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Rezensionen

Robert ORESKO, C.G. GIBBS, H. M. SCOTT (ed.), *Royal and Republican Sovereignty in Early Modern Europe. Essays in memory of Ragnhild Hatton*, Cambridge (Cambridge University Press) 1997, XXI–671 p.

As an author, editor and teacher, Ragnhild Hatton (1913–1995) influenced many historians of the early modern age. An eminent segment of them has now honoured her with a collection of essays. The book came too late to be presented to Ragnhild Hatton, but it stands as a convincing tribute to her work. Sovereignty as an idea and an historical situation, rulership, and international relations are brought together in a variety of approaches, often productively crossing the border between political and cultural history, structural and personal aspects of history.

In one of the most stimulating chapters, David PARROTT discusses the aspirations and activities of the *prince souverain* Charles de Nevers. Parrott's analysis of this sovereign prince who also was a subject of the French king helps us to understand the strength and nature of the ideal of sovereignty; moreover, it underlines the importance of the »intermediate« actors in the diplomacy of dynastic Europe historians have tended to neglect because they focused narrowly on the emerging »nation-states«. Robert ORESKO's lengthy chapter on the Savoyard rulers' quest for a royal crown effectively deepens our insight into the ways in which titles and their iconographic pendants moulded both the cultural patronage of rulers and their relations with other dynasties. The appearance of the closed crown of kingship in works of art sponsored by the ducal court was a clear sign of monarchical ambition – and thus it could provoke rivalry with other states and dynasties. The prestige of titles and the iconography of rulership are further explored in other contributions, like Isabel de MADARIAGA's learned essay on the attempts of the tsars – particularly the westernising Peter the Great – to have their title confirmed as equal to that of the European emperor, or Edward GREGG's colourful account of the deposed Stuarts' decline and fall. Geoffrey SYMCOX describes the emergence of Turin as the new Savoyard capital, stressing that the expanding capital increasingly mirrored dynastic ambitions. Like Madrid or Vienna, Turin was largely created through its function as the dynastic residence. Peter BARBER relates cartographic developments to their political background: while borders slowly became more relevant in a context initially dominated by various rights and jurisdictions, maps were increasingly used to illustrate and legitimise the rulers' territories and symbolise their sovereignty. Large scale cartographic surveys, Barber suggests, were particularly relevant for »absolute« monarchies not only for obvious military and administrative purposes, but again also as a representation of their power.

Rulers were sovereigns, but also persons of flesh and blood: the two did not always easily mix. While sovereignty was ideally indivisible, sovereigns had to delegate and divide their power. Derek BEALES discusses the »co-regency« of Maria-Theresia with her husband Francis I Stephen and her son Joseph II, combining an »institutional« with a »biographical« approach. Charles C. NOEL dissects the slow undermining of the reality of sovereignty, and finally even of its fictitious prolongation, during the last months of the deranged

Ferdinand VI of Spain. H. M. SCOTT relates how Frederick II of Prussia, that personification of indivisible sovereignty, overruled the administrative apparatus, particularly in foreign policy matters. Incidentally, Scott points out that Frederick too well understood the relevance of titles and protocol. T. C. W. BLANNING brilliantly examines Frederick's ambivalent relations with both French and German culture. Frederick may have ridiculed Teutonic tastes at times, by his example he forcefully stimulated many aspects of German culture.

Grete KLINGENSTEIN's study of the development of the usage of »Austria« and »Austrian« underlines the difference with later concepts dominated by the concept of the nation-state. H. G. KOENIGSBERGER shows the strength of the ideal of »republican« virtues, an ideal that was not limited to Europe's republics. Did the example of the Dutch Republic and its »revolutionary« birth mould republicanism and »revolution« elsewhere? Hugh DUNTHORNE tries to answer this question for the English case, while C. G. GIBBS offers interesting examples of this influence in the American Revolution. The chapters by Derek MCKAY, Rohan BUTLER, and John C. RULE substantially contribute to our knowledge of the Great Elector's foreign policy, the »Bourbon family network« in the eighteenth century, and »decision-making« in the *Conseil d'en Haut* during the last decade of Louis XIV respectively, but their focus does not closely match the themes of the book as a whole.

Royal and Republican Sovereignty suggests new approaches for both the history of rulership and the history of international relations. The dynastic basis of early modern Europe forms the obvious connection between these; and by concentrating on its manifold manifestations, the editors and contributors have served us well. The editors' introduction clarifies the historiographical context, while Andrew LOSSKY's personal appreciation of Hatton and her work reminds us of the human background of our scholarly endeavours.

Jeroen DUINDAM, Utrecht

Hans-Otto MÜHLEISEN, Theo STAMMEN, Fürstenspiegel der Frühen Neuzeit, Frankfurt/Main (Insel Verlag) 1997, 764 p. (Bibliothek des deutschen Staatsdenkens, 6).

La maison d'édition de l'Insel Verlag a lancé une collection: »Bibliothek des deutschen Staatsdenkens (= Bibliothèque de la pensée allemande d'Etat)«, ce sous la direction de Hans MAIER et Michael STOLLEIS. Le tome 6 de cette collection vient de paraître sous la direction de Hans-Otto MÜHLEISEN, Theo STAMMEN et Michael PHILIPP, consacré aux »miroirs des princes de l'époque moderne« (de l'espace culturel allemand). La collection est, comme d'habitude chez l'»Insel Verlag«, extrêmement soignée, ce dont personne ne se plaindra. Le choix des collaborateurs et des éditeurs est garant du soin avec lequel les textes ont été choisis. Après une courte introduction générale (12 pages) suivent les textes. Chaque texte est précédé d'une introduction construite sur le même modèle: biographie de l'auteur, dans la mesure où elle est »reconstruisable«, l'œuvre de chaque écrivain, et sa signification, choix enfin, de la partie du »miroir« publiée ici. Car il est bien entendu qu'on ne peut publier l'intégralité des textes des 18 livres choisis: il y faudrait deux volumes supplémentaires. Il est intéressant de marquer la répartition chronologique et systématique des écrivains. Grâce au livre inventaire de Singer¹ l'on sait qu'il a existé, pour le moins, 200 miroirs des princes publiés dans le Saint-Empire du XV^e au XX^e siècle. Dont un bon tiers pour le seul XVII^e siècle. Les directeurs de la collection ont opté pour un choix régulièrement réparti sur les trois siècles, soit deux par siècle, dont, en gros, un pour le début et un pour la fin de chaque siècle. Ce qui a l'avantage de bien couvrir la succession des idées majeures. On

1 Bruno SINGER, Die Fürstenspiegel in Deutschland im Zeitalter des Humanismus und der Reformation, Munich etc. 1981.