

# Reviews

MARILLA B. GUPTIL *and*  
JAN S. DANIS, *Editors*

*The Coming Dark Age*, by Roberto Vacca, translated by J. S. Whale. (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Company, 1973. 221 pp. \$6.95.)

Ever since the Second World War, western civilization has been haunted by the fear of a nuclear exchange, a sudden holocaust that would decimate human life and destroy human society over large parts of the earth. This danger may now have been reduced by the sweep and scan of the satellites; neighbours in the global village may not always agree, but they know too much about each other's business and are too interdependent to make a general shoot-out likely.

But, however sensitive our electronic relationships may be, we still exist in an environment choked with the relics of an industrial age upon which we depend for our survival. Not only do we live in megalopolis, but we move in potentially lethal metal boxes and have our being by courtesy of vast service industries that are nightmares of bureaucratic and technological complexity. Meanwhile, growth rates soar exponentially, and therein lies the danger.

The "Dark Age" as Roberto Vacca sees it may not come as a direct result of military action. Much more likely is the collapse of internal communications and utility networks under the sheer weight of their convoluted yet rigid and brittle structures prefigured by the famous U.S. "blackout" of 1965 when over thirty million people were denied electricity for up to fourteen hours.

According to Vacca, the technological breakdown of essential services will set up a chain reaction culminating in widespread anarchy, violence, disease, and death. In his scenario for "Death of the City of New York," the curtain rises on a breakdown of train services simultaneous with a paralyzing traffic jam. Air traffic controllers cannot be relieved; their fatigue results in a midair collision; the planes fall on a network of power lines. It is January and snow is falling. Without electricity, the disaster rapidly builds. People die in the vast down-

town freeze-up; whole buildings are destroyed as fires created for warmth get out of hand. The fires cannot be put out because the streets are blocked by stranded vehicles. Violence escalates. This is only a scenario, but even so, there is a compelling logic about it, particularly in the later stages.

Working from evidence of massive inefficiency, Vacca shows convincingly how initial collapse could come about as highway, power, telephone, and air travel systems move towards saturation and the instability that lies beyond, if extra pressures are applied. Systems engineering does not always have the answer. In Italy traffic congestion alone results in delays that cost the economy about \$3,000 million a year. Add to this the vagaries of world economic forces which baffle the experts, and the future is gloomy indeed. The total breakdown of essential services ends in a desperate fight for survival by each individual; killing becomes widespread; disease, including plague, does the rest; millions die.

What special relevance is there for archivists? It seems to the reviewer that postal services the world over suffer from the high cost and inefficiency of moving what is, in effect, a very old-fashioned medium of communication. However useful it may be to historians, the letter has remained virtually unchanged from classical times and is unlikely to survive much longer. Archivists had better look to their tapes and their software if they would preserve the record of the future.

Vacca also makes a plea for print control to stem the flood of highly specialized academic publication. There should be more emphasis on retrieval on demand from microfilm masters of manuscript originals. "Genuine contributions to science that might be virtually buried and lost when needed could be retrieved satisfactorily if kept in repositories or archives" (p. 115).

The collapse of societies which depend on large systems and technocrats may invite conquest by less "advanced" nations, in particular the Chinese; a slow period of recovery will follow, but the old interdependence and saturation will not return. The author sees very little hope that we will cool our overheating systems in time; yet could it be that the evidence for analysis may lie in the records of the recent past which the archivist avoids at his peril? In years to come, when the posited "Dark Age" will have spent itself, the causes may be studied by some Chinese candidate for a Ph.D. who may wonder with the usual wisdom of hindsight why so much evidence was universally ignored.

*The Coming Dark Age* is a powerful book and makes a good case for a domestic apocalypse, but, if time does not run out on us, the power of telecommunications to move data may result in the unscrambling of cities through extensive and carefully planned decentralization. Our home will become both office and research centre. There may not be the need to live in vast conurbations to the extent that we do now, but can we defuse the bomb in time? Do we really know how?

Our only hope, according to Vacca, is to change our attitudes; to

outlaw massive incompetence through "a higher and more exacting standard of professional conscience"; to improve and extend higher education. We will probably be too late, and the only insurance he sees is the establishment of remote, carefully defended communities in the monastic tradition, who would not only preserve but create knowledge. "A priesthood that regarded the books, microfilm or magnetic tapes in its keeping as so much sacred furniture would be fulfilling functions useful only to future archaeologists. Difficult though it is to define it formally, effective continuity in learning will be assured only in an unbroken succession of able individuals whose habit of mind, power of intellect, sense of tradition and constructive interest are constantly being reproduced" (p. 217). Such communities could certainly make good use of a few archivists. For the rest of us and our successors the future would appear bleak.

*Public Archives of Canada*

HUGH A. TAYLOR

*Archives and Other Special Collections: A Library Handbook*, by Sister Mary Jane Menżeńska. (New York: Columbia University School of Library Service, 1973. viii, 87 pp.)

Many archivists now accept the value of archives courses taught in library schools, when they are *taught by experienced archivists*. One can recognize the wisdom of that proviso, applied to this handbook on archives which was prepared from "observation, examination, study and research" of institutions and readings, after completion of one archives course in a library science curriculum. The author indicates that she began her manual originally as a research paper for a Columbia University course, developed it into a library staff handbook for Holy Family College in Philadelphia, and now is revising it as a guide for college archivists and curators of special collections in academic libraries, apparently without benefit of any practical archives experience.

The result is a mixed bag: some useful instructions in a well-organized handbook that fails to grasp a few important concepts in the handling of archives and scatters inaccurate statements throughout. General guidelines, outlines of specific procedures, and the appendixes of sample forms, bibliographic lists, supply sources, and the glossary can be helpful to the beginning archivist. But, for the novice particularly, one cannot recommend a work that lacks balance and proper emphasis, as in the passing reference to the rule of provenance as one of several alternative methods to be considered for archival arrangement.

With small special collections in mind, the author has included references to rare books and manuscripts, although intending to concentrate on archives, and, as a result, makes little distinction among the separate methods which curators have found necessary for the three

types of collections. In an effort to aid all levels of personnel from student assistant to curator, she also intermixes simple, common-sense instructions with the more demanding archives procedures, tending to devalue the importance of the latter.

Definitions in the "Glossary" appear to have been written from observation rather than from authoritative sources, omitting meanings that the author may not have met. "Document," for instance, omits its basic meaning of any item of record; "Guide" is not clearly defined in its most accepted form, as the composite listing of all the collections or record groups in the repository; "Literary property rights" and statutory copyright are confused, the former being defined as the "right and control . . . [by] authors and artists over the possession, use, and disposition of their literary manuscripts and art works during their lifetime plus fifty years," with no reference to the rights of heirs; and "Restoration of deteriorated documents" gets the single explanation, "The process of deacidification and lamination with cellulose acetate film and tissue"!

In view of the stated emphasis on archives, one may question the author's heavy dependence on Lucille Kane's *Guide to the Care and Administration of Manuscripts*. More revealing, however, is the omission from ten pages of bibliographical sources of any of the three available books on college/university archives<sup>1</sup> (all originating at the University of Illinois) and of any general archives book from the 1970's, other than one much-questioned British work and the outline of the Columbia University course taken by the author.

Temple University

MIRIAM I. CRAWFORD

*Historical Farm Records*, compiled by J. A. Edwards. (Reading, England: The Library, University of Reading, 1973. xii, 320 pp.)

This is a valuable, pioneering guide to records and other documentary materials created and accumulated by "working" farmers. In research dealing with agricultural history it supplements importantly guides describing mainly governmental records relating to agrarian matters or the archives of large estates and landed families. It is a commendable effort in locating and describing grass-roots sources that yield information concerning farm life and work at local levels.

The records and manuscripts described in this guide have been acquired by two institutions affiliated with the University of Reading, the Museum of English Rural Life and the Institute of Agricultural

<sup>1</sup> Maynard J. Brichford, *Scientific and Technological Documentation: Archival Evaluation and Processing of University Records Relating to Science and Technology* (Urbana-Champaign, Ill., 1969); Conference on Archival Administration for Small Universities, Colleges and Junior Colleges, September 8-9, 1966, University of Illinois. *Proceedings* (Urbana, Ill., 1967); Rolland E. Stevens, ed., *University Archives: Papers Presented at an Institute . . . November 1-4, 1964* (Champaign, Ill., 1965).

History, and have been deposited in the university library. They relate mainly to the period after 1850 and have been collected mainly in southern and eastern England not only because collecting was easier in areas near the university, but also because there was a greater propensity for recordkeeping in the arable districts of the south and east where farming operations were more complex than in other regions of England.

The groups of records or manuscripts are arranged alphabetically by county and thereunder by number. There are numerical subdivisions within the groups, representing series and items. Farms from which the documents were received are often described in terms of acreage, tenure, and soil characteristics. There are two useful indexes. The first gives references to all individual farms mentioned in the guide, arranged by county and place name within the county. The second contains references to all place names and a selection of personal names.

The guide strongly attests to the fact that farmers usually do not keep detailed records. Accordingly, it seldom contains long series of farm diaries, letters, crop books, maps, plans, herd books, and similar materials. It reveals that the records are most likely to be financial in nature and consist of irregularly kept journals and cash books. Nevertheless, it discloses the existence of significant groups of other types of records such as wills, deeds, photographs, sale catalogs, survey reports, and labor books. The guide also covers records and manuscripts of some occupational groups associated with farming such as blacksmiths, millers, and auctioneers, and describes some documentary materials illustrative of the interest of farmers in such matters as cooperatives, recreational activities, and rural schools.

The arrangement of entries, descriptive data, and indexing of the guide seem very satisfactory for most research purposes. Quantitative information concerning the materials, however, has not been presented and would be useful in many instances. In general, the guide seems likely to be for several years a major finding aid for nongovernment documentary materials concerning English agricultural history. It may well serve as a model for description of records and manuscripts relating to farm life and history in any country.

*National Archives and Records Service*

HAROLD T. PINKETT

*Guide to Manuscripts*, compiled by Katherine Harris. (Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1973. iv, 332 pp. \$3.50.)

Katherine Harris and the State Historical Society of Iowa have done both individual researchers and institutions a valuable service by publishing their *Guide to Manuscripts*. For many years there was a noticeable lack of publishing by the Iowa society, and a great many people involved in research and the maintenance of collections had no idea

what was available at Iowa City. It is refreshing to have something new issued by that old and distinguished institution.

The guide indicates that the collections of the Iowa society are strong in relation to the Civil War and the nineteenth-century settlement era, including some interesting diaries and records of early businesses. Also of appeal to researchers are materials dealing with Indian history, like the papers of Leander Clark, special agent for the Sac and Fox in the 1860's and 1870's. The society holds a substantial number of records for the Iowa City municipality which should be representative of other Iowa communities of similar size and age.

Entries in the guide follow a fairly standard format, but the user will find some inconsistencies which, in certain cases, lower the information value of individual entries. Often there is considerable space devoted to insignificant items and too-brief descriptions of things that seem important, at least to a non-Iowan. For example, a collection of records from a manufacturing company appears to be excellent, but the entry never mentions what the company manufactured. And an 1858 letter of Horace Greeley is listed, but there is no reference to the subject of the letter. On the other hand there are detailed descriptions of diplomas and certificates of membership. There is an entry for a diary dated 1812-53 with the comment "good description of his military activities." What military activities? Even in the case of a diarist unidentified, there must be clues to what he was doing and where. At times authors are well identified, but at others the reader has no idea what significance the creator of the records may have had.

I realize that not every institution keeps its collections in the same way, but there are things listed in this guide which are not manuscripts—photographs, scrapbooks, and a variety of printed matter. The reasons for keeping such items with an individual collection may have validity in certain situations, but it appears that a considerable amount of extraneous material (of dubious value) is included in the collections listed in the guide. The manner of indicating quantities of materials remains a debatable question; in my estimation, however, numbers of document boxes and/or cubic feet are most indicative of size in larger collections.

At the risk of being a nitpicker, I would make one final criticism. The volume deserves better proofreading and assembling than it received. There are misspellings, and, in the case of the review copy, a page is missing. Despite my quarrels with some of the entries and my disagreements on the basis of technicalities, the State Historical Society of Iowa is to be commended for this publishing effort. This *Guide to Manuscripts* is well worth the \$3.50. In fact, it is a bargain.

*Kansas State Historical Society*

ROBERT W. RICHMOND

*Codices Latini Antiquiores*, edited by E. A. Lowe. Part 2: Great Britain and Ireland, 2d ed. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1972. xxi, 60 pp. Facsimiles. \$38.50.)

*Illuminated Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford*, vol. 3, British, Irish, and Icelandic Schools with addenda to vols. 1 and 2, edited by Otto Pächt and J. J. G. Alexander. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1973. xiii, 167 pp. Plates. \$37.00.)

Between 1934 and 1971 Professor E. A. Lowe edited in twelve parts what he refers to in his introduction as "a succinct description, based upon actual examination of the originals, of all known Latin literary manuscripts on papyrus, parchment, or vellum which may be regarded as older than the ninth century, accompanied by a specimen, unreduced, of the script, and supplemented by a selected bibliography." This was the monumental *Codices Latini Antiquiores*. Lowe devoted each part, except the last which covers several widely separated countries, to the specimens to be found in one geographical area; within each area he arranged the specimens alphabetically by place and library, and within each library, alphabetically by collection and pressmark. In an introduction to each part he discussed the various hands of the manuscripts, their nomenclature, their history and development, and the chief writing centers. In the earlier volumes he was careful to describe some of the conventions to be found in the note accompanying each specimen, but he intended the individual introductions to be read in conjunction with the introduction to Part I in which he explained his procedures fully.

There are 1,811 manuscripts represented in all, ranging from tiny fragments to majestic volumes. Most are writings of the Church Fathers and biblical manuscripts; some are the works of classical authors. They date principally from the seventh, eighth, and ninth centuries. A very few antedate the eruption of Vesuvius in A.D. 79. Each plate usually reproduces only a portion of a page, a portion that shows as many characteristic features as possible and especially shows additions at a later time. The description opposite the plate identifies the type of hand in which the manuscript is written, notes the century in which it was probably written (few can be precisely dated), the author and title of the work, the number of leaves, the measurements (both of the whole manuscript and of the written area), the number of lines and columns to the page, the method of ruling lines and of pricking, the number of bifolia in a gathering, the kind of punctuation, the abbreviations used (helpfully extended), the way of indicating omissions, the spelling, the decorative features, the kind of writing material, the ink, any feature, in short, that may possibly be of significance to a student. There then follows information on where the manuscript was, or probably was, written, its previous owners when known, and the folio number from which the plate was taken. There are hardly any transcriptions—a lack this reviewer regrets.

By providing this comprehensive survey of the earliest Latin manuscripts, Professor Lowe hoped to promote their comparative study, to afford new criteria for dating and placing them, and to cast "new light on the broader question of book production in ancient times." It is hardly surprising that this work has stimulated research and become a standard reference work. He was preparing a revised edition of his second part on Great Britain and Ireland, the part which after thirty-four years seemed most in need of revision, when he died in 1969, and this edition has been prepared for the press by his latest research assistant, Virginia Brown. The introduction and illustrations are the same as those in the first edition; those notes which have been considerably revised (and this is true of well over half) have an asterisk placed before the running number. Attention is drawn to the new homes of ten manuscripts which have changed hands and to their old and new pressmarks; seven are now in the United States of America. The bibliography of the first edition is supplemented by a second. Since this volume is not available separately, a summary of the conventions used and not referred to in the introduction might have proved helpful to some readers. It is not common knowledge that measurements within angular brackets indicate the measurements of the written area or that a period below a letter indicates a partly missing letter completed by the editor.

As the introduction to the first edition of Part II states, this volume "flies a national flag: it is a page of Irish and English history." But this does not mean that all its manuscripts were written in the British Isles. Just under half were, showing the splendid achievements and European influence of the Irish and English writing schools. The rest came to the British Isles from all over Europe and even Byzantium, the Near East, and probably North Africa. The plates show the variety of hands practiced in Europe before the ninth century. One of these, the half-uncial, served as a model for the Carolingian scribes whose work has inspired so many down the centuries, anxious to enhance the beauty and legibility of handwriting in Western Europe and the United States.

Seven of the manuscripts from the Bodleian Library in this work launch the third volume of *Illuminated Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford*, a useful volume devoted to the work of insular scribes whether at home or abroad. The earliest manuscript is dated about 700 and the latest, 1961, though the greatest number antedate the sixteenth century. The authors concentrate on the ornamental initials and borders which are less likely to be reproduced and yet are likely to reveal more about the artist and his style and background than the more self-conscious miniatures, and so help to place and date more important artistic manuscripts not hitherto identified. Any handwriting appears only incidentally in the plates and is not discussed in the notes. The two elaborate alphabets of the fifteenth century are decorative enough to count as illuminations.

This volume is referred to as a handlist. The entries are arranged

chronologically under the three schools. Each note tries to date each manuscript to at least the nearest quarter of a century and to give an idea of the importance and quality of the illuminations. The statement on provenance and the bibliography are supposed to be supplemented by the information in F. Madan's *Summary Catalogue of Western Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library* and other standard reference works. About half the manuscripts are illustrated in the plates at the end of the volume, and these are arranged, for the sake of economy, only roughly in the chronological order attempted in the notes. The scale of reduction is carefully given below each illustration, but no caption. Instead this is provided in a separate "List of Illustrations." There is a useful series of lists following the main body of the text: a "Concordance of Bodleian Shelf-marks," an "Index of other manuscripts and printed books cited," a list of "Dated or datable manuscripts," an "Index of texts and authors," an "Index of illuminators and scribes," an "Index of persons, mainly owners," an "Index of coats of arms," an "Index of mottoes," an "Index of places," in addition to the addenda.

For anyone interested in drawing and its history before the sixteenth century, manuscripts are practically the only sources, and there are even examples here of unfinished decorations and sketches to show the various stages in the preparation of a miniature. No library outside the British Museum could give a more comprehensive view of the whole range of English illumination than the Bodleian Library.

*Folger Shakespeare Library*

LAETITIA YEANDLE

*Catalogue of the Wardrop Collection and of Other Georgian Books and Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library*, by David Barrett. (Oxford: for the Marjory Wardrop Fund by the Oxford University Press, 1973. xv, 354 pp. £15.00.)

In the history of Georgian studies in England, the names of John Oliver Wardrop (d. 1948) and his sister Marjory (d. 1909) hold a very special place. Although neither was an academic in the tradition of M. Brosset, N. Ia. Marr, W. R. Morfill, or A. Leist, they both played a crucial role in the development of Georgian studies through their efforts as translators from the Georgian (see especially pages 268–69); through their scholarly collaboration with F. C. Conybeare, J. Baddeley, and B. H. Sumner; through their fervent advocacy of Georgian political and civil rights; and through the establishment of a fund which brought to lecture at Oxford such distinguished Georgianists as R. P. Blake, Archimandrite G. P'erazde, Eca Cherkesi, and D. M. Lang.

Barrett's catalog is divided into two unequal parts. The greater part, pages 1–320, consists of an alphabetical listing of (1) the printed books in the Wardrop collection proper; (2) the printed books in the Georgica collection at Oxford (i.e., works written in Georgian or

dealing with Georgian language and literature), a collection based on the library of the immensely learned linguist, Rev. S. C. Malan; and (3) other volumes in the Bodley dealing with Georgia and the Caucasus in general. The not inconsiderable collection of Georgica once belonging to W. R. Morfill and now housed in the Taylorian Institution of Modern Languages at Oxford is not registered in Barrett's catalog. This is a pity because some items in the Taylorian complement the Wardrop holdings. J. O. Wardrop's original classification schema is reproduced, although because of its cumbersomeness—twenty subject headings arranged chronologically within each heading—it is no longer used.

The second portion of the Barrett catalog consists of brief notes on the various manuscripts in the Georgica and Wardrop collections. The term *manuscripts* is taken here to mean the manuscripts collected by Oliver and Marjory Wardrop as well as their personal archives, which are classified and described for the first time in this catalog. The entire catalog is given a short introduction by the compiler (pages ix–xv) and a one-page foreword by the eminent and prolific scholar of things Russian and Caucasian, D. M. Lang. Extant published guides to the Georgian manuscripts are noted on pages xiii–xix.

To this reviewer, the great strength of the Wardrop collection lies in the fact that it contains so great a number of bibliographically "fugitive" materials such as offprints and booksellers' catalogs. In the compilation of his catalog, Barrett did not begin *de nova*. In 1923 Eca Cherkesi compiled a two-volume catalog of the Wardrop collection, but the entries for the Georgian titles in the collection were not transliterated. By 1966–67, approximately half of the collection had been cataloged according to the Bodleian transliteration system, but the bulk of the collection still awaited Barrett's efforts. In his work Barrett registers all accessions through June 1971; and the copious cross-references and the carefully prepared index make the information easily accessible. David Barrett is to be congratulated for making available to scholars in several disciplines a reliable tool for exploiting the riches of what well may be one of the most important and richest collections in Europe of books and manuscripts on the Caucasus.

*Ukrainian Research Institute,  
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E. KASINEC

*The Angel of Bethesda*, by Cotton Mather, edited by Gordon W. Jones (Barre, Massachusetts: Barre Publishers and the American Antiquarian Society, 1972. xl, 384 pp. Illustrations. \$25.00.)

The publication of *The Angel of Bethesda*, Cotton Mather's lengthy treatise on the causes of disease and the practice of medicine, is a noteworthy event. Although the manuscript was summarized a cen-

tury ago by Joseph Sargent in the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* (April 1874) and segments have appeared in several works since that time, this first complete publication of the earliest major medical treatise produced in the English colonies in America is of inestimable value for scholars of early American history and specialists in the study of seventeenth-century medicine. Mather's *Angel* is not only a compilation of the medical and scientific knowledge available in the colonies, it is an exposition of philosophy, theology, and popular culture almost as revealing in many respects as his monumental *Magnalia Christi Americana*. Throughout the work, Mather intersperses his discussion of curing with fascinating case histories, his thoughts on prevailing medical opinion, and suggestions for further scientific investigation; but perhaps the most valuable portions of his treatise are those dealing with his own perceptions of the metaphysical causes of disease. It is in these discussions of the origins of evil and its manifestations as illness and affliction that he provides substantial and revealing glimpses of prevailing patterns of New England thought.

Mather's work is edited by Gordon W. Jones, an obstetrician and gynecologist who has written on various aspects of colonial medicine. Jones is a careful scholar, and his extensive annotation provides much information that is helpful to the reader, especially in identifying most of the nearly two hundred authorities cited by Mather and in explaining obscure and archaic medical terminology. The editor is conscious of Mather's desire to publish *Angel* immediately upon its completion in 1724, and he is also aware of the two centuries that passed before the book saw the press. This has led him to assume, with good reason, that his editorial efforts will probably not be revised or duplicated before the passage of at least another hundred years. Jones has, therefore, prepared his annotation not only for scholars and the general reader but also with an eye toward future generations. His concern for the nonscholar and for posterity has led to a certain amount of editorial excess. While definitions of antiquated terminology are necessary and translations of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew passages are also welcome, it seems hardly necessary, for example, to give the location of Tierra del Fuego or to identify Tertullian and Hippocrates. Part of this solicitousness can be attributed to the editor's desire to make the book comprehensible to the general reader, but even though almost all recently edited works proclaim that they are intended for an audience much broader than academic specialists, this is done merely to justify the expense of letterpress editions. In fact, only specialists will use such works, and annotation rarely need go beyond their requirements.

Still, any complaints concerning editorial method are far outweighed by the merits of the work. Gordon W. Jones has done the professional scholar a service in providing this edition of Cotton Mather's *The Angel of Bethesda*, a work that will be consulted regularly for decades to come.

*Heritage Kingston*, by J. Douglas Stewart and Ian E. Wilson. (Kingston, Ontario: Queen's University, 1973. xii, 218 pp. Illustrations.)

*Heritage Kingston* is the catalog of the exhibition which was "planned to honour the 300th anniversary of European settlement in the Kingston area" of Ontario, Canada. The exhibition was held in the Agnes Etherington Art Centre of Queen's University at Kingston during the summer of 1973. The visual and documentary material consisted of 266 items.

Kingston is situated at the head of Upper Canada's main supply route, "a transshipment point for goods moving up and down the St. Lawrence." Fort Frontenac, established in 1673, guarded the French interests north of the lake until Bradstreet's victory in 1758. After the American Revolution, Kingston became the center of settlement for the Loyalists. The War of 1812 brought the town its first prosperity. Fort Henry was built in 1813 while the Kingston shipyards turned out a fleet designed to sweep American vessels from Lake Ontario. The zenith of Kingston's importance came in the 1840's. The town was incorporated in 1838; Queen's University established in 1841. In 1841 also, Kingston was selected to be the capital of the United Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, a designation which unfortunately was withdrawn in 1843. Americans should note that during the Oregon crisis of the 1840's four Martello towers were constructed to defend the city at a cost of £51,000 and the imperial troops were not withdrawn until 1870. Therefore, the Canadian-American frontier was not totally undefended from 1814 to 1914.

The organizers of the exhibition did an excellent job of bringing together artifacts from numerous public and private depositories to provide a visual display of three hundred years. Maps from the National Map Collection of the Public Archives of Canada provide the focus and set the scene for the entire exhibit. Archivists will gain knowledge of the collections of many Canadian institutions by noting the items that have been drawn from the Archives Nationales du Québec, McGill University Library, Metropolitan Toronto Library Board, Royal Ontario Museum, Queen's University Archives, Kingston Historical Society, Royal Military College at Kingston, and other archives. The most delightful example of Canadian primitives is "The Insolvent Subalterns" (1843) which attests to the presence of British officers who had been trained to sketch. One of the motives behind the exhibition is to spark the preservation movement; therefore, one should not overlook the two views of the Rockwood house and stables, a suburban estate from the zenith days.

Although marvelously illustrated and handsomely produced, the catalog is not happily designed. There is no list of illustrations. There are two sets of numbers—the page numbers are placed midway in the outside margins where they can be confused with the numbers used to key the illustrations, which themselves are not placed in strict numerical order. Three columns on a page, each with a

ragged right, adds to the confusion, and once the reader is immersed in the text he discovers that quotes which are in italics do not run continuously and are followed by full references which have been placed in parentheses. The effect is dizzying. Since there is so much white space on many pages, there might have been room for one illustration per page with accompanying text.

In spite of this criticism of the design and arrangement of the items in the catalog, this is a valuable contribution both to the preservation and local history movements. We may be moving into a world where most of us must stay put. Therefore traveling backward into the past will be a new delight. *Heritage Kingston* is a retrospective journey which should be imitated by countless communities.

University of South Carolina

GEORGE C. ROGERS, JR.

*Revolutionary Virginia: The Road to Independence*, volume 1, *Forming Thunderclouds and the First Convention, 1763-1774: A Documentary Record*, compiled by William J. Van Schreeven and edited by Robert L. Scribner. (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia for the Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission. xiv, 308 pp. \$13.50.)

This is volume of documents, to use an analogy chosen by the editors, is the script of the political drama of the American revolutionary period as it was played in the colony of Virginia. The failure of the volume is that it is a script without stage directions, without a property list. The intrinsic significance of the most eloquent of speeches can be obscured if the audience lacks a suitable context within which to perceive, analyze, and appreciate it. The failure to provide that context is, in this case, only a partial one. Most members of the audience presumably are aware of the basic plot line, and some of the editorial headnotes, particularly those introducing the later documents, are complete enough to set the stage properly.

The late William J. Van Schreeven, compiler of the documents, placed the volume and its editor under an enormous burden when he conceived that its publication would allow contemporary and future generations to obtain a clear understanding of their history and avoid repetition of past errors. Having accepted this burden, the editor should have gone beyond precise reproduction of individual documents (the technical editing does appear to be flawless) and explained in some depth the issues under discussion within them. That is, the compiler and the editor obligated themselves to maximize the usefulness of the documents for a more "general" audience, not merely to preserve and reproduce them for the specialist.

The selection of documents is generally excellent, although it does seem that the reproduction of all material with some bearing on the major theme was of more concern than the intrinsic worth of indi-

vidual documents. Several, for instance numbers XIX and XX, dealing with the Convention of 1774 ("The Decision," 30 May, and "The Summons," 31 May) have little to add to the reader's understanding of the development of the political and intellectual response of colonial Virginians to the constitutional crisis of the pre-revolutionary period. In such cases the editorial headnotes adequately convey the information contained in the actual document and also provide the context within which it was produced. From a utilitarian, educational, or informative perspective, this is sufficient.

On the other hand, the headnotes for some of the major documents are not complete enough. For instance, what precisely was the difference between virtual and actual representation and why were Richard Bland and his contemporaries concerned with that issue? (VII, "An Inquiry by Colonel Richard Bland," ca. 14 March 1766). What was the difference between internal and external taxation? Was the distinction a significant one, and how did this issue affect British-colonial relations? (IX, X, XI, presenting the Virginia perspective on the constitutional issue of taxation, in this case the legality of the Townshend Duties). It seems imperative that editorial headnotes and/or footnotes cover the context within which these issues were disputed if the reader is to comprehend fully the nature of the debate. Lacking such information, the audience shrinks from current and subsequent generations striving to find their roots in the past to historians and specialists already thoroughly familiar with the issues under debate. To assume that historians alone can prevent contemporary society from repeating past blunders is to ignore their often noble but largely unsuccessful efforts to do so in the past.

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ARTHUR BARNES

*British Maps of the American Revolution*, by Peter J. Guthorn. (Monmouth Beach, N.J.: Philip Freneau Press, 1972. 79 pp. Maps. \$13.95.)

Peter J. Guthorn's new book provides a useful and timely contribution to the literature of the American Revolution. Primarily, the book will be used as a catalog and guide to British maps and map makers of the war in America. It should prove a reference aid to the scholar, archivist, and author, in the identification of maps for the Bicentennial.

This book follows the same format as the author's earlier work on patriot maps and cartographers of the Revolution, *American Maps and Map Makers of the Revolution* (Monmouth Beach, N.J.: Philip Freneau Press, 1966). Yet the new book incorporates separate sections for the printed maps, even though the emphasis remains on manuscript maps.

The principal section of manuscript maps follows an alphabetical arrangement by name of cartographer. Those printed maps which

can be attributed to a surveyor are included in this category. Manuscript maps lacking an identifiable cartographer are organized in a second section by geographic area with subheadings for specific campaigns. The remaining chapters treat printed maps in a secondary context with sections for Revolutionary War maps in atlases, serials, and books. A brief concluding heading takes in those maps which fit into none of the above classifications.

The individual map entries indicate title, dimensions, location, bibliographic references (when available), and a note regarding the form and style of the map. A bibliographer must always be conscious of the quantity and consistency of the information he uses, and Guthorn has expended considerable effort to see that these criteria have been applied. In some research, inclusion of map scales would have aided the investigator. Also, the reader will note that the introduction defines six basic kinds of British military surveys practiced in the eighteenth century. The individual map entries might have included one of the six definitions in order to aid the researcher.

Biographical sketches identify 122 map makers contributing to the British war effort in America. These sketches vary in length, depending on the information available and the relative importance of each cartographer. Guthorn's entries demonstrate skillful research in using the *Army List* and manuscript evidence to trace obscure officers. It is unfortunate that a bibliography of sources was not compiled and included in this study.

This is one of the few cartobibliographies that generates fresh questions about a topic. Guthorn's work makes it possible to calculate the diverse kinds of topographic information available to the British commanders in America. Much of the surviving cartographic evidence appears to be of the documentary and campaign-map type which was submitted frequently by officers seeking favor. In fact, most of the manuscript maps have survived because they were at one time the property of commanders or publishers. The thousands of sketches which were destroyed would have provided a clearer picture of the reconnaissance information available to the army. We know these sketches must have existed at one time. For example, the sale of John Montresor's library in 1800 offered 2,000 manuscript maps in one lot.

It is also possible to hypothesize that the members of the Corps of Engineers, who were trained to provide the necessary reconnaissance surveys, were submitting campaign maps to assist their advancement or were accepting posts which did not utilize their skills. The American army, lacking the institutional hierarchy, had no need for the formal campaign maps and may have been better served with less talent and training. It is now possible to investigate these questions in detail with the aid of Guthorn's book.

Bibliography is a process, and Guthorn has demonstrated considerable resourcefulness in tracing leads to maps in difficult locations. Any work of this scope contains admissible oversights. For instance,

there is no mention of the Revolutionary War maps in Windsor Castle. Attention to detail has been consistent, although entry 35, page 19, should read Eastburn, not "Easburn."

The book's index of names and places enhances its value as a reference aid. The index makes the book more than a census and provides the reader with necessary information about the subject. It is hoped that a survey of French and German maps of the American Revolution can complement Guthorn's scholarship.

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DOUGLAS W. MARSHALL

*Adirondack Bibliography Supplement, 1956-1965: A List of Books, Pamphlets and Periodical Articles*, compiled by the Bibliography Committee, Adirondack Mountain Club, Dorothy A. Plum, chairman. (Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y.: The Adirondack Museum, 1973. xl, 198 pp. \$15.00.)

The Adirondack Forest Preserve and State Park, consisting of some six million acres of land in northern New York state, has been the subject of numerous controversies regarding conservation and land development. Therefore, despite its relative isolation, a formidable amount of literature has been published about the area. It is debatable, of course, whether a bibliography treating an underdeveloped and geographically restricted territory could have more than local appeal. That this bibliography does is due in large part to the energetic thoroughness of its compilers.

The *Supplement* is a continuation, in similar format, of the *Adirondack Bibliography*, published in 1958, and, like its predecessor, it has been compiled by members of the bibliography committee of the Adirondack Mountain Club and edited by Dorothy Plum. The *Supplement* updates the bibliography through 1965, but includes in addition numerous items missed in the initial volume. An example of the type of esoteric, yet important, pre-1965 sources consulted for the *Supplement* is the *Gentleman's Magazine*, an influential eighteenth-century English periodical which contains discussions of military activity in the Adirondacks during the French and Indian War and the American Revolution.

A useful addition to the bibliography is the inclusion in the *Supplement* of a lengthy introduction by William K. Verner, Curator of the Adirondack Museum. Verner traces the chronology of the region in an essay that notes not only historical, but also scientific, literary, and recreational publications that relate to the area. His commentary ranges from the first recorded visit to the Adirondacks by Cartier in 1535 to a brief discussion of state government involvement in the area since 1965.

The body of the bibliography is divided into thirteen broad subject-categories, including history, conservation, recreation, literature, and

juvenile works. These sections are broken down into more specific topics, including some not encompassed in the first volume. One such corpus of material is a collection of fictional dime novels set in the Adirondack region.

Each entry in the bibliography is numbered and lists the author, title, date, pagination, illustrations, and occasionally a short but descriptive annotation of the work. The current location of an existing copy is noted for some of the more uncommon items.

Although the *Supplement* is subtitled "A List of Books, Pamphlets and Periodical Articles," it has been expanded to include practically everything. Among the more obscure items are government reports and hearings, dissertations, promotional broadsides, and transcripts of radio broadcasts.

The *Supplement* contains an index to both volumes of the bibliography, certainly a thoughtful addition by the compilers since it obviates the necessity of consulting both volumes when seeking information. The index is thorough and easy to use. Boldface numbers indicate main references with minor ones in lighter type. Two appendixes provide additional material, one citing known titles not located

by the compilers and the other containing several pages of additions and corrections to the first volume. There is also a list of serials and sources cited. It would have been beneficial, however, to have included an updated, comprehensive list of repositories of Adirondackana.

This work and its companion volume are exemplary models of bibliographic compilation. The variety of sources consulted and the range of topics considered make it a valuable contribution to bibliographic literature. Besides their intrinsic merit, these volumes fruitfully demonstrate the diversity of materials which, rather than being neglected or discarded, should be recognized as an enriching source for the documentation and interpretation of the history and development of a region.

*Colonial Williamsburg Foundation* CYNTHIA ZIGNEGO STIVERSON

### Briefly noted

Archivists and librarians concerned with (or about) the problems of publications of government agencies on all levels from local to international should welcome the first number of a new professional journal, *Government Publications Review*, which states as its object "to provide a forum for the publication of current practice and new developments in the production, distribution, processing and use of government documents." A quarterly of conventional size, *GPR* is published by S E B D Publications, Inc., 380 Saw Mill Road, Elmsford, N.Y. 10523, under the editorial direction of Dean Bernard M. Fry of the Graduate Library School, Indiana University, and an impressive list of associate,

"executive," and national editors with various responsibilities for subject or geographic interests. Volume 1, number 1 (Fall 1973) includes articles on the U.S. Government Printing Office, trends in Canadian governmental publishing, a case study of Nebraska document legislation, the British Museum's State Paper Office practices, problems relating to acquisition by U.S. libraries of United Nations and foreign governmental documents, and recent trends in library school instruction in the special area of government publication. A solid, critical review of John L. Andriot, *Guide to U.S. Government Statistics*, 4th edition, 1973, as well as briefer reviews of other recent books on the subject, a bibliography of currently available checklists of state documents, and a section of news notes complete this first issue and suggest that the annual subscription price (\$15 to individuals, \$35 to institutions) might be well spent. [C. F. W. COKER]

In the October 1973 issue of the *Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress* are four articles dealing with "Resources in France for the American Historian." Michel Le Moël reports on the cartographic collections contained in four record groups in the Archives Nationales in his "Maps and Plans of the United States in the Archives Nationales"; twenty-nine manuscript maps offering exact images of little-known military exploits as well as of better-known sieges and battles are described in "Maps and Plans in the Bibliothèque Nationale"; Mlle. Nelly Lacrocq, for thirteen years in charge of the repository, contributes "Maps and Drawings at the Bibliothèque de l'Inspection du Génie," discussing the many important documents there portraying military operations in North America; Ulane Zeeck Bonnel, consultant to the Library of Congress and contributor of previous articles to the *Journal*, writes about the "Maps and Rare Books at the Library of the Ministère d'État chargé de la Défense Nationale," which is the principal depository of French war department collections and historical maps, charts, and plans; and Nicole Villa writes of the "Iconography of the United States in the Bibliothèque Nationale," describing the prints of all countries and all periods contained in the collections.

The October 1973 issue contains also an article, "Documenting a Legacy," on the fortieth anniversary of the Historical American Building Survey and the annual report of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The collections described in the report complete the record of acquisitions for the first seventy-five years, from 1897 to 1972.

Those interested can pick up the October issue of the *Journal* from the library's Information Counter, on the ground floor of the main building, or can obtain the issue by mail from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The price of the issue is \$1.25; subscriptions are \$4.50 per year, requiring an additional \$1.25 for foreign mailing.

The Winter 1973 issue of *Prologue: The Journal of the National Archives* is a special edition on women's history based primarily on sources in the holdings of the National Archives. Nancy E. Malan utilized photographic materials from the War Department and the Office of the Chief Signal Officer in her pictorial essay, "How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down?: Women and World War I." Eleanor F. Straub used the records of the Office of War Information, War Manpower Commission, and the Women's Bureau in "United States Government Policy toward Civilian Women during World War II." Bennie L. DeWhitt used the records of the State Department in the biographical sketch, "A Wider Sphere of Usefulness: Marilla Ricker's Quest for a Diplomatic Post." "Genealogy Notes" discusses sources for women's history based on military records dating from the American Revolution through World War I.

*Georgia Archive*, published semiannually by the Society of Georgia Archivists, contains in the Winter 1974 issue "Resources for Georgia Studies in the Southern Historical Collections," by Ellen B. Neal; "Manuscripts: A Continuum of Description," by Terry Abraham; "Central or Local Control: The Case for an Archival Partnership," by James B. Rhoads; "Georgia Manuscripts in the Auburn University Archives," by Deborah W. Austin and Allen W. Jones; and "The Methodist Archives of Epworth-By-The-Sea," by Ethelene Sampley. Also included in the journal are archive notes and book reviews. Correspondence should be addressed to David B. Gracy II, Editor, Georgia Archive, Box 261, Georgia State University, 33 Gilmer Street, S.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30303.

A ten-page "Draft Bibliography of Selected Publications on Automatic Data Processing (ADP) of Use to Archivists" has been prepared by Meyer Fishbein for the ICA Committee on ADP and the SAA Committee on Data Archives and Machine-Readable Records. This publication is available from Meyer H. Fishbein, Records Appraisal Staff, National Archives and Records Service, National Archives Building, Washington, D.C. 20408.

The National District Attorney's Association has released *Managing Case Files in the Prosecutor's Office*, a manual in a series being published by the NDAA as practical aids to prosecutors in the planning, administration, and operation of their offices. The author, called the Subject Matter Consultant, is Edward N. Johnson, chief of the Bureau of Archives and Records Management of the state of Florida. For copies of the publication, at \$3.00 each (plus \$1.00 each for postage and handling), write the Executive Offices, National Center for Prosecution Management, Inc., 211 East Chicago Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

*The Register of the Joseph Smith Collection* is attractively produced and

provides a useful overview of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' holdings of the papers of Joseph Smith, Jr. (1805-44), founder of the Mormon Church. The inventory section notes various Smith diaries, letter books, petitions, addresses, legal and financial papers, and miscellany that make up the collection. The *Register* also lists the known Smith holographs. While most of the Joseph Smith papers are housed in the church archives in Salt Lake City, the collection contains copies of other Smith documents. The location of the originals is duly noted.

The *Register of the Joseph Smith Collection* is the first of a series of registers that the Historical Department of the Utah church is producing. This volume and future ones will be welcomed by the academic community. [H. ROGER GRANT]

The Georgia Commission for the National Bicentennial Celebration has published *Georgia Heritage: Documents of Georgia History, 1730-1790*. The boxed portfolio, prepared by the Georgia Department of Archives and History, consists of eighty-eight "plates" containing reproductions of original source materials from Georgia history. Some documents are accompanied by brief explanatory notes. The portfolio may be ordered for \$5.00 from Georgia Heritage Portfolio, Georgia Commission for the NBC, Suite 520—South Wing, 1776 Peachtree St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

*The Winter Soldiers*, by Richard M. Ketchum, 1973, is the ninth published volume in the Doubleday series, "The Crossroads of World History." As with the other books in this series, under the general editorship of Orville Prescott, the primary audience is the general reader. In fact, the author states that "this is not intended as a book for scholars, and I have not included footnotes to document various assertions or citations." However, in his twenty pages of notes Ketchum does reveal a solid knowledge of original material and first-class secondary sources. Most of the latter appears in the seven-page bibliography. There are sixty-six black and white illustrations, six good maps, and an adequate index. This is an interesting and well told account of the critical winter of 1776-77 in which the muster of the entire Continental Army dropped as low as 1,200 men—about one-third the size of a World War II infantry regiment. [DAVID EGGENBERGER]

*Ex Libris*, an occasional publication of Friends of the Emory University Library, prints reports of acquisitions and holdings of the university libraries, news of Friends of the Library, and its progress reports. The February 1974 issue includes discussions of the Harrold Brothers (Americus, Ga.) business records, Emory's microphotographic collections, the Leibniz library of Leroy E. Loemker, the Pitts Theology Library, several Walt Kelly letters and books, and portraits in the

Department of Special Collections. Thomas H. English is executive secretary of the Friends of the Library.

The Report of the Collection of Regional History and University Archives at Cornell University for 1962-66 is now in press. Consisting of 191 pages plus index, it will contain descriptions of 445 collections, many of which deal with agriculture or city and regional planning. To receive a copy, write to the Department of Manuscripts and University Archives, 101 Olin Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.