

NOTICES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Henry Sweet Society will take place at the University of Sussex, at 4.30 p.m. on 1st of September 1994 in the course of the Annual Colloquium.

Nominations for membership of the executive committee are invited. They are required in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, and countersigned by the nominee to signify consent to the nomination, and must reach the Secretary at least fifteen days before the meeting.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1994

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1994 were due on 2 January 1994. The current rates are as follows:

Individual Members paying in sterling (including Members paying by Eurocheque or sterling draft):

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NOTES AND ARTICLES

Prince Louis Napoleon and Norse Philology: a political note

Stephen Miller's illuminating article in *HSS Newsletter* 21 (November 1993) draws attention to the philological interests of H.I.H. Prince Louis Napoleon: his visit to the Shetlands in 1858, his interest in Norm, his examination of local word lists, his meetings with local philologists such as William Grant, and his subsequent gift of the (then) much prized *Lexicon Islandico-Latino-Danicum Biörnnonis Haldorsonii* (1814).¹

It is to be hoped that the Bonaparte family interest in the northern islands of Britain was innocently philological. This seems not to have been the case with the visit of another of the Emperor's first nephews, H.I.H. Prince Jerome, to Iceland in 1856. France was eager to purchase land around Dýrafjörður in the North West of the island, ostensibly to set up a fishing station - but with the establishment of a naval base at the top of the hidden agenda. Prince Jerome's visit to Iceland was in reality part of a diplomatic offensive with a highly valued strategic prize to be won.²

Jerome journeyed to Geysir to observe and, it was assumed, marvel at the spectacular spouting of the famed hot springs. Camped (in some style) at a safe distance he awaited the promised convulsions in the company of the British traveller and incurable Icelandophile Lord Dufferin, who records the encounter in his widely read *Letters from High Latitudes*.³ They waited... and waited to observe one of the wonders of the world. The wind whistled, tent sheets flapped, rain leaked from leaden skies. Geysir rumbled promisingly but unproductively; even more exasperatingly, the more active but unpredictable Strokkur persistently evaded Gallic attempts to photograph its explosions, despite feverish attempts to rouse it at the right moment by means of stones shovelled unceremoniously into its deep-blue depths. In an unpublished (so far as I am aware) review⁴ of Dufferin's book, the mercurial Icelandic philologist Þorleifur Repp,⁵ by then in the grip of his final illness, finds his morale lifted by the reported humiliation of the French prince - a victim of the curmudgeonly discourtesy of the Haukadalur springs. Even if some of the Icelanders had been seduced by the 'expeditions, examinations, inquiries, measurements, condescensions, aimiabilities, largesses'⁶ of the French, even if their political leader Jón Sigurðsson was prepared to sell family land at Dýrafjörður to the French, at least Geysir and Strokkur had remained true to the spirit of Icelandic independence (from Denmark) for which Repp and (he believed) Jón Sigurðsson had been fighting throughout their years in Copenhagen. This vision of geothermal defiance warmed the heart of a dying philologist.

Repp himself had spent eleven years in Edinburgh (1826-37), working as a librarian in the Advocates' Library. He missed no opportunity for promoting knowledge of Iceland's great medieval culture, and for investigating Hiberno-Norse linguistic links. He displayed a particular interest in the Orkneys and Shetlands, both as an editor of

late medieval texts⁷ and as an enthusiast of Sir Walter Scott's novel *The Pirate*. Yet, impressed (and surprised) as he might have been by H.I.H. Prince Louis's own Shetlandic enthusiasms, and his encouragement of William Grant's lexicographic labours, it seems likely that Repp would have warned the Shetland scholar to check the length of his spoon before continuing to dine with the devil, or, to borrow Repp's robust characterisation of Prince Louis, 'the blasphemous blackguard'.⁸

Notes

- 1 Published in Copenhagen. Björn Halldórsson 1724-94.
- 2 Kjartan Ólafsson, 'Áform Frakka um nýlendu við Dýrafjörð', *Saga* 24 (1986), 147-203.
- 3 Frederick T. H. Temple, Lord Dufferin, *Letters from High Latitudes* (London, 1857), pp.130-5.
- 4 Landsbókasafn Íslands [National Library of Iceland], Lbs. ÍB 90b fol.
- 5 On Repp, see Andrew Wawn, 'Þorleifur Repp, philologist', *HSS Newsletter* 11 (November 1988), 2-4; and *The Anglo Man. Þorleifur Repp, Philology and Nineteenth-Century Britain*. *Studia Islandica* 49, (Reykjavík 1991).
- 6 Letter from Þorleifur Repp to his daughter Anne, 20 September 1856: Lbs. Repp. Acc. 6/7/1989 fol.
- 7 Þorleifur Guðmundsson Repp [and Robert Jamieson], *Deeds Relating to Orkney and Zetland 1433-1631*. ([?Copenhagen or Edinburgh], 1840).
- 8 as note 7.

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University of Leeds

The 'Philological Labours' of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte (1813--1891) [Part 2]

Since the appearance of my note in the last issue of the *HSS Newsletter*, on the linguistic activities of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte in the Shetlands, I have been favoured by Brian Smith, the archivist at the Shetland Archives, with two corrections to my transcripts, and further information about William Grant.

First of all, a correction needs to be made to Document 1, where the initials after Edmondston's name read 'M. D.'; and in Document 2, for 'Hanay', read 'Harray'.

William Grant was born in 1828 and died in 1865 in Glasgow from T.B. on 20 June: his letter to Bonaparte was dated 11 March that same year (see Document [3] in part one). He had left Shetland in 1864 after his behaviour became more and more manic after the collapse of his marriage, and alcoholism. He had been known for many years as a practical joker, and local pain in the side of the Shetland élite. See, Brian Smith, 'The Tarry Kirk, the Bogus Runes and a Priestly Poker', *Shetland Times*, 24 December 1987, pp. 12--13a-d.

From my first note I also omitted to mention that Bonaparte's activities in Shetland have already been the subject of an article by Roy Gronneberg; see, 'Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte (1813-1891)', *Shetland Life*, 18 (1982), p. 23. (I am grateful to the author for sending me a photocopy of his piece when I first began to work on Bonaparte.)

I had indicated in my first note that there was still further material to come from the *Coleccion Bonapart*, housed in the Biblioteca Provincial in Bilbao, relating to the Prince's visit to the Shetlands. Presented here is the surviving correspondence from the Edmondston family, chiefly letters from Eliza Edmondston to Bonaparte. Eliza Edmondston was the author of *Sketches and Tales of the Shetland Islands* (1858).

Documents

[1] Letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 29 September 1858. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, *Coleccion Bonapart*, A-3 56/4.

Baltasound Shetland | 29 Sept 1858

Sir

I hope your Highness will excuse the liberty I take in this expressing my thanks for the 'Song of Solomon in Lowland Scotch', which I duly received from M^r Hay[.]

If I may be allowed to give my opinion, I think 'the Song' is excellently rendered into the Scottish dialect, supposing the reader is acquainted with the rules of spelling D^r Riddell has adopted --- Otherwise I suspect no Englishman --- Frenchman or German would be able to give it the correct vernacular pronunciation. This is a subject which I have [2] never before had any opportunity of studying, but it is so interesting, & I am so well acquainted with Scottish pronunciation, that I hope I may be forgiven if, with all due deference, I object to D^r Riddell's spelling of many of the commonest words --

- I think as a general rule, that when the pronunciation of any word of a dialect is as near as possible to common English, the modern English spelling should be retained - -- \& if I am not much mistaken this was the rule your Highness kindly gave us for writing our Shetland vernacular --- For instance in 'the Song' --- Chap II. ver 14 [3] why put sie for see? In Chap I. ver 15. Dow ought to be Doo. in Chap II ver 12 Floures ought to be Floores and this is only in analogy with D'r R's own spelling of Mooth and Droon, for Mouth & Drown --- I think also the peculiar but sufficiently well known French sound of eu, should be rendered by the french spelling, rather than by uu as in Spuuse. Chap IV. ver. 10 Muun --- chap. VI. ver. 10. Fluuds --- Chap VIII. ver 7. \& many other words, which have all the sound of the french eu --- Dr. Riddill seems to have adopted, though not invariably, a very ancient orthography, instead of the more [4] obvious modern Scotch. If your Highness would like to see the two modes well contrasted, you will find it I think very completely, by referring to Blackwoods Edinburgh Magazine for 1831 --- Vols. 29. \& 30. You will see in the papers called 'Noctes Ambrosianae' the modern Scotch vernacular beautifully rendered by Christopher North in the soi distant conversations of James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd (our greatest poet next to Burns) who D'r Edmondston says spoke admirable lowland Scotch. And in one of the same volumes ---

[2] *Continuation of letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 29 September 1858. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonaparte, A-3 56/5*

in the number for April 1831 Page 641 you will see a little p[r]actical jeu d'esprit by Hogg also, in the ancient spelling --- \& another in November 1831 Page 782 in the same, both of which, by a person understanding the dialect, would be read correctly enough in modern lowland, but to others, would convey any thing but a correct vernacular.

I am glad to inform your Highness, that our collection of Shetland words is progressing very satisfactorily. As soon as the harvest is over, leaving the people as well as himself a little more leisure than at present, D'r Edmondston [2] will forward our vocabulary with the old Norse remains --- \& translations --- we trust your Highness had a pleasant tour in the Hebrides, \& that we may anticipate the great pleasure of your promised visit next summer.

I have the honor to be | With much repsect -- Sir | Your Obedient Servant

Eliza Edmondston

His Highness | Prince L.L. Bonaparte

Commentary (to [1] and [2])

We know for certain Bonaparte visited Shetland in 1858. William Grant was explicit about the year in the one surviving letter of his to the Prince (see Document [3] in my first note). Moreover, Bonaparte himself mentioned his time in Shetland in 1858 in his notes to his private press publication of the 'Parable of the Sower' in Shetland dialect (see [10] under). It would appear, as the date of the letter is not in question at all, that the Prince was intent on returning the next year, 1859, after having been in Shetland earlier in the month in which the letter here was written. Bonaparte is seemingly involved in a linguistic 'grand tour' of the British Isles, judging from Eliza

Edmondston's comment that the Prince was then touring in the Hebrides (where he evidently moved on to from having visited Shetland).

The seasonal rhythms of a pre-mechanised farming community keep informants from the collector; the corn harvest also seemed to keep the collectors themselves away from the work of dialect gathering.

Eliza Edmondston is referring to Bonaparte's own private press publication of *'The Song of Solomon' in Lowland Scotch, from the Authorized English Version* (1858), the 'translation' being carried out by H.S. Riddell.

[3] Letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 26 April (?1859). *Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonaparte, A-3 56/7*

Rev^d Birt Edmondston's | Blair Drummond | by Stirling.

26 Ap^l

Sir

I am afraid your Imperial Highness will have thought us neglectful of our promise as to the old Norse vocabulary.

It has not been so, although for some months we have been much [2] occupied with business connected with the death of M^r Edmondston of Bunes.

D^r Edmondston found his list of old words, (to which however we have added a good many). It was collected thirty years ago from aged persons now dead, so that I believe your Highness would no where else procure so many ancient [3] words, most of which we find are now quite forgotten.

D^r E. begged I would ask your Highness to excuse it that the vocabulary is in pencil as he wrote it out only the day of my departure from home, & from an injury in his right hand it is painful for him to use a pen.

The Parable of the Sower in the present Shetland vernacular dialect, is also inclosed herewith The pronunciation of the whole is according to [4] the rules D^r E. has noted.

I have found it necessary to pay a few weeks visit to my son here but hope to return before the probable time of your Highnesses promised visit to the North, where, if in any thing we can farther assist your Highness, we shall esteem it a distinguished honour & happiness & with D^r E's most respectful compliments[.]

I remain | Your Imperial Highnesses | Obedient Servant

Eliza Edmondston

Commentary

No year given but placed in 1859 given the mention of the enclosure of a 'translation' of the 'Parable of the Sower' into Shetland dialect---the letter under ([4]), dated 16 May 1859, contains a correction to the copy of the Parable sent the Prince ('[I] hasten to supply what D^r Edmondston omitted in his translation'). For the enclosure itself, see Document [6]. It would not appear in print until 1873---for it, see Document [10].

As regards Edmondston's 'list of old words', the item in question is fortunately present in the *Coleccion Bonapart* as manuscript A-3 56/7. It would seem that this list was not collected contemporaneously; if Eliza Edmondston's mention that it was collected around some thirty years is indeed correct, then A-3 56/7 is a copy of a manuscript/notebook dating from around 1830.

Bonaparte appears to be indeed intending to return to Shetland; at present we have no idea if he made it or not.

[4] *Letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 16 May 1859. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonapart, A-3 56/6*

Edinburgh | 12, G\^ King Street
16 May 1859

Sir

I have had the honor of receiving your Imperial Highness's note \& hasten to supply what D\r Edmondston omitted in his translation.

I shall receive with much grateful pleasure the interesting works your Highness has been pleased to send me, which I dare say Mr Arthur Hay has sent to Baltasound by this time.

I hope to see Mr. Robert Chambers one of [2] these days, \& shall hear how he succeeds with the Song of Solomon. Principal Barclay is also to be in town next week when the Clergy all meet for the sitting of the Supreme Church Court. Can my son or I do any thing for your Highness when we see those gentlemen with whom we are intimately acquainted or if any other thing we could be of the least use; we should esteem it an honor to receive your Highness's commands \& I beg leave to remain [3] Sir ---

Your Imperial | Highness's Obedient Serv\^t |

Eliza Edmondston

His Imperial Highness | Prince L. Lucien Bonaparte

Matthew xiii --- 5. 6.

Becas dey had no deepness o' airt --- an whin da sun wis up. dey wir scoother'd.

P.S. If your Highness would please to send me a proof impression of the parable I would see that it is correct.

Commentary

Unfortunately we do not know what the publications were that the Prince sent to Eliza Edmondston. Certainly, Bonaparte seems to have been generous with gifts of books. William Grant was sent a copy of Björn Halldórsson's *Lexicon Islandico-Latino-Danicum* (1814)---see Document [3] in the first part of this article. As mentioned above, the 'Parable of the Sower' was not to see the press until 1873.

Thomas Barclay, Principal of the College of Glasgow, receives an acknowledgment in the preface to Thomas Edmondston's 1866 *Etymological Glossary of the Shetland and Orkney Dialect*, (see p. v), but I cannot elucidate his role as yet.

[5] *Letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 7 December (?1859). Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonapart, A-3 56/9*

Blair Drummond | by Stirling

7 Dec ---

Sir

I beg leave to offer my most grateful acknowledgments for the attention of your Imperial Highness, & the note with [?] I duly received[.]

I have now had the opportunity of seeing Barry's Orkney to which you directed me --- & in re-writing the Lords Prayer I have retained the few Shetlandic forms [2] to which your Highness drew our attention as being probably authentic --- although a little different from Low's version --- I may just mention there are one or two undoubtedly Shetland words, which are still in use. 'Dacre' is one It means to 'jog along' as an Englishman would say --- getting forward in any way not losing much ground not yet making great [3] progress --- it applies either to work --- to travelling --- or to things in general & is in general use --- dacre or deker.

On dough is less common but familiar to me from being word by an old lady --- it means a small piece or portion --- usually applied exclusively to bread --- ('Sin vi forgiva') 'Sin' is used constantly instead of 'as' seems to me a corruption of since.

there are others you will probably detect --- wus or wis [4] for 'us'.

But I will not longer trespass on your attention,

With My | Son's respectful | Compliments I remain | Sir Your Imperial | Highness's Obliged | servan\|t
Eliza Edmondston

Commentary

No year is given and from the contents no clue; placed here in 1859 as it seems the year of most communication with Bonaparte. Eliza Edmondston is engaged on 'translating' the Lord's Prayer into the Shetland dialect. The publication of the Song of Solomon, the Parable of the Sower, and the Lord's Prayer 'translated' into the local vernacular was a particularly favourite exercise of the Prince. References to the private press activities of Bonaparte are given in the commentary to Document [10].

[6] *The Parable of the Sower in the Shetland Dialect. Dated 1859. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonapart, A-5 55/1*

Parable of the Sower | in the Modern Shetland | Vernacular

[?Mist.] 1859

[2] Behold a Saar güd furt ta saa An whin he saad some seeds fell bi da rod side, an da fools cam an devoord dem up. some fell uppo stony places whar day hedna muckle ert, an furt weth day shot up. an becaase day hed nay röt day widdered awaa An some fell amung torns. an da Torns shot up. an shockkit dem. Bit udder fell intill güd grund an brocht furt fröt. some a hunder faald. some saxty faald. some thirty faald Whaa her airts ta hear. lat him hear

N.B. the double aa to be sounded as in Dutch. the ö \& ü in German[.]

L. E.

Commentary

For L.E. read Laurence Edmondston.

[7] *Letter from Eliza Edmondston to LLB, 28 September 1860. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonapart, A-3 56/8*

Baltasound | Shetland Isles | 28 Sept 1860

Sir.

May it please your Imperial Highness to allow my Sons Blot \& David to wait upon you, \& convey our most respectful \& grateful remembrances[.]

They are en route for Paris for the especial purpose of visiting our venerable friend Martin B[?], \& would your Imperial Highness favour them with any [2] Advice or instructions D\r Edmondston \& I would feel particularly gratified[.]

I have the honour | to remain Sir | Your Imperial Highness's | obedient \& obliged Serv\t |

Eliza Edmondston

His Imperial Highness | Prince L.L. Bonaparte | \&c \&c

[8] *Letter from Biot Edmondston to LLB, 9 October 1860. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonapart, A-3 56/2*

14 Bernard St. | Primrose Hill

9th Oct : 1860

Sir ---

I beg to acknowledge His Highness Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte's kind invitation for tomorrow conveyed through your note and will feel obliged by your communicating to His Highness that it gives my Brother \& myself much pleasure to accept the same[.]

I am | Sir | Y\r obt Servant

Biot Edmondston
A.M. MacRosty Esq.

Commentary (on [7] and [8])

A touching gesture by Bonaparte. Biot Edmondston later went on to write with J.M.E. Saxby, *The Home of a Naturalist* (1888).

[9] Letter from Thomas Edmondston to LLB, 2 March 1866. Biblioteca Provincial, Bilbao, Coleccion Bonaparte, A-3 56/3

Edinburgh | 9 Albany St | March 2^d 1866
May It Please Your | Highness

I approach your Highness with very great diffidence, but yet with the confidence that although my requests may not be complied with, that Your Highness will kindly pardon my boldness when I make known the nature of my petition.

I have been engaged during a long and painful illness in gathering words and phrases peculiar to the Orkney and Shetland Islands, more especially the latter, & have succeeded in collecting some [2] four thousand (4000) of these fully Six to Seven Eights of which have never appeared in print in a collected form, & the great bulk of them entirely unknown out of the Island. My collection may prove of value to the Philologist, and I propose issuing an edition of some Two hundred and fifty copies. I have no idea or expectation of profit, as I know that my work will not be likely to recommend itself to the taste of the general public. I am only anxious to assist in preserving a dialect, that will likely, unless timely put into the printer's hands, be soon irrecoverably lost. Should it be considered necessary, I shall be most happy [3] to forward to your Highness a selection or selections from my manuscript. I know that you take great interest in philological enquiries & I have ventured to hope that I might be permitted to dedicate my little work to your Highness, and it is to entreat that honor that this letter is written. I propose also to append to my Vocabulary the names of the different Shetland Islands, Mountains, Voes, Private residencies &c, together with their derivations from the old Norse. I may mention that I have lately been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature London, and of the Anthropological [4] Society of London. I am also a Landed Proprietor in the Island of Unst Shetland, where my ancestors have lived for centuries, and where my late Uncle Mr Edmondston of Bunes, for a long series of years had the honor to hold the Office of Vice Consul for France. Praying that Your Highness will take my humble request into favorable consideration, & that you will pardon my boldness.

I have the honor to be | Your Highness | Most Obt Humble Servt

Tho: Edmondston

H.I.H. | The Prince Louis | Lucien Bonaparte

Commentary

Edmondston's collection did indeed appear; it was in fact published the same year. See, Thomas Edmondston, *An Etymological Glossary of the Shetland and Orkney Dialect* (London & Berlin: Asher, 1866), which also appeared appended as Part III of the *Transactions of the Philological Society* for 1866 (1867). On the title-page is the line, 'Partly Read at Two Meetings of the Philological Society in the Spring of 1866'.

Whereas two were possibly planned, only one reading is known. In the 'Notices of the Meetings of the Philological Society From January 5, 1866, to December 21, 1866', is the mention that one of the papers read at the meeting of the 1 June that year was "Extracts from a Glossary of Shetland words" by Thomas Edmondston', (see 'Appendix | Philological Society | 1867', to the *TPS* for 1866 for the 'Notices ...', the reference above being on p. 12).

[10] *La Parabole du Semeur, in Shetland dialect, as issued from the Prince's own private press.*

[Title-page]

La Parabole du Semeur, | TRADUITE DE L'ANGLAIS DANS LE DIALECTE | ÉCOSSAIS DES SHETLANDS, | PAR LE DR L. EDMONSTON, L'ANNÉE 1859, | DANS LA PETITE ÎLE D'UNST. | Présentée à la Société Philologique de Londres par | LE PRINCE LOUIS-LUCIEN BONAPARTE | son Membre Honoraire, | LE 20 JUIN 1873. | [Personal Stamp] | LONDRES. 1873.

[Page 1]

OBSERVATIONS

Le dialecte écossais des Shetlands est de formation récente, car il ne doit son origine qu'à la domination de l'Écosse dans ces îles, autrefois exclusivement scandinaves quant à la langue.

Le shetlandais actuel constitue avec l'orcadien qui est toutefois un sous-dialecte distinct, un quatrième dialecte écossais, différent des trois autres qui ont été si savamment illustrés et mis en évidence pour la première fois par Mr J. A. H. Murray.

Le shetlandais se distingue par l'absence totale des deux sons du th anglais qu'il remplace par ceux du t et du d, et qui correspondent à leur tour au [thorn] et au [eth] islandais.

La prononciation du wh n'y est remplacée ni par celle du f ni par celle du [chi]w, comme cela a lieu dans les dialectes écossais du nord, du centre et du sud.*

L'usage du pronom personnel doo au singulier, au lieu de yee, y est très-fréquent.

Les mots dérivés du norr (dialecte islandais que l'on parlait naguère dans ces îles) y abondent. On peut les remarquer soit dans le *Etymological Glossary of the Shetland and Orkney Dialect* par Th. Edmondston, imprimé par la Société Philologique de Londres en 1866, soit dans un autre vocabulaire manuscrit que je possède et que je dois à l'obligeance de son auteur, le traducteur de cette Parabole.[dagger]

La prononciation de l'a grave et long dans pâte est indiquée par aa; celle de eu en peu, par ø; celle de u mêlée d'une légère nuance de eu, par ù; celle du ch allemand en nacht, par [chi].

Le shetlandais et l'orcadien anciens constituent deux sous-dialectes appartenant à un même dialecte, distinct de celui des Feroë, quoique faisant partie comme ce dernier de la langue islandaise.

En 1858 j'ai rencontrée à Unst et aux Orcades quelques vieillards décrépits qui se souvenaient encore d'avoir, dans leur enfance, entendu parler le norm à des personnes très-âgées vers l'année 1780.

L. L. B.

* Le changement de la gutturale labialisée [chi]w des dialectes écossais du sud et du centre dans la labio-dentale f du dialecte du nord, est un fait des plus curieux. J'ai constaté une permutation analogue dans quelques localités du pays basque espagnol. C'est ainsi que juan (prononcé [chi]juan) 'aller' se change en fan en basque d'Aezcoa et de Salazar, ni plus ni moins qu'en écossais quhat (prononcé [chi]wat) 'quoi' se transforme en fat.

[Dagger] Ce manuscrit contient plusieurs mots qui manquent au glossaire de Mr Th. Edmonston. Un autre petit vocabulaire orcadien, également manuscrit, et que je dois à Mr G. Petrie de Kirkwall, son auteur, contient aussi quelques mots qui manquent au *Shetland and Orkney Glossary*.

[Page 2]

LA PARABOLE DU SEMEUR | DANS | LE DIALECTE ÉCOSSAIS DES SHETLANDS.

MATT. XIII.

3. Behold, a saar gtid furt ta saa;

4. An whin he saad, some seeds feel be da rod side, an da fools cam an devoord dem up:

5. Some fell uppo stany places, whar dey hedna muckle airt; an at ance dey shot up, becaas dey hed nay deepness o' airt:

6. An whin da sun wis up, dey wir scooderd; an becaas dey had nay röt, dey widdered awaa.

7. An some fell amung torns; an da torns shot up, an shockit dem:

8. Bit udder fell intill güd grund, an bro[chi]t furt fröt, some a hunderfaald, some saxtyfaald, some tirtyfaald.

9. Whaa hes airs ta hear, let him hear.

[Reverse Side]

250 Copies, of which 20 are printed on special paper for Members | of the Council.

Commentary

I assume the manuscript Bonaparte mentions as having been given him by Thomas Edmondston is A-3 56/7 (see Document [3] above). Two manuscripts in the hand of Geroge Petrie are present in the *Coleccion Bonapart*. See, as A-6 59, 'The following Glossary compiled by Geo. Petrie Kirkwall, Cor: Mem: S.A. Scot: gives the names of places, from the Norse, as furnished to him by Professor Munch of Christiania. (18th Sept 1858). A Glossary of Names of Places, and of Words, in use in Orkney, and the derivation, where known, or conjectured', and, as A-6 60, 'A Glossary of words and

phrases still in use in Orkney. Compiled by George Petrie, Kirkwall. Corr: Mem: S.A. Scot: Sept 1858'. From their September 1858 dating, they must have been copied out after the visit of the Prince and sent on to him.

That leaves a single remaining item in the *Coleccion Bonapart* relating to Bonaparte's activities in Shetland which is a manuscript titled 'Shetland & Orkney Glossary', (as A-5 53/1). It may well be this that the Prince is referring to in the 'Parabole du Semeur' rather than A-6 59 & 60. It is a rough and ready list, in no order, and may well have been picked up by Bonaparte when seeing Petrie himself.

On the private press activities of the Prince see, Albert Ehrman, 'The Private Press and Publishing Activities of Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte', *The Book Collector*, 9 (1960), pp. 30-37. See also, by the same author, 'Prince L.-L. Napoleon's First Catalogue', *The Book Collector*, 10 (1961), pp. 70-71. Further, Stanley G. Gillan, 'Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte's Publications, Bibliographical Notes and Queries, Note 13', *The Book Collector*, 9 (1960), and, D.J. Gilson, 'Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte's Publications', *The Book Collector*, 13 (1964), pp. 348-50. On Bonaparte's own collecting activities, rather than publishing, see Victor Collins, *Attempt at a Catalogue of the Library of the Late Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte* (London: Henry Sotheran, 1894); this is essentially a sale catalogue of the Prince's library, which is now housed at the Newberry Library in Chicago. See also, Victor Collins, *A Catalogue of all the Publications ... of the late Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte ... compiled by V. Collins* (Paris: Ch. Lepice, 1902).

Coleccion Bonapart

For those interested in the Bonaparte material deposited in the Basque country in its entirety, see, in date order, George Lacombe, 'Le Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte', *Revue Internationale des Études Basques*, 1 (1907), pp. 160-66; Anon., 'Indice de los Libros y Papeles adquiridos por la Excm Diputacion de Navarra de la testamentaria de S.A. El Principe Luis Luciano Bonaparte', *Revue Internationale des Études Basques*, 7 (1913), pp. 186-91; Henry Jenner, 'The Cornish Manuscripts in the Provincial Library at Bilbao in Spain', *Journal of the Royal Institution of Cornwall*, XXI (1925), pp. 421-37; Carmelo de Echegaray, *Manuscritos procedentes de la biblioteca del Principe Luis Luciano Bonaparte* (Bilbao: Imprenta Provincial, 1931); P(ierre) G(armendia), 'La coleccion de manuscritos del Principe Luis Luciano Bonaparte en la Diputacion de Guipuzcoa', *Revue Internationale des Études Basques*, 24 (1933), pp. 138-48; Georges Lacombe, '[Note to Garmendia (1933)]', *Revue Internationale des Études Basques*, 24 (1933), pp. 148-49; J. Vendryes, 'Chronique. XXII', *Études Celtiques*, 1 (1936), pp. 398-99; Vernam Hull, 'Report of Committee on Research. Grant 1515 (1956): In Search of Celtic Manuscripts in Spain and in Portugal', *Yearbook of the American Philosophical Society for 1956* (1957), pp. 374-76. C. Otaegui, 'De los papeles ineditos de la coleccion Bonaparte, en el archivo de la Diputacion de Guipuzcoa', *Boletin de la Real Sociedad Vascongada de Amigos del Pais Basques*, XIII (1957), pp. 285-89; Vernam Hull, 'Celtic manuscripts in Spain and in Portugal', *Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie*, XXVII (1959), pp. 227-29; Carlos Gonzalez Echegaray, 'Catalogo de la coleccion del Principe Luis Luciano Bonaparte que se guarda en la biblioteca de la Diputacion de Vizcaya', *Euskera*, VII (1962), pp. 219-22; H.V. Berriochoa, 'Catalogo de los documentos linguisticos procedentes del laboratorio del Principe Bonaparte, que se custodian en las bibliotecas

provinciales de Vizcaya, Guipuzcoa y Navarra', in *Communications et Rapports du Premier Congrès International de Dialectologie Générale*, Vol. 4, pp. 48--54. (Louvain: Catholic University of Louvain, 1965).

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The Swedish scientist and linguist Urban Hiärne (1641-1724)

Urban Hiärne was born in Ingermanland, not far from what is now again known as St Petersburg. When Urban was seven years old, his father became vicar of the Swedish predecessor of this city, called Nyenskans or Nyen, founded in 1630, the easternmost outpost of the Swedish kingdom. In Hiärne's lifetime his native land and the town where he grew up were lost to Russia; and as early as 1656 the town Nyen was conquered and burnt for the first time by the Russians. Hiärne escaped on a ship from Nyen to Narva.

Under Swedish law Nyen had been a multiethnic town. There were Swedes, Finns, Germans and Russians, and also small colonies of British and Dutch merchants. Hiärne founded his polyglot career in this environment. His father was a Swede, but the language of his mother was German.

By the time he was thirteen Hiärne had spent a term at the University of Dorpat (Tartu), which was then also under Swedish rule. Some years after his dramatic escape he was able to continue his studies at the University of Uppsala, where he concentrated on medical studies. In 1666 he took his master's degree, and soon afterwards he was engaged as the house physician of the Swedish Governor General of the Baltic provinces, Count Claes Tott.

In this way Hiärne had the opportunity to revisit his native country of Ingermanland. He also went with his employer Tott to Poland, where he spent some months during the election of a king in 1668-69, during which time he learnt Polish. On Tott's journey back to his provinces, Hiärne successfully planned his escape from his employer, and took ship to Copenhagen. A few months later he presented himself to Leiyonbergh, the Swedish Resident in London, who was so charmed by the personality and intelligence of the young Swedish physician that he wrote a letter to Tott, promising to introduce Hiärne to The Royal Society. Leiyonbergh was in a good position to do so, having himself been elected a member of this illustrious society in 1667, seven years after its foundation.

Hiärne thus became the second Swedish member of the Royal Society. During the year 1669-1670 he regularly attended its weekly meetings, where John Wilkins and John Wallis were leading figures; William Holder, who had just published his *Elements of Speech*, was a member, and at the time Hiärne left England in 1670, a dispute had broken out between Wallis and Holder, who both claimed to have taught the young deaf-mute Popham to speak. Hiärne certainly must have been aware of the linguistic activities of members of the society, although other contacts may have been as important for his scientific education: Robert Hooke, Christopher Wren, John Willis, Robert Boyle and many others.

The 29-year-old Swede next settled in Paris. Thanks to Leiyonbergh, Count Tott had condoned the flight of his physician, and even went so far as to arrange for Hiärne to continue his studies in Paris, with a grant from him. Hiärne stayed in France for nearly three years. He was eager to learn French "the natural way", and finding Paris too crowded with Swedes and other foreigners for this purpose, he decided to make a

journey along the River Loire, where the best French was said to be spoken. He stayed in Angers for a while, just long enough to take his doctor's degree in medicine, in November 1670.

Most of what we know about Hiärne's years of study abroad comes from his concise autobiography, written more than fifty years later and unpublished until this century (by Henrik Schück, 1916). His later achievements in Sweden are better recorded. They are indeed very comprehensive, and I can only mention a few points. He specialized in the analysis of spa water, starting the first spa in Sweden. He established himself as a physician, ending as Court Physician to both King Charles XI and his famous son Charles XII. With royal support he started the first chemical laboratory in Sweden, not at a university, but in Stockholm, where he carried out a great deal of applied research and produced many theoretical works. He was also very active in mineral prospecting and the important mining industry of Sweden.

In view of all his other activities, it is amazing that he had any time left for linguistics and phonetics. He did not begin publishing his *Orthographia Svecana* until 1717, when he was seventy-six years old. This book, as its title indicates, deals with the principles of Swedish orthography. But it is more than this, for, in arguing for his view of the right way of spelling Swedish, he involves phonetic and orthographic evidence from all the languages he knew. They were not few. It is easier to enumerate which major European languages are not mentioned in his discourse: Hungarian and Basque. (A letter to him from a pupil in which the nature of Basque is discussed has been preserved.)

In *Orthographia Svecana* there are many cogent examples and illustrations drawn from most of the other languages of Europe, and even West Indian Creole. Hiärne must have been endowed with an exceptional ear for phonetic observations, and a very good memory. His book also shows that he was theoretically well informed in his phonetic descriptions and classification. In other publications, too, he also showed himself to be a faithful member of the Royal Society, adopting the formal criteria for scientific discourse which had developed in the society: the use of the native language instead of Latin, and the adoption of a plain style. John Wilkins has been regarded as the chief proponent of such ideals. Hiärne did not write in English, of course, but in Swedish, being one of the first to develop a Swedish scientific language.

Plainness in style meant going directly into the matter without displaying academic erudition by excessive quotations from learned works. This makes his work on linguistic matters considerably more enjoyable to read than that of his Scandinavian contemporaries. At the same time it makes it difficult to trace the source of his inspiration.

A short presentation like this cannot go into detail about the man and his work. I will only mention that he shows excellent insight in nasality, a field where John Wallis committed some rather serious errors, and where Holder and especially Christopher Cooper (1685) generally are held to have made improvements. Cooper has a certain inclination to scholasticism and theoretical abstraction, whereas Hiärne takes an empirically well founded position, without being too physiological in his descriptions of Swedish and other nasal letters. I do not know whether he had read Cooper, but he

did know Johann Conrad Amman's work *De Loquela* (1700). While he does not mention any of these contemporary phoneticians, some formulations reveal his knowledge of Amman. Amman is somewhat self-contradictory about nasality. In his discourse he talks about nasal consonants as a group, but in his scheme he seems to stick to the traditional "semivocales". Apparently he had not the courage of his convictions, as Hiärne has.

The most impressive feature of *Orthographia Svecana*, to my mind, is the final remark in his systematic overview of sound systems, primarily that of Swedish, but at the same time intended to some extent to be universal:

This would be useful knowledge for those who would try to make a speaking head, as Roger Bacon in England and Albertus Magnus in Regensburg had once done. I started making one in Paris, but as the ambassador, whom I accompanied, left in haste, I was forced to leave it unfinished.

I did at least learn from it that it would be quite practicable, given devoted and energetic work. The most difficult and intricate part would be to differentiate between the vowels. To achieve this, there would have to be a large number of strings or threads in the mouth and the lips, in order to extend or contract them as necessary.

These sentences have inspired me to many years of study in the linguistic writings of Urban Hiärne. What did Hiärne do, first in London and later in Paris, in the area of phonetics? I have not, of course, been able to find his speaking head anywhere - he admits he had to leave it unfinished. What I think I have found however, by following Hiärne's steps abroad, is a means of reconstructing a very vital period in London and Paris about 1670, the period of what I would like to call Cartesian phonetics. This term, like 'Cartesian linguistics' can be criticized for a certain one-sidedness. What was really going on was a fruitful symbiosis between French Cartesian rationalism and English Baconian empirical tradition.

For Hiärne's 350th birthday I published a volume with his last manuscript in linguistics, *Oförgriplige Tanckar* (about 1720), which he had been forbidden to publish. A full monograph in Swedish on *The Swedish Grammarian Urban Hiärne* appeared in 1992. I am now preparing an international version, a volume with a more condensed essay on Hiärne and Cartesian Phonetics, including the first sixty pages (the most interesting part) of *Orthographia Svecana* in English translation, to make Hiärne's text available to an international audience. Its wealth of comparative information about late 17th- and early 18th-century pronunciation in most European language areas deserves the scrutiny of specialists. It is to be hoped that they can find useful material in it for the history of Russian, Finnish, Polish, German, Dutch, French, Italian, English and other languages.

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A note on Hiärne's Orthographia svecana

Urban Hiärne is of special interest to historians of English linguistics because of his election to membership of the Royal Society in November 1669, and his attendance at meetings during the following year. During this period, he would have met John Wilkins, whose *Essay* was published in the preceding year, John Wallis, whose phonetics and grammar of English, written in Latin for the benefit of foreigners, were published in 1653, and Francis Lodwick, whose interest in a universal alphabet, culminating in its publication in 1686, appears to have extended over several years; he was probably working on it during Hiärne's time in the Royal Society. Hiärne could also have met William Holder, whose *Elements of Speech* was published in 1669.

Hiärne's linguistic writings are hardly known in the English-speaking world because they were written in Swedish, but they deserve to be far better known; although the title of the most substantial, *Orthographia Svecana* (1717), seems to restrict the subject-matter to correct spelling, in fact, the treatise touches on several other linguistic topics, and is, to some extent, an essay in comparative philology. Hiärne shows his acquaintance with Greek, Latin, Hebrew, the Slavonic languages, English, German and French, as well as with a number of Swedish and other dialects, for example, that of Dalecarlia. He also refers, even if only briefly, to such topics as children's acquisition of language, which he sees as deriving from siblings, rather than from their parents.

Hiärne's first chapter is a general discussion of the state of Swedish orthography at the time; while some scholars wished to retain the traditional spelling as found in the 1618 Swedish Bible, and as prescribed by royal decree, it was clear that it had become seriously unrepresentative of the sounds of Swedish, and hence some reformers desired a change. Hiärne, however, regards alteration in spelling as due to the employment of ill-educated clerks in the Royal Chancery; as he points out, among 30-40 clerks there would be no more than three who would agree on a common spelling for Swedish. Furthermore, Hiärne claims, Swedish had been seriously neglected during the reign of Queen Christina (1632-1654). As in England after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660, the language of the court, of education and fashion was French, and the native speech was neglected.

The remainder of this (unfinished) text consists of detailed discussions of the sounds of Swedish, where they are compared with those of other languages. Since an English translation will be appearing in the near future, in Volume IV, it is necessary here only to direct attention to a few topics of unusual interest. First, Hiärne refers on a number of occasions to the sounds of English, for example, where he compares English *o* to Swedish *a*, and secondly, Hiärne preserves some phonetic terminology which derives ultimately from the Greek grammarians, in particular, from the *Tekhne Grammatike* of Dionysius Thrax. His general consonant classification is into mutes, semivocals and nasals; more interesting is his retention of the Greek categories of *aspiratæ*, *mediæ* and *tenuës* (which replaces Priscian's *levis*) to translate the Greek terms for *rough*, *medium* and *smooth*. He was particularly interested in the *aspirates*, i.e. *ph*, *kh*, *th*. He points out that each of these could have been replaced by the symbol for the equivalent plosive in Greek +*h*, but as he says, the Greeks did not approve of the letter

h, so that they were obliged to provide a special character for each of these *aspirates*. He discusses the difference between *f* and *ph*, and points out that the *aspirate ph* had become *pf* in German - a comment made earlier by the sixteenth-century phonetician John Hart, to whom Wilkins refers, and whose work might therefore have been known to Hiärne.

Although it was more than four decades after his association with the Royal Society that Hiärne published his *Orthographia Svecana*, it is highly likely that his meetings with distinguished English phoneticians in 1669-1670 remained a source of inspiration to him in his discussion of the sounds of European languages.

Hiärne's works are to be published in four volumes, under the title *Urban Hiärne's Språkvetenskapliga Författarskap* (Ambla Förlag, Lund):

- I. *Orthographia svecana*. Text, commentary, index.
- II. *Oförgriplige tanckar*. Text, commentary, index.
- III. *Språkforskaran Urban Hiärne*. Monograph.
- IV. *Urban Härne and Cartesian Phonetics*. An essay on the man and his contribution to 17th-18th century linguistics, including an extract from *Orthographia Svecana* in facsimile, with English translation and commentary.

Volume II appeared in 1991, Volume III in 1992.

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REPORT

The Seventh International Colloquium of the Studienkreis Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft (Peter Schmitter, Münster)

The Society's seventh international colloquium on the history of linguistics was held in North Italy from Thursday 7 to Friday 8 October 1993. Some fifteen people coming from the north and from the deepest south of Europe met at the University of Trento in order to discuss the results of their latest research work. In particular, the following eleven papers (given here in alphabetical order) were read:

Roland de Bonth (Nijmegen): 'Balthazar Huydecoper (1695-1778) and the Study of Middle Dutch'

Edeltraud Dobnig-Jülch (Regensburg): 'Frauen + Grammatik = Frauen-Grammatik? Zur Verbreitung spezieller Grammatiken im 18. Jahrhundert'

Francesca Dovetto (Naples): 'Contributo alla storia del pensiero linguistico italiano della seconda metà dell 'Ottocento: Giacomo Lignana (1827-1891)'

Stefano Gensini (Cagliari): 'Epicurean Heritage in the Linguistic Debates of the 17th Century'

Gerda Hassler (Potsdam): 'Traditionen als Innovationsvorgabe? Das Beispiel der Textlinguistik'

Peter Jaritz (Duisburg): 'Die Wundt-Delbrück-Debatte'

Celestina Milani (Verona): 'Giovanni Flechia nella storia della linguistica dell 'Ottocento'

Jan Noordegraaf (Amsterdam): '"On Light and Sound". Johan Huizinga (1872-1945) on 19th-Century Linguistics'

Raimund Pfister (Munich): 'Georg Curtius und Italien'

Peter Schmitter (Münster & Halle/Saale): 'Der romantische Forschungsansatz'

Frank Vonk (Utrecht): 'P. Gerlach Royen's (1880-1955) Beitrag zur allgemeinen Sprachwissenschaft in den Niederlanden'

In the near future, most of the papers will be published in *Beiträge zur Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft* or in another journal or anthology devoted to the history of linguistic ideas. The 8th International Colloquium of the Studienkreis is to be held in Skövde (Sweden), 17-19 July 1994.

REVIEWS

Herbert E. Brekle, Edeltraud Dobnig-Jülch, Hans Jürgen Höller and Helmut Weiss (eds.), *Bio-bibliographisches Handbuch zur Sprachwissenschaft des 18. Jahrhunderts. Die Grammatiker, Lexikographen und Sprachtheoretiker des deutschsprachigen Raums mit Beschreibungen ihrer Werke*. Vol. I, A-Br. Tübingen: Niemeyer, 1992. xlvii + 378 pp.; Vol. II, Bu-E. Tübingen: Niemeyer, 1993. xviii + 438 pp.

Helmut Weiss, *Universalgrammatiken aus der ersten Hälfte des 18. Jahrhunderts in Deutschland. Eine historisch-systematische Untersuchung*. Münster: Nodus Publikationen, 1992. 191pp.

The *Bio-bibliographisches Handbuch* has been in preparation for a decade or more, and the two volumes so far issued are to be followed by eight more scheduled to appear between now and 1995. The prospectus promises some 1600 articles in all; Volume I deals in detail with 140 authors, Volume II with 137, relegating a further 53 and 45 respectively to appendices of scholars who are too poorly documented, whose works are irrelevant, or who wrote too early or too late (even by a year) to be included.

The feature common to all the authors treated here is that they published works about language in Germany in the eighteenth century. Works dealing with all languages are included; there are numerous studies of, e.g., Semitic languages (especially Hebrew), and excursions further afield—to China and the New World. To say, then, that the most familiar names in Volume I are Adelung, Bodmer and Breitinger, and that the latter two are best known as literary theorists, is to admit one's own limitations. As it happens, though, the account of Adelung is the most extensive in the book (27 pages or 53 columns), and will serve as a model for the rest. It begins with a generous and interesting biographical section, with its own bibliography, before proceeding to discuss his works one by one in detail, again with full bibliographies. Foremost amongst these is the Dictionary, in its various editions, "das erste große deutsche Wörterbuch..., das auch heute noch brauchbar ist," compiled single-handed over a period of twenty years (1774-86), and exceeding in compass Johnson's *Dictionary of the English Language* of 1755. Like Johnson, Adelung assigns each entry to a word-class, specifies declensions and conjugations more elaborately than was necessary in English, attempts etymologies, and gives literary citations, mostly comparatively recent.

While the dictionary is the work of Adelung best known to the general reader, he seems to have regarded its compilation as harmless drudgery imposed on him by economic circumstances, and when these eased he was able to turn to other linguistic interests, notably grammar. In this he continues the practice of eighteenth-century rational grammarians, stipulating a critical consideration of the basis of grammatical categories rather than rote-learning, so that the teaching of grammar became simultaneously a "Schulung im Denken". However, his grammar was also innovative, distinguishing a semantic and a morphological category of case—it is not surprising that the name of Fillmore is mentioned (p. 26a)—distinguishing between mood and modality, and defining the use of the present and imperfect subjunctive tenses in

strikingly modern terms. As for his analysis of word-classes, it is pointed out that it survived until the *Duden* grammar of 1966, and has been modified only slightly since.

In dictionary and grammar alike, Adelung championed the “meißnische oder obersächsische Mundart, so fern sie seit der Reformation die Hofsprache der Gelehrsamkeit geworden ist”, and he has perhaps been fortunate to the extent that this form of German is still substantially the norm. He also wrote on style, on the origin and development of language, in which he posited three stages, a primitive state of root words, developing first into synthetic and subsequently into analytic languages, a theme which recurs with variations in succeeding generations, and which also underlies the *Mithridates*, of which he lived to complete only the first volume (1806). This was a comparative study of languages based on the text of the Lord's Prayer—a project which exceeded the available knowledge and resources of his day.

The article on Breitingger is concerned in the main with his work on Hebrew, but there is a short note of his views on the use of language in the *Fortsetzung der Critischen Dichtkunst* (1740), in which he calls for a dictionary of synonyms, though admitting that absolute synonymy is unattainable; he is also aware of the way in which the speech and the culture of a given community condition one another. It is, however, his fellow Swiss scholar, Bodmer, who receives greater attention in this volume, beginning with his observations on translation (in the course of which he, too, notes the reflex of national character in language), and continuing with an account of his editions of “old Swabian” poetry—medieval German lyrics preserved most copiously in a Zurich manuscript of the fourteenth century. He was also, however, a grammarian and critic of the German of his own day, using German names for grammatical terms, and pointing out the greater flexibility of word-order in German than in, say, French, thanks to the higher incidence of inflections (a topic discussed elsewhere in the literature of the time). He also wrote a history of the language, dividing it into five periods, the first Old High German, deficient in abstract terminology; the second, Middle High German, described as the high noon (“heller Mittag”) of the German language; the third, the age of the Hapsburgs, marked by a decline into irregularity, followed by the age of the *Sprachgesellschaften*, leading to the ‘High German’ period, which he praises for its measured and temperate qualities, hoping for its continuance. Such approbation comes appropriately from a Protestant Swiss, whose local language still had essentially the same phonological system as that of the medieval poets, and who would have regarded the Hapsburg age as one of political upheaval.

The most prominent name of the scholars covered in the second volume is again a lexicographer, J. H. Campe, whose most significant works did, indeed, appear in the nineteenth century, but eighteenth-century works like *Proben einigeer Versuche von deutscher Sprachbereicherung* (1790), *Über die Reinigung und Bereicherung der deutschen Sprache* (1794), and its *Nachtrag* of the same year are analysed in depth. The most familiar name in Vol. II is probably that of Gottfried August Bürger, who, in addition to his literary writings, also produced didactic works on style and orthoepy. It is interesting to note that a few pages are devoted to the writings of Jakob Carpov, a revered teacher of Süßmilch, with whom the latter took issue for his tentatively expressed heterodox views on the origin of language; his works survive only in rare copies, and the bibliographical indications are particularly useful here. Here, as in the case of all the other works, the details include, where possible, the full wording of the

title page of early editions, and supplement these with a location; as so many of the works are rare—on many occasions it has to be admitted that no copy has been traced in Germany—it would have been a bonus if locations of other copies could also have been given.

It is obviously impossible to go into detail here about more than a very few of the articles. Something of interest, something original, can be found in all of them—for example, that on Abbt in Vol. I makes it clear why he was held in such high regard by Herder, and gives detailed references to the elusive (and allusive) interaction of the *Literaturbriefe* and Herder's *Fragmente*; the article on the un-German sounding John Brown, who published *An English and Frensh* [sic] *Grammar* in Hamburg in 1792, has located a copy in Eutin to add to the two known to Alston. In Vol. II the appointment of Campe as tutor to the young Humboldt brothers, not indeed new information, offers a vista of the transmission of interest in language by personal as well as by purely intellectual contact.

In general, this work, when complete, will provide a substantial and complete account of many figures whose names occur marginally in the writings of others, about whom it is often difficult to find reliable, and above all, accessible information, while, on the showing of the treatment of Adelung and Bodmer, major figures will be given the prominence and the detailed treatment they deserve. The articles are factual, excellently documented, and offer very full and balanced critical judgements. This is going to be an indispensable work of reference, and it is to be hoped that it will receive a wide distribution, though the subscription price of rather more than £100 for each volume may deter all but the most enthusiastic individual scholar.

Dr Weiss is one of the editors of the *Bio-bibliographisches Handbuch*, and his monograph may be regarded as a by-product, in which highly specialized subject matter can be examined in greater detail than in an encyclopædic work, and in which the works of a variety of scholars may be considered in the light of common principles. This is borne out by the treatment of Brinken and Carpov, the only grammarians so far to be dealt with in both works. The layout of the discussions of the nineteen grammarians who are the subject of this study is also basically similar to that of the *Handbuch*; in each case critical expositions of the works are preceded by a brief biography (necessarily so in some cases).

The study begins with a very concentrated and extremely valuable chapter on theories of universal grammar, presenting the historical context in which the individual texts were written. The starting-point is Aristotle's distinction between objects, their representation in the mind, and the use of speech sounds as signs for these mental representations, coupled with his observation that speech sounds vary from one community to another. However, the objects themselves are invariable, and their mental representations are constant. This is the ultimate source of medieval modistic grammar, which differentiates *modi essendi*, *intelligendi* and *significandi*. Dr Weiss doubts a direct link between modistic grammar and the universal grammars of the eighteenth century, deriving them, rather, from the Port-Royal *Grammaire générale et raisonnée*, which he sees as establishing a parallel between logic and grammar. In this connection it may be urged that the Port-Royal grammar was continuing for a vermacular a tradition which saw, at least tacitly, a logical vehicle in Latin, the

language of learned discourse through the Middle Ages and into the seventeenth century.

But while Port-Royal is one strand in the development of universal(istic) grammar in eighteenth-century Germany, there is another strand in the philosophy of Christian Wolff, whose procedures are described as 'mathematical', i.e., proceeding from axiom via reasoning to proof. It has to be said that Wolff's axioms are minimal, and indeed he understands by *a priori* not something innate, but something proved by previous demonstration (which may, indeed, be the evidence of the senses). Wolff's concern with proof is reflected in the grammars, which are seen as 'philosophical' in so far as they account for the phenomena of language rather than merely describe them.

Although there is a common principle underlying these grammars, they fall into three categories. The first of these, according to a modern analysis quoted on p. 36, envisages grammatical structures which correspond to objective structures, i.e., a semantic system reflecting an ontological system. Further refinements of the definition, notably remarks like "voces sunt signa idearum, ideae representationes rerum" (p. 42) are less decisive, and are rather easy to confuse with the second group, basically one in which the structures of grammar reflect the structures of thought. The third group rests on the attempt to harmonize the structures of various languages; surprisingly, for the modern reader, only one of the texts discussed is allotted to it.

It is interesting to see among the authors examined here Canz, whose *Grammaticae universalis tenuia rudimenta* of 1737 is one of the few texts to have been reprinted, the rather more productive Carpov, and Wolff himself, who provides the earliest text and also makes further observations about language in the comprehensively entitled *Vernünfftige Gedanken von GOTT, der Welt und der Seele des Menschen, auch allen Dingen überhaupt* (1720) and annotations to it (1733).

The treatment of Carpov provides a good illustration of the fine line which separates the first and second groups of universal grammars. A key passage states that each language uses various word-classes to present objects or actions perceived ("aliae per se subsistunt, aliae non, aliae sunt actiones, aliae passiones, cetera"), and on these grounds, presumably, his grammar is assigned to the first group; but it also states "vocabula sunt signa cogitationum, eaque arbitraria et aptissima", a condition which would seem to apply to the second group. (Incidentally, a word may be arbitrary *and* appropriate only if 'arbitrary' means 'imposed by an act of will').

It would be difficult to assert that any one of these grammars was produced in conscious rivalry to any other, unless there is an explicit polemical statement; rather, they seem to be independent essays which from time to time present individual interpretations of points of difficulty within a broadly traditional framework. From the frequent mention of his name, it is clear that these texts share a common indebtedness to the methods and tenets of Christian Wolff; as well as presenting much new and unfamiliar material, and offering many insights in its own right, this study may be seen also as a contribution to the reassessment of Wolff's work, a process which, to judge from the bibliography, is already under way.

Paul Salmon, Oxford

Klaus D. Dutz (ed.), *Sprachwissenschaft im 18. Jahrhundert. Fallstudien und Überblicke*. Münster: Nodus, 1993. 193 pp.

The subtitle of this collection of essays sums up the cohesion which exists within the apparently disparate subject-matter. Its scope is summed up by the editor's introductory "Muthmassungen", which at first seem to be something of a random collection of dates, events, personalities, intellectual and political movements in the eighteenth century, but in fact call attention to the common ground which underlies their diversity, that of questioning received opinion, and establish the eighteenth century as a period of flux comparable with our own day. The *Fallstudien* deal with individuals who have been overlooked in conventional accounts of the period, as in Dieter Cherubim's article on Reichard, who, while writing no grammar or dictionary of his own, may be seen as part of a movement in the 'professionalization' of linguistics. Similarly the early Sanskrit grammarians discussed by Jean-Claude Muller have been overlooked, but provided the material on which their better-known successors built, and Gerhard Biller's account, largely bibliographical, of the contribution of Christian Wolff to the establishment of a German philosophical language sees Wolff in a more positive light than has until recently generally been the case. Corinna Fricke gives an account of the survival of the *Sprachgesellschaften* from the seventeenth century to the eighteenth, and also provides a valuable and extensive bibliography, contributing in this way to the tacit theme of the volume of continuity in innovation.

The remaining articles may perhaps best be regarded as *Überblicke*. As some other recent studies have done, Ludwig M. Eichinger presents the reader with grammatical writings from a figure familiar in histories of literature, in this case Karl Philipp Moritz, who in his *Kinderlogik* propounds views on the relationship between phenomena, perception and language which relate to an important current in eighteenth-century thought. Joachim Gessinger, writing on Diderot's views of word-order as expounded in the *Lettre sur les sourds et muets*, not only relates the theories to other views of the day, but hints — even in his subtitle, "Über Denken und Sprechen bei Diderot oder Diskurs über das Essen" — at the personal contacts between Condillac, Rousseau and Diderot, "die sich des öfteren um die Jahrhundertmitte zum gemeinsamen Mittagessen trafen" (so that *über das Essen* refers to the circumstances, not to the subject, of the discussion). Personal and intellectual relationships again inform the article by Wolfert von Rahden, which contrasts the attitudes of Kant and Karl Philipp Moritz (again) to subjectivism, a theme which at first sight is no more than tangential to language, but Kant relegates some thoughts about language to speculative and unsystematic footnotes, while Moritz sees in language a reflection of a mental set, again making links between ontology, epistemology and expression.

In general the volume is particularly useful for its rich suggestions of personal contacts and interconnections between trains of thought, and it may be seen as a set of preliminary sketches for a general study which will systematically examine developments in linguistic thought in the context of intellectual history.

Paul Salmon, Oxford

Loonen, Pieter L. M. *For to Learne to Buye and Sell: Learning English in the Low Dutch Area between 1500 and 1800*. Amsterdam & Maarssen, APA — Holland University Press (*Studies of the B. Pierre Bayle Institute* 22) 1991, 373pp.

This monograph is not only a lucid and detailed account of learning English in the Low Countries between 1500 and 1800, it is also an indispensable work of reference which one cannot envisage ever needing to be replaced; as such, a fairly comprehensive account of its contents will be appropriate.

Of its seven chapters the first is a brief introduction, and the second comprises a list of the terms used and their definitions and explanations, e.g. "Low Countries" and the reason for the choice of the period of time with which Loonen is concerned. The third chapter is in some respects the author's most original contribution; it is a description of the context in which English was taught and learned, the differences between the North and the South of the region, the demand for foreign-language teaching in the Low Dutch area, and the language-teaching methodology which was in use. The fourth chapter contains admirable short biographies of the teachers of English, which, the author rightly claims "give a personal flavour to the dry and factual data" collected in this volume (although most readers will not find them "dry"). Chapter X presents detailed accounts of each of the sections into which the text-books may be divided, such as orthography and grammar; and chapter VI selects four of these texts for an in-depth study, which also evaluates the competence of the works concerned. After the concluding chapter, VII, the study ends with five extremely valuable appendices—for example, one listing the sources of some of these text-books, and another the names of the teachers involved. A bibliography of secondary sources occupies pages 343-360, and the monograph concludes with an index of names and subjects (pages 361-375). The amount of factual information, particularly in chapters V and VI and in the appendices, is no less than astounding; moreover it is supplemented by 16 illustrations of such material as title-pages, and extracts from dictionaries, and 12 tables setting out, for example, the sources for *The English Schole-master* (1646) or comparing the contents of Richardson's Low Dutch and English grammars. Although much of this material is already fairly accessible to students of seventeenth-century Dutch linguistics, it is the assembling in one place, and the clearly organized comparisons between grammars, which make this work so very valuable.

Among the many contributions made by Loonen, his explanation of the relatively scarcity of such studies is particularly interesting. He points out that the complexity of the subject is a deterrent, since it contains four quite separate component parts:

bibliography, biography, socio-cultural matter and language-learning methodology. He then outlines the extent to which his study adds something new to existing publications in each of these four fields, and to what extent a gap has been filled (p.269). It appears from these accounts that he is indebted to existing biographies, and believes that a further search for material (except in the case of four named scholars) would be futile. Likewise, in bibliography he refers to Alston and Scheurweghs, acknowledging that little that is new to them is likely to come to light now. But in the section on socio-cultural matters he names no predecessors at all, and in the section on language-teaching methodology only one. It is precisely in these areas that Loonen makes his most significant original contribution to the volume.

One of the great, though incidental, virtues of this study is the extent to which it opens out to related fields, for example, to sixteenth and seventeenth-century studies of English speech-sounds, like those by John Hart and William Holder, which may be compared with the sections on pronunciation and orthography included in these English-teaching text-books. Another great virtue is the degree to which the author takes full account of the socio-linguistic context, to such an extent that he may be fairly regarded as one of the pioneers in a discipline which we might call "socio-historical applied linguistics"—i.e. studies on the boundaries of social history and the history of applied language studies.

Loonen provides an extremely full bibliography, which, if the work is reprinted, might well include Douglas Kibbee's account of the study of French in England, *For to Speke French Trewely*, published in the same year and containing much that is relevant, at the very least on the comparative level, to Loonen's own investigations. The author might also have found it worthwhile to explore the archives of the Dutch Church in London printed by Hessels, since they contain an extraordinary amount of information about Anglo-Dutch relationships which is not available elsewhere, and even a certain amount of information on language teaching in the seventeenth century.

Such trivial criticism in no way detracts from the value of this splendid monograph, which is not only to be consulted as a work of reference, but also to be read through as a comprehensive account of language-learning in a crucial period and in a region of Europe, which, in the seventeenth century at least, was one of the most important in cultural developments. Loonen's work provides an excellent model for future studies in other linguistic areas, and is an enduring work of reference which happens to be enjoyable to read as well. It is strongly recommended to readers of the *Newsletter*.

Vivian Salmon, Oxford

Michael Olmert, introduced by Christopher de Hamel. *The Smithsonian Booke of Books*. Washington, D.C., The Smithsonian Institution, 1992. 320pp. \$45.

Although at first glance this volume appears to be aimed at a popular readership, its author and publishers are proof that it deserves to be treated seriously. The author, Michael Olmert, teaches English literature at Maryland, and the publisher is the highly

prestigious Smithsonian Institution. This foundation, perhaps better known in North America than in Europe, was established with the aid of a magnificent grant made by an English benefactor in 1826, and its aim is "the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men". Throughout its history, the Institution has carried out important scientific investigations, and has conducted explorations in all parts of the world. It operates several major museums of both arts and science, and publishes in many different fields. Any volume from its press therefore merits attention.

The purpose of this work is described as the charting of the history, influence and art of "humankind's greatest invention", and, in doing so, Olmert traces the written word from early clay tablets to the modern book, referring especially to highlights in the history of art, science and commerce as well as to individual publications like the Bible and the Koran, which have proved to be major components in the history of culture.

The immense range of topics covered is suggested by the titles of individual sections: *Scrolls and Scribes* (from the Old Testament to the New); *People of the Book* (on Eastern printing); *Illuminating the Dark Ages* (with special reference to the splendid manuscripts of the British Isles); the *Gutenberg Revolution* (from Caxton to early printing in the new World); *Yes, We have Now Bananas* (a quotation from W. Greg on the occurrence of misprints in the history of typesetting); *The Bookmaker's Craft* (on all aspects of the physical creation of the book); *The Infinite Library* (on books that changed the world); *A Picture's Worth* (on illustrated publications); *Every Word for Everyman* (on the history of some important dictionaries); and *Last Words*. In sum, it deals with the art of paper-making, printing and fine binding, and illustrates as well the storage and dissemination of information via books; in the chapter on typography it reaches the frontiers of current technology, with the total book design and typesetting now achieved in one computer program.

For several reasons, the book should appeal to members of the Henry Sweet Society, although it is not strictly germane to the history of linguistic ideas. First, it provides an excellent context, easy of access, for their own specialised concerns, such as the development of applied linguistics; secondly, it is full of the most recondite yet interesting information which often answers questions which one had not even thought to ask, such as why Gutenberg did not print under his own name, what is the oldest printer's copy to be found in England, or how the Wise forgeries were detected. Thirdly, it cannot fail to appeal because it is such a beautiful production; it contains 284 colour illustrations (many of them full-page) and 99 in black and white, so that they obviously make a substantial contribution to a book of 320 pages. The task of finding them, alone, must have been an onerous and time-consuming undertaking on the part of the editor, and he is to be warmly congratulated on his choice.

Those sections which are likely to be most interesting and useful to historians of linguistics are those which include facsimiles of parts of important linguistic works, such as a specimen of Comenius's *Orbis Sensualium Pictus*, or the title page of the first book printed in Algonkian (Eliot's Bible of 1663). But it must be pointed out that this is not intended primarily as a work of scholarship; the author does not give references, and there is no bibliography, although there is a valuable index and acknowledgement of the sources of the illustrations. The style is somewhat more

colloquial than one would expect in an English academic monograph, yet, if, as may perhaps be the case, the volume is intended as a kind of valediction to the book, due to be supplanted by the microfiche and the disc, it is difficult to imagine a more splendid or fitting tribute.

Vivian Salmon, Oxford

Bernd Naumann, Frans Plank and Gottfried Hofbauer (eds.). *Language and Earth. Elective Affinities between the emerging Sciences of Linguistics and Geology*. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1992. 445 pp. (Studies in the History of the Language Sciences, 66).

This collection of seventeen essays by various hands arises from a conference held at Bad Homburg in 1989. The earth sciences were an area of great activity in the latter part of the eighteenth century and the earlier part of the nineteenth, at the time when the methods and results of comparative linguistics were being consolidated. Both disciplines may be regarded as part of the intellectual ferment which called into question received notions about the age of the earth (as did cosmogony and, more familiarly, natural history). It is perhaps not altogether surprising that geologists like Hutton or Lyell should make amateur pronouncements about language, the latter drawing on post-Darwinian findings on evolution to note that languages had developed more rapidly than species (quoted by Gessinger, p. 329), or that Hutton should comment, somewhat naively, on the differences between analytical and synthetic languages (quoted by Plank, p. 232-3).

Plank's article occupies a physically central position in the book; it is also central to the theme. This may be surprising in view of the title ("Recycling machines"), or from the way in which it begins with a remark made by Adam Smith, "Systems in many respects resemble machines", which he maintains, not altogether convincingly, become progressively simpler in the course of development. The application to geology is not immediately apparent, until we find an eighteenth-century view of the earth as a kind of self-maintaining machine, subject to recursive cycles of elevation, folding, erosion, transportation, sedimentation and consolidation (p. 243). This principle applied to language illustrates the progression from isolating to agglutinating and inflecting languages—the attrition of inflections has a parallel with soil erosion, and the more apparent use of geological strata as a means of dating prehistoric events found a parallel in the history of languages, and leads to utterances like that of Max Müller, as late as 1868: "No language can by any possibility be inflectional without having passed through the agglutinative and isolating stratum; no language can be agglutinative without clinging with its roots to the underlying stratum of isolation" (see p. 251).

Within geology the cyclical process involved drastic change ('catastrophism'), which was used as an explanation for 'unconformities', phenomena observed, but not so named, by Hutton (see Craig, p. 407). In his brief survey of Hutton's investigations Craig conveys a sense of occasion in his account of the way Hutton presented his findings to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, pointing out that the examination of

specimens by candlelight presented difficulties for lecturer and audience alike. However, the main importance of Hutton's discovery was not the minute examination of examples of "graphic granite", so-called on account of rune-like superficial markings, but the phenomenon (though not the term) of unconformities.

While Hutton in fact used conventional terminology to describe his revolutionary findings, a new terminology was needed for the new science, and the father of German 'oryktognosis', Abraham Gottlob Werner, advocated vernacular terminology for the description of geological specimens, based on colour (reinforced by reference to pieces of coloured pottery), texture and characteristics of fracture. This somewhat subjective system was suitable for field work, while more objective terminology based on chemical analysis was reserved for use in laboratory conditions. In other respects, the language of early geologists was remarkably 'literary'; thus Hölder quotes (p. 419) a passage from Quenstedt which includes sentences like "Einmal von den Wassern angerissen kann das Gestein der Luft keinen Widerstand leisten, es wird schüttig, bis endlich die Vegetation eine passende Böschung gewinnt." The paraphrase in plain modern German is instructive: "Der untere Abschnitt des braunen Juras besteht aus einfürmig dunklem Schieferthon. Unter dem Einfluß der Erosion zerfällt er und beginnt sich mit Vegetation zu bedecken." That Quenstedt was in correspondence with the poet Eduard Mörike, himself an enthusiastic amateur geologist, is an interesting sidelight thrown up by this article, as is the mention more than once of the name of Novalis in the context of Werner's school of mineralogy.

Elegance of diction is not a feature of the work of one eighteenth-century scholar who combined linguistics and geology in a single work. G. C. Füchsel's 'Sketch of the earliest History of the Earth and Man, together with an attempt to discover the Origin of Language', an unsuccessful entry for the Berlin Academy's prize essay competition of 1770, certainly envisages a much earlier beginning for the earth than is vouchsafed by Genesis (Archbishop Ussher's dating is noted on p. 143, and an alternative German dating by J. A. Bengel on p. 298). The work is divided into brief numbered paragraphs after the manner of Christian Wolff, but his attempt to cover all eventualities in turgid and convoluted prose makes his arguments—unlike Wolff's—difficult to follow; his account of the replacement of the sea by dry land, and vice-versa, as part of a process of consolidation and contraction appears to be highly speculative, as is his assertion of the polygenesis of man. This position is seen (p. 304) as a defence against heretical thoughts of evolution in time, as is the principle of the great chain of being—and even in the post-Darwinian period, Müller was able to see in language the great unbridgeable gap between man and beast.

On the whole, it must be said that while the practitioners of the new science of geology were bold in asserting the great length of time needed for the earth to reach its present form, this is a relatively simple heterodoxy compared with such notions as the mutability of species, in the late eighteenth century a taboo theory which called for denial, but one which was to prove the source of a potent analogy in the history of linguistics. Spectacular as unconformities may be, they represent convulsive changes of position, not of nature, and the long process of the grinding of rock into sand again involves the reduction of one substance to a different shape, not to a different material. To be sure, there are different kinds of rocks, but their relationship to one another is not explored. To this extent, the relationship between the earth sciences

and linguistics is a less significant one than that between the biological sciences and linguistics, which gained ground perhaps a little later. Nevertheless, the central point of this book is the breakdown of old certainties, in particular the gradual acceptance that the world had existed for more than about 6000 years, and had undergone many vicissitudes, the nature of which was the subject of contention; and the breakdown of the old time-scale allowed the study of language to be approached from a decisively fresh standpoint. The various studies in the book open up many very interesting sidelights on the relations between the study of the earth and of language, and by drawing attention to several instances of the coexistence in both fields attests the essential unity of primary research. It is to be hoped that there will be further such comparative studies in future—perhaps the subtitle suggests a comparison between linguistics and chemistry.

Paul Salmon, Oxford

Marijke van der Wal (with Cor van Bree). *Geschiedenis van het Nederlands*. Utrecht: Het Spectrum, 1992. 494 pp. (Aula-boeken paperback).

Until this book appeared the most recent history of the Dutch language had been one by C. G. N. de Vooys, which appeared in 1952. In the intervening years attitudes to linguistics have changed radically, and we are now presented with a history which gives great weight to morphology, syntax and typology, as well as the contributions of grammarians and orthoepists to the establishment of a standard language, and the influence of external factors such as the political and commercial environment in which the language was used at various times.

The beginnings of the Dutch language are perhaps a little obscure. 'Old Dutch' is otherwise known as Old Low Franconian, often treated as an aberrant German dialect, which in any case had close affinities to Old Saxon, the original of modern spoken Low German. The literary record is sparse in the extreme, yet it is sufficient to establish certain decisive phonological features. Among these the most notable is probably the lengthening of short vowels in open syllables, with some changes in vowel quality, a development which was paralleled in German only towards the end of the "middle" period. However, the material is not extensive enough to establish firmly a grammar of the earliest Dutch, and it is probably for this reason that the study of the earliest stages of the Dutch language is prefixed by a serviceable skeleton grammar of Gothic, which serves as a record of the Germanic heritage against which later developments, particularly of the inflectional system, may be measured.

The absence of a well-defined earliest stage of the language leads to an interesting observation on what constitutes a language, the criteria being the existence of an independent literature, the development and establishment of a standard, and the existence of a political unity (p. 91). Whether the Dutch language meets all these criteria is clearly questionable; certainly there is a recognizable standard, and this book records the conscious efforts made, from the sixteenth century onwards, to achieve this standard; but at the political level the position of Dutch is somewhat

equivocal; alongside the language of the Netherlands proper the Flemish of bilingual Belgium is a very close variant with the status of an official language, even including some points of normalization agreed by the governments of the two states; more marginally, Flemish is still a spoken language of French Flanders, while Dutch also spread to become the official language of former colonial possessions.

The present-day political division between the two main groups of speakers of what is essentially the same language is, of course, a reflection of an earlier state of affairs, but the frontiers of "The Netherlands" have been conspicuously fluid from the early Middle Ages, fluctuating with the dynastic possessions of their rulers, extending under Charles V (1500-1558) as far as the Franche Comté (see the map reproduced on p. 104), which can hardly have been Dutch speaking. However, there are adequate medieval records, both literary and civic, to establish five Middle Dutch dialects, which persist to some degree in speech even after the establishment of a written standard. The form this standard has adopted is conditioned by the present-day boundary between the Netherlands and Belgium, which has existed with only a brief post-Napoleonic interlude since the capture of Antwerp by the Spanish in 1585.

The political situation of the late sixteenth century led Protestants to emigrate to the north, where they in time became assimilated to the original population, but not before schoolmasters and grammarians among them had advocated the usages of what had hitherto been the dominant southern dialects. The Protestant Reformation, and the concomitant Biblical translations, were potent factors in the development of a standard language, though the process of standardization got off to a bad start with a translation of the New Testament produced at Emden, East Frisia (now German), in 1556. The translator attempted conscientiously to adopt dialectally neutral forms, but as might be expected from his location, he made too many concessions to Low German, though a language with Dutch and Low German features might have been influential over a wide area if the prestige of the Hanseatic League had not been in decline. As it was, the Bible was not available in a generally acceptable Dutch translation until the *Statenbijbel* of 1618.

By this time, grammarians had already been at work making their analysis of the language. The earlier ones, to be sure, acknowledged the prestige of Latin by forcing the historical four (or five) cases of the Germanic languages into the Latin mould of six, citing a prepositional phrase for the ablative ("Ofnemer"); it was long before it was realised that it was not possible any more to speak of four cases in Dutch, and, indeed, attempts were still being made in the latter part of the seventeenth century to establish distinctive accusative and dative cases of the pronouns, largely by the use of regional variants. Other points which attracted the attention of normalizers were gender (in the light of the gradual decline of distinctive masculine and feminine forms), the form of the diminutive, which had characteristic regional varieties, and the establishment of apocope (a "northern" feature). It was a time, too, in which writers displayed their pride in the expressive power of Dutch, and attempted to avoid Latinate or French words. The extent of their success is tellingly revealed in the juxtaposition of two letters written by P. C. Hooft in 1634, a personal one free of foreign elements apart from salutation and valediction, and one addressed to the Court at The Hague, with a heavy dosage of loan-words which seem to be adopted more for their ornamental qualities than added precision.

The seventeenth century was also a decisive period of literary activity, and this gave scope for further normalizations by the grammarians of the eighteenth century, so that it is possible by then to speak of a written standard, even if the spoken language was characterized by considerable differences in phonology and vocabulary, and even to some degree in sentence structure. The book goes on to devote considerable attention to more recent developments, again giving attention to the contributions of lexicographers and linguistic reformers, and showing an awareness of the continuing differences between the written and the spoken languages.

All in all, this is a very thorough survey, and it is particularly welcome as a most humane and well-considered approach to its subject. It is above all distinguished by a lively awareness of the social factors which condition language, and is consistent in giving them prominence at all times, while the attention devoted to individual theorists at different times in the development of Dutch makes it of special interest to historians of linguistics. The division of chapters into sections is very useful, and there is a comprehensive index.

Paul Salmon, Oxford

Giulio Panconcelli-Calzia *Geschichtszahlen der Phonetik; Quellenatlas der Phonetik*. New edition with an English Introduction by Konrad Koerner. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company. 1994. XXXVIII, 86pp + 88pp. Hfl. 120/\$65.

Panconcelli-Calzia's name crops up occasionally in courses on the history of phonetics as the Italian-born and French- and German-trained phonetician who spent most of his working life in Hamburg, latterly as Director of the Phonetics Institute there; and as the person who maintained, contrary to received opinion, that it was possible to indeed desirable to carry out phonetic analyses without reference to any phonological interpretation of the data. Inevitably, his views on phonetics-without-phonology have tended to obscure the important work he did, both as a laboratory phonetician and as an historian of phonetics. With this reissuing of his two major works on the history of phonetics, both long since out of print and with few copies available on University library shelves, one hopes that a fairer assessment of his scholarly contributions will now be forthcoming.

There are three items in this book: Koerner's survey of the state of the history and historiography of phonetics, and the two works by Panconcelli-Calzia. Koerner is one of the few historians of linguistics to have published on earlier periods of phonetics; his Introduction covers some of the ground he has been over before, but he brings the story as up-to-date as possible, with references to work done in the 1990s. His bibliography, although dubbed 'comprehensive', is deliberately selective, as an important footnote points out. Even so, it provides a critical starting-point for anyone coming to the subject for the first time. What he does not attempt, however, is any assessment of the quality of Panconcelli-Calzia's two works, nor any survey of the development of experimental phonetics (especially its instrumentation) over the last

60 or so years. This is a topic (together with the whole history of phonetics) which he hopes someone else will research and write up.

Panconcelli-Calzia's *Geschichtszahlen* was published in 1941; his *Quellenatlas* in 1940. The reverse ordering in this reprint is both logical and necessary. The *Geschichtszahlen* lists work done in 'phonetics' from 2,000 BC to 1929 AD, with a somewhat more detailed final excursus for the period 1862-1932. The emphasis is very much on Continental European contributions - some of the work on acoustic phonetics in Britain, e.g. by Richard Lloyd in the 1890s, is simply not mentioned; nor, astonishingly, is Raymond Stetson's *Motor Phonetics* of 1928. Running parallel to the 'phonetics' dates are equivalent dates from the wider world of politics and culture - though why the Paris performance of Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* in 1899 has to be mentioned is unclear. In isolation, the dates and brief descriptions provide only limited information: but when taken in conjunction with the accompanying material, and illustrations, in the *Quellenatlas*, a much clearer understanding of their importance becomes possible.

It is the *Quellenatlas* which will probably be of greatest use to readers of this book. The arrangement of the material is thematic, starting with respiration, followed by phonation and articulation, of singing as well as speech. An important qualification is that Panconcelli-Calzia never intended providing a running, chronological commentary on, for example, the use of the kymograph in experimental phonetics, but, rather, on noting the first occurrence of such work. To get a more composite picture, the reader will have to go to other sources, only a few of which are listed either in the *Quellenatlas* or the *Geschichtszahlen*. There are, however, copious illustrations, which will be of benefit to readers, even those with only a limited reading knowledge of German.

What emerges here very clearly, as Panconcelli-Calzia himself points out, is that some so-called discoveries in phonetics have antecedents, sometimes centuries earlier. Indeed, for many, younger students of phonetics today, whose vision of experimental phonetics may be determined by whether or not the audio signal can be fed into a PC or a Macintosh for analysis, the *Quellenatlas* will be a welcome and possibly salutary reminder of the respectable academic ancestry of various experimental phonetic techniques.

For those wishing to follow up various points made in the narrative in the *Quellenatlas*, I would recommend Wingolf Grieger's *Universität Hamburg: Führer durch die Schausammlung*, Phonetisches Institut (Hamburg: Christians Verlag, 1989, ISBN: 3-7672-1089-4), a guide to the older instrumentation from Panconcelli-Calzia's own time as Director of the Institute. It includes some charming (possibly even alarming) photographs of the man himself hooked up to various pieces of phonetic machinery.

Konrad Koerner deserves the thanks of the phonetics, as well as the historiographical linguistics communities for getting this material into print again. And the publishers deserve credit too for producing an immaculately printed copy of the two works. Even though there is a reduction in size from the originals, the reproductions are

crystal clear. Anyone teaching even a short course in experimental phonetics has now no excuse for not mentioning Panconcelli-Calzia's work.

Michael K. C. MacMahon, Glasgow

Hans Schwarz, *Wort und Welt. Aufsätze zur deutschen Wortgeschichte, zur Wortfeldtheorie und zur Runenkunde*. Herausgegeben und mit einem Register versehen von Hartmut Beckers. Münster: Nodus Publikationen 1993. xviii, 285 pp. ISBN 3-89323-246-x.

The Münster linguist Hans Schwarz is doubtless best known for the *Bibliographisches Handbuch zur Sprachinhaltforschung* (Cologne and Opladen: Westdeutscher Verlag 1962-89) over which, together with his colleague Helmut Gipper in Bonn, he laboured for thirty-three years. Beyond this he has written a number of significant essays during his career, from among which Hartmut Beckers has selected a dozen, originally published between 1953 and 1985, as a tribute to him on the occasion of his seventieth birthday in 1993. Though four of the pieces are readily accessible in leading journals (*Zeitschrift für deutsches Altertum*, *Wirkendes Wort*, and the Halle series of *Beiträge zur Geschichte der deutschen Sprache und Literatur*), the majority were first published in *Festschriften* and similar volumes which are not always immediately available outside Germany. The essays are not reproduced in facsimile but have been entirely reset (and attractively so) with minimal amendments and adjustments.

Schwarz is a pupil of Jost Trier (1894-1970), and it was Trier's concept of the *Wortfeld* which determined the direction of his own work. He was also influenced by Leo Weisgerber (1899-1985) and his notion of the *Weltbild* of a language, and these two key terms are reflected in the title of this collection: *Wort und Welt*. His teachers' influence is all-pervasive in the essays reissued here; indeed five of them were written in homage to these two men, while two more were offered as tributes to Helmut Gipper, his collaborator on the *Bibliographisches Handbuch*, a project which Trier and Weisgerber had initiated. The first item in the book is 'Ahd. *liod* und sein sprachliches Feld' (1953), an abridged version of the doctoral thesis Schwarz wrote under Trier's supervision. An off-shoot of this is '*Lied und Licht*', originally published in the *Festschrift* for Trier's 60th birthday in 1954. While Schwarz's interests lie principally in the earlier periods of the German language he has by no means neglected more recent ones, as is nowhere better demonstrated than in his impressively precise and sensitive study '*Verschmitzt*', first published in the *Festschrift* for Trier's 70th birthday.

A second group of six essays deals with aspects of the theory of the semantic field. Two of them, 'Leitmerkmale sprachlicher Felder' (originally published in the Weisgerber *Festschrift* in 1959) and 'Zwölf Thesen zur Feldtheorie', previously appeared in *Wortfeldforschung. Geschichte und Theorie des sprachlichen Feldes*, edited by Lothar Schmidt in the series *Wege der Forschung* (Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 1973). 'Zwölf Thesen zur Feldtheorie' remains

an extremely valuable and succinct statement of the fundamentals of the approach of Trier and his followers.

The volume concludes with two articles on runes. Schwarz's interest lies particularly in inscriptions in the older 24-character futhork, and here he deals with part of the inscription on the famous Rök stone, and that on the fourth-century tombstone from Kylver in Gotland. Once again, though these essays too are a hard read, one is struck by Schwarz's meticulousness and clarity of exposition.

Hartmut Beckers has supplied an index of names which facilitates cross-reference between the various essays. The book is impeccably produced, and indeed all told the collection represents a well-deserved tribute to a fine scholar.

John L. Flood, London

Joanna Radwanska Williams, *A paradigm lost: the linguistic theory of Mikolaj Kruszewski*. Studies in the history of the language sciences 72. John Benjamins, Amsterdam. 1993. xi, 200.

This is a book which ought to be published. Though it may not have as wide a circulation as some, it is one that should be available in every library serving the needs of linguists.

For most people Kruszewski is known simply as a member of the Kazan School and one of the originators of the phoneme theory. Some, but not all, of his writings have been translated into German or English, giving them a wider accessibility. This book provides the biographical, historical, and contextual information, along with extensive translated quotations, for the general interested reader to get a picture of his work and of his place in nineteenth century linguistics in relatively short compass. In it the reader will find references to major nineteenth century thinkers, such as James and John Stuart Mill, Lyell, Lamarck, and Darwin, together with the major linguists of that period.

Williams's thesis is that in an era in which the Neogrammarian historical conception of language was dominant Kruszewski's thinking foreshadowed twentieth century structuralism. Relevant here is the reported attitude of his teacher Badouin de Courtenay, who first supported him in his career, but after his early death (1851-1887) turned against him for theoretical and personal reasons (chapter 5). Kruszewski's work, according to Williams, was rescued from oblivion through his influence on Roman Jakobson, one of the leaders of structural linguistics in this century.

There are six chapters, each conveniently divided into numbered and entitled sections: I. Introductory remarks on linguistic historiography, II. Historical background for the development of Kruszewski's thought, III. Kruszewski's linguistic writings before *Ocerk nauki o jazyke* (1883), IV. Kruszewski's theory of language in *Ocerk nauki o jazyke*, V. Kruszewski and Badouin de Courtenay, IV. Conclusion: Kruszewski's place in the history of linguistics.

Williams supports the relevance of Kuhnian paradigms to the history of linguistics, against some contrary views. Kruszewski's work is a 'lost paradigm' because at the time it did not attract much attention or exercise much influence in the heyday of the Neogrammarian paradigm. In Kuhnian terms the structuralism of the first half of this century was certainly a paradigm, but the 'paradigm lost' in the title could be cited in support of the irrelevance of this concept to linguistics in view of the contemporaneous coexistence of different theoretical models. One small slip: (page 145) 'today's Tartu' is not the capital of Estonia, which is, of course, Tallinn.

R.H. Robins, London.

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Members of the Society have been kind enough to donate the following publications to the HSS Library at Keble College. Further contributions, which are very welcome, should be sent to the Keble Librarian, Mrs Marjory Szurko. Monographs by individual authors will be reviewed wherever possible; articles in collected volumes will be listed separately below, but, like offprints and articles in journals, will not normally be reviewed.

The Society is also very grateful to the Council of the Philological Society for the gift of many early volumes of their *Transactions*, and to those publishers who have been good enough to send books for review.

Members who wish to consult the Library are welcome to stay at Keble College, and should write in advance to the Steward (see inside back cover).

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HSS Colloquium Oxford, September 1995 — Plans are now being made for the September 1995 Colloquium, to be held at St Peter's College, Oxford from Wednesday 13th to Saturday 16th September 1995. (Friday the 15th will be the 150th anniversary of Sweet's birth.). At this stage, an expression of interest in attending is all that is required so that the organisers can start to discuss the domestic arrangements with St Peter's College. The cost for full board is likely to be about £155. If you think you might attend, please contact: Dr Mike MacMahon Dept of English Language, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ, Scotland E-mail: m.macmahon@vme.gla.ac.uk or gtoa01@arts.gla.ac.uk Fax: +44 (0)41-307 8030 Tel: +44 (0)41-339 8855 x 4596. Further details, including a Booking Form and a Call for Papers, will appear in the November Newsletter.

Call for help! — There is a plan to collect and publish in a volume contributions from journals, articles, prefaces, parts of books etc. that were written during the 18th and 19th centuries on the 17th century English universal language movement and in particular on John Wilkins' *Essay*. Would anybody who knows of such papers etc. point them out to me or send copies? Any help will be appreciated and acknowledged. Professor Dr. Werner Hüllen, FB3, Universität Essen, D-45117, Essen/ Germany.

Translation — Helmut Gneuss, *Die Wissenschaft von der englischen Sprache: Ihre Entwicklung bis zum Ausgang des 19. Jahrhunderts* (Munich: Verlag der bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 1990) is to appear in English, with additions and revisions by the author, as *English Language Scholarship: A Survey and Bibliography from the Beginnings to the End of the Nineteenth century* (to be published by Medieval and renaissance Texts and Studies, Binghamton, NY).

Società di filosofia del Linguaggio — the first annual meeting of this new society took place in Rome on April 29-30. Reports were presented by Andrea Bonomi, Umberto Eco, Tullio de Mauro, and Lia Formigari. Persons interested in membership and/or the Society's activities are invited to contact Prof. Tullio De Mauro (Via Garigliano 74a, I-00198 Roma) or Prof. Paolo Leonardi (Via Vendramini 14, I-35137 Padova), who act as President and Secretary respectively.