

influenced the evolution of British psychiatry, and in the fourth section of this book they advance convincing evidence for this. There must, however, have been several factors responsible and the effect of the contemporary French school which is mentioned, and of phrenology, which is not, would have to be examined more closely. The final part of the book deals with later studies of the King's disorder, the most interesting being a psychoanalytical interpretation which brings little credit to the technique.

Macalpine and Hunter have produced an important contribution to the history of medicine. They demonstrate in impeccable fashion how the method of historical diagnosis can be effectively employed by the judicious handling of medical and historical data; their work will be a model for others. But, in addition, historians are presented with a new paradigm which they must now take into account. This book, written in a masterly and engaging style and produced by an equally proficient publisher, must therefore be made available to a wide audience especially in the fields of history and medicine.

EDWIN CLARKE

MYTHS AND ALL

The Growth of Natural History in Stuart England from Gerard to the Royal Society

By F. D. and J. F. M. Hoeniger. (Folger Booklets on Tudor and Stuart Civilization.) Pp. 54+19 plates. (University Press of Virginia: Charlottesville; Oxford University Press: London. Published for the Folger Shakespeare Library, August 1969.) 10s.

THE Folger Shakespeare Library is a research institute administered by the trustees of Amherst College. It was established primarily for the scholarly study of Western civilization from 1485-1715 over which period the library contains a rich collection of books, pamphlets and manuscripts. It is laudable that the trustees also recognize the needs of the non-specialist who seeks information about the Tudor and Stuart period, and by instituting this series of booklets on the cultural history of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries has sought to meet them.

This title is the companion to the earlier booklet on natural history in Tudor England. As befits a library research institute, the authors of this booklet have built their account around the famous books of the period. This practice gives a straightforward organization of the material but not one best fitted to bring out the chief trends of Stuart natural history. This is not to deny that the change from stylistic to naturalistic illustration, from reliance on previous authorities to learning from nature, from uncritical acceptance of mythical creatures to scepticism about them, is emphasized. The chief figures in the account are Sir Thomas Browne, Gerard, Grew, Hooke, Leeuwenhoek, Malpighi, Moffet, Parkinson and Ray. With such a list it is not surprising that the subject of the founding of the Royal Society gets only two paragraphs. The details of John Gerard's roguery, on the other hand, occupies nearly three pages.

As an introduction to the period, it is a pleasing survey enlivened by the authors' enthusiasm for the great books of the period and persistent myths—especially the barnacle geese—and by their engaging style of writing. Thus Parkinson's statement about the locality of the lady's slipper orchid has the following acknowledgment: ". . . as I am informed by a courteous gentlewoman, a great lover of these delights, called Mistress Thomasin Tunstall, who dwelleth at Bullbank near Hornby Castle".

There is a useful section of suggested reading where reprints of the rare and costly famous books are detailed. The booklet closes with twenty exquisite plates from the illustrations of the period.

ROBERT OLBY

REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

Louisiana

Its Land and People. By Fred B. Kniffen. Pp. 196. (Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge, 1968.) \$7.50.

Imperial Texas

An Interpretive Essay in Cultural Geography. By D. W. Meinig. Pp. 145+17 plates. (University of Texas Press: Austin and London, 1969.) \$4.50; 43s.

ON the basis of the bibliographic data these books would seem to be remarkably similar. Concerned with the geography of adjacent States, they were written by two of America's currently best known cultural geographers and published within a few months of each other by the respective State university presses. In essence, however, they are quite different, occupying nearly opposite positions on the wide spectrum of writings within the broad field of regional geography.

Louisiana: Its Land and People is essentially a college textbook which will doubtless be compulsory reading for students of geography within the Pelican State during the nineteen-seventies, but it is unlikely to find a wide readership elsewhere. Simply written and copiously illustrated, it contains successive chapters on weather, climate, relief, soils, vegetation, resources, prehistoric man, European settlers and settlements, communications, agriculture, industry and urbanization. This arrangement has been characteristic of State geographies for a century or more and is directly descended from that adopted by many nineteenth century German geographers. The approach is predominantly genetic and landscape is the touchstone of relevance, these being the twin hallmarks of Carl Sauer's "Berkeley School of Geography", of which Kniffen and several of his colleagues in the department of geography (the "little Berkeley of the South") at Louisiana State University are both products and disciples. The author has been a student of Louisiana and its landscapes for forty years and his reputation for sustained and perceptive observation in the field is reflected in this book in the large number of specific examples of a diverse range of landscape elements. Unfortunately, in achieving a balanced and relatively elementary treatment, Kniffen has not drawn very deeply on his specialist knowledge of the cultural geography of earlier times. *Louisiana: Its Land and People* is but one in a long tradition of conventional texts about individual States, but the author has the reputation and experience to write a definitive cultural geography of Louisiana, which could establish rather than follow tradition. One can only hope that some day he will do this.

During the past four years, Professor Meinig has written a major paper on the Mormon Culture Region¹, three important chapters on the historical and cultural geography of New York State in one of the best of the recent State geographies², a definitive historical geography of the Great Columbia Plain of the Pacific Northwest³ (reviewed in *Nature*, 222, 1005; 1969) and now a book length essay on the cultural geography of Texas. Each of these is characterized by masterly prose, scholarly treatment, a historical approach and a distinctive emphasis on man. The extended essay form of *Imperial Texas* has enabled Meinig to bring out the distinctiveness of his approach even more effectively than in his other publications. It is a dynamic approach with a two-fold emphasis: upon people, "who they are, where they came from, where they settled, and how they are proportioned one to another from place to place", and upon "strategic and terrestrial organization, how areas have been brought into focus, connected one to another and bound up into larger networks and circulations" (page 7). This approach is reflected in the sequence of six one-word chapter headings: Implantation; Assertion; Expansion; Elaboration; Differentiation; and Characterization. It is an approach