8-31-2013

Books Received

John T. Knox
University of South Carolina

Patrick G. Scott
University of South Carolina - Columbia

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/ssl
Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/ssl/vol39/iss1/21
The new series of *Studies in Scottish Literature* plans to include in each volume one or more reviews or review-essays, along with a list of books noticed and received. As with the list in *SSL* 38, some earlier books listed here were sent unsolicited during the period when the journal was not publishing reviews. Inclusion in this list need not preclude possible discussion of a book in a subsequent review-essay.


--This volume, developed from a seminar series on the Scottish sixties at the University of Strathclyde in 2009-2010, includes an introduction and fourteen essays on an interesting range of topics from high and popular culture, including film, theatre, and popular music as well as art and literature (with more on poetry than fiction); essays of particular interest include Alistair McCleery on the differences in Scottish legal approaches to obscenity from those in post-*Chatterley* England, Corey Gibson on the MacDiarmid-Hamish Henderson newspaper flying over folk song, and John Corbett on the photographer Alan Daiches’s television projects with Sydney Goodsir Smith and Alexander Scott. Other contributors include Tom Devine, Roderick Watson, Margery Palmer McCulloch, and other relevant specialists.

--Readers of SSL will know Wilson less as American ornithologist than as Scottish poet, a contemporary of Burns, and author of *Watty and Meg*, one of the most widely-distributed vernacular Scots chapbook poems of the 1790s. This handsomely-produced and generously-illustrated volume includes a useful biographical chapter summarizing Wilson’s early career in Scotland as author and radical, but does not offer any extensive discussion of the poetry.


--This reprint makes available George Douglas Brown’s “other” novel originally published in 1899 under the pen-name Kennedy King, together with a related short story, and an introduction by Ian Campbell (pp. v-xiv), who in SSL in 1974 offered the first critical discussion of this work.


--This volume provides a useful introduction, a chronology, and nineteen essays, each with short bibliographies: three essays on medieval and renaissance literature, six on the 18th century and Scottish Romanticism, two on Victorians, and eight on the twentieth century. Contributors include Nigel Leask, Murray Pittock, Ian Duncan, Cairns Craig, Scott Lyall, and others equally well known.


--This collection, honouring Douglas Gifford, brings together an introduction and eleven lectures by well-known scholars including Andrew Hook, Susan Manning, David Goldie, Trevor Royle, Ritchie Robertson, Kenneth Simpson, and Sarah Dunnigan. The opening lecture, by the honoree, presents a general case for the revaluation of 19th century Scottish literature.
--This very readable, but very scholarly and expertly-annotated, new selection from Jane Welsh Carlyle’s letters constitutes an accessible biographical introduction to one of the most engaging of Victorian writers. Some letters are given in excerpt, but the full texts are available from the Carlyle Letters On-Line.

--This new standard edition, vol. 1 in the Edinburgh Edition of the Waverley Novels, includes Peter Garside’s important “Essay on the Text” (pp. 367-456), as well as full textual and explanatory notes.

--This new standard edition presents Hogg’s text from 1807, but also provides in appendices the text Hogg published before 1807, and the revised texts he published in 1821. Also included is the 1807 version of Hogg’s oft-revised autobiographical Memoir.

--This volume, comprising an introduction, thirteen essays, and an envoi, marked the completion of one of the greatest works of modern Scottish scholarship, the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, adumbrated by William Craigie in 1916, initiated by him in 1919, and completed, several editors later, in 2002. Margaret Dareau contributes a useful history of DOST, and other contributors include Priscilla Bawcutt, Alasdair MacDonald, Alexander Fenton, William Nicolaisen, Donald Meek, and William Gillies.


--This book usefully collects and preserves a series of oral histories/interviews with leading Scottish booksellers of the mid-twentieth century, the people who made modern Scottish literature easily available in bookshops, such as Robert Clow of John Smith’s in Glasgow, Ainslie Thin of James Thin in Edinburgh, and the eponymous Bill Bauermeister. The earlier interviews chart the energy, modernization and growth of the Scottish book trade in the fifties and sixties; later participants recount ruefully the changes of more recent decades.


--Unlike Scott’s Scottish novels, or the more popular *Ivanhoe*, *Peveril of the Peak*, set in seventeenth-century England and on the Isle of Man, had not attracted earlier scholarly editors. As Alison Lumsden explains in her “Essay on the Text” (pp. 497-544), this new standard edition provides an “ideal” version of Scott’s first edition (1822), with corrections and emendations from manuscript and proofs, as well as full textual and explanatory notes.


--This modest paperback dictionary, based in part on the authoritative work of *SND* and *DOST*, aims to encourage “younger Scots to use the Scots language.” Unlike its heavyweight forebears, it provides an English-Scots section giving both words and idiomatic phrases, though it is hard to imagine quite who will use this convincingly. Non-Scots may find the Scots-English section a helpful cheap reference tool when reading current Scottish fiction.

--This study, the product of twenty-five years research, provides an essential guide and reference on some of the key institutions of 18th and early 19th century Scottish literary culture. The main section of the book, “Survey” (pp. 1-130), provides an interpretative account, while the second part “Listing” (pp. 137-235) provides annotated entries with source-references on all recorded circulating and subscription libraries, arranged geographically, by shire and town, with an alphabetical index.


-- Buchanan’s *De Iure Regni apud Scotos*, first published in 1579, was widely influential in spreading ideas of popular sovereignty both in Britain and on the continent. This edition helpfully offers Latin text and English translation on facing pages, together with full notes on Buchanan’s sources and references. Roger Mason’s introduction (pp. xv-lxxi) provides history, background and analysis.


--Richard Maxwell’s study explores the rise of the historical novel in seventeenth-century France and its re-invention in Scotland by Walter Scott, setting Scott in a wider context than usual, alongside such writers as the Abbé Prévost, Dumas, Hugo, Flaubert, and Twain.


--This study, arguing that it was the “low” ballad form that transformed late 18th-century “high” lyric poetry, takes a broad perspective on the cultural history and critical fate of ballads, with chapters on The Beggar’s Opera, Shakespeare’s songs, Blake and Wordsworth, as well as on Scottish song in Ramsay, Home and Burns, and the fate of Child’s Ballads in the period of New Criticism.

--This book, which was the first book-length critical study of Edwin Morgan’s daunting prolific and varied output, constitutes also a short introduction to many of the major trends in Scoto-Anglo-American poetry of the mid- to late 20th century. Without being formally “authorized” by Morgan, the book draws on interviews and conversations with the poet. An appendix prints Morgan’s accessible autobiographical sequence “Pieces of Me.”


--This volume provides annotated texts from the letters written to the Burns-influenced Ulster poet Samuel Thomson by a wide variety of correspondents, both literary and political, with especial focus on the pivotal decade of the 1790s. The letters, many including poems, are arranged by correspondent, not chronologically; the editor’s introduction (pp. 13-25) surveys the revival of interest in Thomson and provides a synopsis of his life.


--The Scottish poet W. S. Graham (1918-1986) was a major player in the J. F. Hendry’s neo-romantic New Apocalypse movement of the 1940s, but spent much of his life in Cornwall, and has only gradually been returning to Scottish critical attention. This volume provides an introduction and eight appreciative essays, helpfully intercalated with the texts of the Graham poems under discussion. The volume concludes by reprinting Edwin Morgan’s 1981 essay on Graham, originally published in *Cencrastus*.


--Maurice Lindsay’s *Burns Encyclopaedia*, first published in 1959 with revised editions in 1970 and 1980, remains essential for any Burns
bookshelf, but was long overdue for updating. This fourth edition, while preserving Lindsay’s name in its title, together with a surprising amount of his pithy critical and biographical _obiter dicta_, has been revised in many entries to take account of recent Burns scholarship and discoveries, and includes a fully updated selective bibliography.


--By comparison with the frequently-written story of Murray and the _OED_, the story behind John Jamieson’s *Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language* (1808-1825) is not widely known, yet Jamieson’s work had an enormous influence, both on later lexicographers, including Murray, and also on writers from Scott through to Hugh MacDiarmid and the 20th century Renaissance. This well-written and nicely-paced study should be of interest to literary scholars as well as historical linguists.


--On the established pattern of the series, this volume provides a brief biography, introduction, twelve essays treating the range of Scott’s achievement, and a consolidated list of further reading. Notable contributions include Ina Ferris (on Scott and book-culture), Alison Lumsden, with Ainsley McIntosh (on the narrative poems), Caroline McCracken-Flesher (on Scott and the Jacobites), Ian Duncan (on the still-undervalued late Scott novels), and Nicola Watson (on Scott’s after-lives).


--This handy new edition of Carlyle’s influential lectures, in Yale’s series Rethinking the Western Tradition, combines an introduction by Sorensen, a basic text based on the first edition (1841), an alphabetical Glossary (more than a glossary: short annotations to Carlyle’s allusions), and seven new essays designed to connect Carlyle with the twenty-first century world, especially in terms of his treatment of Islam (Owen Dudley Edwards and Sorensen), but also of the hero-dictator (T.J. Reed,
Sara Atwood), women (an interesting essay by Beverly Taylor), Scottishness (Christopher Harvie), and the role of the media (Kinser).


--The study of transatlantic Scottish-American connections has been attracting increasing attention, and this volume, published to coincide with the 250th anniversary of Burns’s birth and the 200th of Lincoln’s, explores a real historical link. It will be a useful resource for other scholars (and Burns Night speakers) as a survey of all that is known or has been claimed about Lincoln’s knowledge of, reverence for, and use of Burns’s poetry.


--This book brings together publishing history and philosophical scrutiny, to examine the two parts of Mandeville’s *Fable of the Bees* in relation to Hume’s *Treatise of Human Nature*, and to explore the two writers’ treatment of such topics as selfishness, pride, justice, and politeness.


--This volume provides an introduction, brief biography, and nine chapters about the Scottish poet and dramatist (and currently Scots Makar), Liz Lochhead. Topics include her poetry, language, dramatic adaptations, use of the Gothic, work for children’s theatre, and significance as a woman’s voice. One chapter of special interest assembles brief comments from other Scottish writers, including Robyn Marsack, Andrew Greig, and Robert Crawford, about Lochhead’s influence, friendship or mentorship.