prominence during the latter part of the nineteenth-century and early part of the twentieth. The book was never revised, nor was the promised second volume ever produced. Nevertheless, it “provides a dependable and authoritative record of black leaders in business, professional, industrial, official, and intellectual life.” It is a valuable reference work for those who are studying black history, especially in the United States, since most of those represented lived in this country. A few African leaders are included, but World War I prevented the inclusion of those from many of the other countries. A check of 100 randomly selected names indicated that 66 were born in the states that had formed the Confederacy.

The reprinting of *Universal Pronouncing Dictionary of Biography and Mythology* must have been a major and ambitious undertaking by Gale Research. It is compendious, comprehensive (when published in 1870), and certainly informative. Veritably an encyclopedia in itself, it contains over 4,000 sketches of men and women, as well as mythological figures (of both sexes). The most important feature, according to its editor, is that it furnished as nearly as possible the correct pronunciation of each of the entries. The attempt is obviously made and probably is the intrinsic importance of the work, despite the concise and sharply written entries. The course followed is to sound all names according to the pronunciation of “well-educated people of the different countries to which such names belong,” except for those that have acquired

established English pronunciations, such as Calvin, Cervantes, Galileo, Petrarch, etc. Parenthetically, I would like to know what the editor would have done with Don Quixote, who did not qualify because he was only a fictional character.

The difficulty in using a complicated set of pronunciation signs is well known and need not be belabored here. That it worked fairly well cannot be denied, if one followed the directions carefully; but even then, such evaluations as "more open," "somewhat more open," "less prolonged," "very nearly like," and such could not have helped much. Anyone using the pronunciations "correctly" would need to know something about the language from which the name is taken. The variants are helpful and are supplied when names are noted from two different language areas, such as Persian and North Indian. Names that occur in Sanskrit were written "according to the system established by Sir William Jones," instead of the "modern method." As the editor noted, Oriental names caused difficulties. An appendix lists several hundred Christian names, with pronunciations and variations. It contains good material for anyone interested in the pronunciation of personal names in different Near Eastern, European, and North and South American countries, where these names are held in common.

This pronouncing dictionary is still recommended in guides to reference books. It is the result of good bookmaking and of Gale's attempt to reprint some valuable historical material that newly built libraries do not contain.

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Mrs. Man. By Una Stannard. San Francisco: Germainbooks, 91 St. Germain Avenue, San Francisco, California 94114. 1977. Pp. [x], 386. Price \$12.

As this is a book outlining and explaining the history of the feminist movement, why is it reviewed in *Names*? Answering my own question, it is because the author attaches great importance to the proper use of names by women in marriage. A more descriptive title would have been "The Names of Married Women" since the bulk of the work is strictly on that subject.

Mrs. Stannard compares the need of married women to use distinctive names separate from those of their husbands with the innate desire of blacks for names separate from those of their former masters.

The early feminists promoted the use of women's first names rather than the first names of the husbands. Before the middle of the eighteenth century, in the United States, the first names of married women were used because the form, Mrs. John Jones, was taboo, the title *Mrs.* being used to mean only an adult female and not a wife. It was the same as Miss John Jones. Mrs. Stannard, searching historic records to show how female adults were addressed, found that in the early seventeenth century *Miss* referred to a woman of loose morals. Then later *Mrs.* came to mean married and *Miss* to mean single in custom and fashion.

Mrs. Stannard writes, without approval, of married women who identified with their husbands in every way. In the early part of the nineteenth century, styles like Mrs. Washington Potts and Mrs. William Black came into vogue. Extremes like Mrs. General Jones, Mrs. Judge Humphrey, and Mrs. Senator Ingalls allowed wives to share in the honors earned by their husbands. Most women, she conceded, were (and are) content with merely the name of power.

Mrs. Stannard traces, in somewhat boring detail, the slow early emergence of the practice of married women refusing to use the surnames of their husbands, starting in the middle of the nineteenth century. She recognizes that the first ones were usually actresses or authors who had developed a property interest in the name they were using. Others, even famous women, took the names of their current husbands.

Of course, this book closely examines the ideas of Lucy Stone about loss of name upon marriage. She became Lucy Stone Blackwell on May 1, 1855, and probably did not change back to Lucy Stone until July, 1856, and her troubles with the maiden name are specifically set out. The Massachusetts Board of Registrars refused to allow Lucy Stone to vote under her maiden name and she did not, for some reason, bring suit against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enforce the right. In this book Mrs. Stannard proceeds to set out what she supposed would be the brief filed by Stone's attorneys followed by what she supposed would be the brief of the attorneys for the Commonwealth. Mrs. Stannard regretfully assumes that if Lucy Stone had sued and appealed, she would have lost even if she had carried the fight to the United States Supreme Court.

Mrs. Stannard continues in a rambling manner noting various women who have not used their husband's names and what they called themselves after divorce. Her style gives the impression that such feminists frequently had difficulties with their husbands and tended to divorce them. She discusses the opinions and rulings of judges who have presided in such cases.

The Lucy Stone League was revitalized in 1969, brought about by an increasing number of inquiries from women who wished to keep their maiden names, many of which were influenced by the Center for a Woman's Own Name, founded in 1973. Its Booklet was reviewed in *Names* 23:1 (March, 1975), p. 49. In the early 1970s numerous articles on the subject appeared in law journals along with various notes in popular periodicals and local newspapers supporting the right of married women to use their maiden names.

In the latter part of the book in the section entitled "The Mother of Us All" Mrs. Stannard discusses, in a rather confusing and disconnected manner, the question as to

whether in the eyes of primitive peoples the males or the females were the procreators of life. With frequent references to the dogma and teaching of the Christian religion, interspersed by references to early primitive beliefs, she emphasizes the low status of women in early times with relation to males. The section is concluded by a discussion of the maternal instinct in men to beget children.

Then in a last short section, Mrs. Stannard reveals that the female sex was not defective but "no less fit to wear breeches than men," and outlines what she considers to be and what Elizabeth Clay Stanton calls "the greatest revolution the world has ever known or ever will know," the emancipation of women, followed by a statement of the many unusual ways women are beginning to alter their names and those of their children, using their right to petition in court for change of name after marriage.

This work is the result of wide reading and study of the feminist movement and the names used by married women. It will become the standard work on the subject. The author sets out her sources at the end in considerable detail followed by a list of legal cases discussed in the body of the work. A comprehensive index allows one to find where certain men and women are mentioned by name in connection with their work in the feminist movement. This is an authoritative work and it should be in the library of every active feminist and be familiar to every worker in practical onomastics.

Elsdon C. Smith

Washington State Place Names. By James W. Phillips. 4th printing, with corrections and additions, Washington Paperback edition. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1976). Pp. xv + 167. Price \$4.95, paper; \$10, cloth.

It is indeed good to know that a place-name text is a bestseller. Since its publication in 1971, *Washington Place Names* has been so much in demand that it is now in its fourth printing and has also now appeared in a paperback edition that is just as attractive as the original hard cover.

Despite the claims of corrections and additions, the text is essentially the same as an earlier printing which was reviewed by the late Professor Francis Lee Utley [*Names*, 21:4 (December, 1973), 267-9]. The format is almost the same, with flyleaf maps and the same number of pages. No new material is added to the entry on Oregon, although Professor Utley pointed out that other information is available concerning the controversial derivation of the name.

Still, some changes have been made. In the acknowledgements, the names of Gene R. Little and Donald J. Orth have been added. These represent the Washington State Board on Geographic Names (WSBGN) and the United States Board on Geographic Names, respectively. New material in the text apparently came from both sources; for instance, Capitol Lake, a new entry, was named by WSBGN in 1975 for its proximity to

the capitol building in Olympia. On the same page, Camp Murray is omitted, later to appear under Murray, Camp. Eunice is the next new inclusion, one that takes care of some white space at the end of the E section. A note added to the entry on Kosmos informs that the townsite is now inundated by “waters of the Mossyrock Dame’s Riffe Lake in 1968.” This is cross-referenced to Riffe, formerly Davisson Lake, the name having been changed “in 1976 to commemorate the former town of Riffe.”

Minor but not substantial changes have been made in entries for Lion Gulch (“Self-named by prospector Pat Lions”), Little Boston, Littlerock, Locke, Long Beach, Longmire, and Longview. The spelling of Reardan has been corrected from Reardon. Ruth Prairie has been added, while material on Safari Islands is reduced to a cross-reference to Spieden Island. This causes some changes in the entries for Southworth, Spieden Island, and Spirit Lake. Valhallas, the name of “multiple peaks in the Olympic Mountains,” is the last new entry.

These changes are minute, but they point up some problems in revising an existent text without making radical changes that involve actual resetting, a costly process. Examination of revisions is really a mini-course in how entries are rewritten so that meaning will remain essentially unchanged while space is not shifted around too much. It is doubtful, however, that buyers of this entertaining and informative volume will notice the small change.

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CORRIGENDA

In Herbert Penzl’s article, “Names and Historical Germanic Phonology: the Bilingual Sixth Century Ravenna Deeds” (*Names* 25:1 [March, 1977]), the following corrections should be made:

- p. 6: line 5: IE *o to Gmc. *a
 6: Gmc. *ō (from IE *ā. . . .
 11, line 1: *laibaz
 14, line 14: zweigliederigen.