This is the first full-length history of Scotland to be published in over twenty years, and is representative of the recent growth of interest in Scottish history. The author, Dr. Michael Lynch, has had wide experience in writing on Scottish history, so has produced a very interesting work. He began his studies at Aberdeen University and then completed them in London. He taught for some years at the University of Wales and is now senior Lecturer in Scottish History at the University of Edinburgh. He has written a number of historical works dealing with the urban, social and economic history of Scotland primarily in the sixteenth century, and various articles dealing with a wide range of topics on the whole history of Scotland. In a very real sense this work is a summation of his researches and writings over the years, and reflects his wide knowledge and interests. He is also the editor of the ecclesiastical history journal The Innes Review, and is literary editor of the Scottish History Society. Therefore, the book should be of great interest and importance to those of Scottish origins across our country.

Because of the author's interests in historical studies, he has not written a work which simply follows the line taken by those who wrote the earlier surveys. They tended to stress the role of kings and nobles and their political involvements. The author has, on the other hand, placed more emphasis on the economic and sociological aspects of Scottish history. He has, as he indicates in his introduction, sought to give an account of the Scottish nation as a whole. While he has dealt with the political aspects of Scottish history, he has placed a considerably greater emphasis on economic developments, social changes and religious aspects. He has followed a plan of describing and analyzing periods of change in society to give a clear picture of the changes in Scottish society and their effects. At times this may cause certain difficulties for readers who have used some of the earlier histories of Scotland as the chronology at times tends to be a little confusing. But in following this method he makes it very clear how the country and people developed historically. Added to this he has approached the sources and the earlier writers on Scottish history quite critically, often calling them to task for some of their conclusions.

One naturally finds that his discussion of sixteenth century developments occupies a large space and is very interesting, since this is his particular field of interest, but the other periods have also been well covered, and this is particularly true of the more modern period,
beginning with the Union with England in 1707. He has very carefully considered the impact of the Union, particularly in the economic and sociological areas, producing a very careful and well-balanced discussion of the implications and effects of the changed situation. He has also taken into consideration the whole matter of the movements to separate Scotland and England whether by establishing home rule, devolution or absolute separation. The most detailed study of this problem he has made in the final chapter: "A Nobler Prospect?" There he considers the nationalist movements particularly since the 1950s down to 1991.

As one reads this work one begins to feel that one of the basic reasons for it is to bring the Scots together as a nation. The description of the Scots in earlier days demonstrates that as they stood up against the influence of the English throughout the Middle Ages, under such men as Robert Bruce, and even in the days of James VI and I. But the emphasis is even stronger on Scottish nationalism in the period since 1707, reaching perhaps its highest point in the last decade. Thus, this is not just the story of the Scots, but a work seeking to raise Scottish consciousness in the present situation of Britain.

In two locations within the book are collections of illustrations. At the end there are thirty-four pages of footnotes, an extensive bibliography for further reading, two chronological trees and ten pages of indices. All this makes it less difficult to locate topics and subjects which might be of interest.

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Few members of Canada’s legal profession possess more than scant understanding of Scottish law. There is an assumption that it bears some resemblance to the law of France, but little else is known. In this series of essays the reader is reminded of maxims and doctrines dimly remembered from law school lectures. By focusing upon the differences apparent in Scots law one is drawn to realize the extent to which different legal systems share similar values and objectives. One
learns with surprise that Scottish law flourishes with greater vitality today than at the time of the Act of Union with England in 1707.

In a rapidly emerging global society where no law district lives unto itself barriers and boundaries are something of an anomaly. Comparative law, or private international law, is increasingly the way to go. Because of the pace of change it is useful periodically to take a 'bird's eye' view of law in order to determine direction. Justice Holmes employed a small aperture lens to present his classic summation of the common law. Lord Denning in his series of books was preoccupied with dynamics. These essays on the law of Scotland written at two time periods capture both an overview and the directions of change.

Scottish law is portrayed as an amalgam of many legal ideas commencing with the customs of primitive peoples, the rules of feudalism, and precepts of Canon law. We sense the considerable effect of Balliol's ancient alliance with France and the results of nearly three centuries of constitutional marriage with the more populous and powerful neighbour England. Whereas the glory of English law has been the value placed upon individual freedom, Scots law has attached to relationships. Scottish law has remained particularly mindful of the importance to be attached to relationships. Scottish Law has been much modified over time by enactments of British Parliament and to a lesser degree by Anglo-American precedent, yet it has remained ever ready to consult the juridic tomes of Italy, Germany, Holland, and France. Scotland's openness to continental scholarship has facilitated her accommodation to the new Europe. In this respect the law of Scotland serves somewhat as a bridge between the two great legal systems and a model to the common law world.

We are reminded of the conclusions of the late Charles Morgan in 1941 after the traumatic collapse of France. He declared that "France is an idea necessary to civilization." He was reaffirming that truth is enlarged by more than one perspective. He stated that in spite of her faults and failures the British Empire and America could not afford to do without France. "There is in her a unique element without which the energies and virtues of the Anglo-Saxon people cannot yield their full fruit." This conclusion has particular relevance to Canada. Pride in our splendid common law heritage should not blind us to the appreciation that jurisprudence flourishes only in proportion to its power to compel men to rethink it.

I conclude with reference to Canada's current constitutional
impasse and malaise. Scotland has managed to survive as a distinct society alongside a larger neighbour primarily as a result of her legal system. In this interdependent world sovereignty is at best severely limited. There appears to be no more efficacious way of safeguarding the identity of a people than through the instrumentality of law. Law must prove sensitive and responsive to the group it serves. It must harmonize relationships both interior and exterior to the distinct society of which it forms a part. It is by the quality of its laws that any civilized community is finally judged.

This book is recommended to be read and then stored away for easy reference. It is calculated to stimulate much reflection.

JOHN ROSS MATHESON


The topic of Scotland and war evokes, for those interested in the unfashionable "drum and trumpet" oldstyle military history, kilted Scottish warriors shedding their blood for an Empire that had long neglected their homeland or clashing with the armies of England in battles that would decide the fate of dynasty and nation. Advocates of the "new" military history seek the social ramifications of such battles and might perceive those same armies as mirrors of society and vehicles for change. Indeed, military history has broadened its horizons to encompass many diverse subjects, simultaneously broadening its appeal. The collection of essays edited by Norman MacDougall in Scotland and War, AD 79 - 1918 reflects the new diversity of the area, even if not its promise.

Scotland and War began life as a series of lectures presented before the Seminar for Scottish History at St. John's House Institute of Advanced Historical Studies at the University of St. Andrews under the broad umbrella of Scotland and war. That focus became the sole unifying element in a series of essays that ranges over many topics as well as years and, the editor's claims to the contrary, remains so throughout the collection. MacDougall sees a certain thematic unity in a broad emphasis on "the vast discrepancy between the theory and
practice of war", with a subsidiary focus on "the inexorable removal from Scottish control of military decision-making...by a mistrustful and overbearing London executive." The former theme, however, is really only marginally evident and the latter description seems little more than the required nationalist swipe at perfidious Albion. Dynastic and aristocratic machinations, and the resulting wars, are the predominant, and not unimportant, focus of the majority of the essays, with some interesting exceptions thrown in for good measure. The uneven mix presented places Scotland and War somewhere between the "old" and the "new" military history, a collection full of energy and occasional insight, unhindered by direction.

The essays themselves vary in quality and impact. Each arguably fills an important niche but some of the more interesting from this reviewer's perspective were the pieces by Norman MacDougall, Ian Cowan, Keith Brown and Gerard DeGroot. Norman MacDougall spins an excellent tale around the "Greatest Scheip That Ewer Sallit" - the Michael, James IV's pride and costly diplomatic tool. The story of the Michael is a good illustration of the relationship between effective diplomacy and the ability to project military power. Conversely, it reveals how expensive the maintenance of such power can be once the fighting begins. Ian Cowan's essay on the impact of the maneuvering between Mary Queen of Scots and the Scottish nobility during the Marian Civil War is insightful and tightly argued. Keith Brown's contribution is the best example of the "new" military history. He assesses the British army as a vehicle for change, in this case a transitional vehicle for a Scottish nobility seeking a substitute for their traditional military role in the 17th century. Brown builds a convincing case, arguing that service with the British military elite by a significant portion of the Scottish nobility resulted in a growing identification with British interests and ultimately support for the union of 1707. Gerard DeGroot's is the last essay of the collection but certainly not the least. He provides important insights into the influence of religion on General Sir Douglas Haig's controversial style of command, bringing a welcome balance to this emotional subject. His examination of the links between Haig's staunch Presbyterianism and his unshakeable faith in his own destiny also addresses the oft-neglected influence of the individual on the shape of battle, and the course of history.

The reviewer's preferences aside, both the general and academic reader will find something to satisfy their curiosity in this collection. Those in search of groundbreaking insights into war and its impact on Scotland may come away only partially sated but the sheer breadth of

Material culture is becoming an increasingly important source for historians in their search to discover how people in the past used clothing, furniture, buildings, and textiles to display their financial status and social position. *The Art of Jewellery in Scotland* utilizes portraiture painting to trace the changing fashion of jewellery design from the sixteenth through twentieth centuries. Published in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of Edinburgh jewellers Hamilton and Inches, editors Rosalind K. Marshall, Assistant Keeper at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, and George Dalglish, curator at the National Museums of Scotland, provide eighty-one brief, yet detailed commentaries on portraits, jewellery and clothing from collections at the National Museums of Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland, the Victoria and Albert Museum and various Private Collections.

In six chapters the editors examine how and why Scottish women and men wore brooches, earrings, buttons, rings, necklaces and pendants. Two thematic sections which focus on Commemorative/Memorial and Highland jewellery provide interesting insights into the beliefs and cultural practices of Scottish merchants and aristocrats. Personal mourning jewellery was worn in remembrance of dead relatives and friends while "Memento Mori" jewellery, meaning 'remember you must die', incorporated symbols of death such as coffins, skulls and death's heads to remind the wearers that their time on earth was short. Commemorative jewellery was especially popular during the Interregnum and among Jacobite sympathizers as symbols of loyalty to the crown. In the Highlands, large, flat ring brooches were particularly popular and were believed, along with charmstones, to have supernatural powers which could ward off evil spirits and witches. By the nineteenth century Highland dress became 'fashionable' and from
1850 a "Celtic Revival" led to the production of jewellery which incorporated indigenous stones such as cairngorms and river pearls from the Tay. In spite of the decline of portrait painting in the twentieth century, jewellery continues to convey particular messages and personal images. The Craft Revival jewellers at the turn of century chose stones "...not for their worth in money but solely on account of their aesthetic value..., wrought entirely by hand, with none of the mechanically accurate symmetry which, however tasteless, is considered essential in the trade." (p. 77) What we now know as costume jewellery arose from this idea that the decorative qualities of jewellery were more important than the materials. The early twentieth century Women's Suffrage Movement influenced designers to produce jewellery in the suffragette colours of green, white and violet (signifying "Give Women the Vote"). By the 1980s recycled plastic was used to create bangles and brooches which not only functioned as jewellery but were recognized as works of art in their own right.

With two editors and three contributors, the consistency of the commentaries is lacking. Discussion varies between an explicit, piece-by-piece description of the jewellery and a mini-biography of the portrait sitter’s life with little or no attention given to the jewellery he/she was wearing. While changes in fashion are an integral part of this book, the reasons why these changes occurred are not always given. The longlasting appeal of pearls, for example, is implied although no historical or cultural explanation is provided. Finally, the editors’ statement that "recent research has tended to suggest that the cultural, social and economic differences between the Highlands and the Lowlands are perhaps more illusory that real" (p. 56) implies that the separate section they provide on Highland jewellery is unnecessary. Fortunately, the material they proceed to discuss belies this claim as much Highland jewellery was definitely distinct from Lowland jewellery and was, obviously, the product of a different culture.

In spite of these shortcomings, The Art of Jewellery in Scotland is a beautifully produced book which should interest historians, jewellers and interested readers alike. After reading this book portrait gallery and museum visitors will never be able to look at a painting or an historic piece of jewellery in quite the same way.

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