

Tolstoi, born in 1645 into an old service family, was instructed in 1697 to go to Venice to study matters maritime. As a dutiful courtier, he kept a detailed diary recording the manner in which he was carrying out instructions, and much else besides. Of course, he was not able to write in the manner of the Englishman whose house was about to be wrecked by his master's entourage, but he certainly would have agreed with John Evelyn that 'all is vanity which is not honest, and that there is no solid wisdom but in real piety'. Indeed, the strongest impression made by Tolstoi is of his deep Orthodoxy, and of his sincere reactions to exposure to other branches of the Christian religion. But this did not prevent him from carrying out his more secular assignment, and describing in full detail the ways of Venetian and other ships at sea. On land, too, he considered all manner of events, including an execution in Naples that reminds us that Muscovy had no monopoly of barbarity. Indeed, altogether, it is possible to find in the diary much of what was shared by European civilization as a whole towards the end of the seventeenth century, as well as what divided it East, West, and Centre. It was, after all, at just about this moment that the continent was being realized as a lay entity, a circumstance underlined by Tolstoi's later career. For although he never put his naval skills into practice, he did emerge as one of Russia's first modern diplomats, while also becoming head of the Secret Chancellery. This latter function reminds us that Russia maintained some special institutional features as it became more European, and that Tolstoi himself could not have become the complete cosmopolitan. Almost certainly, he could never have forgotten the great impact that his first journey abroad made upon him, an impact he had caught so graphically in his diary. Max J. Okenfuss is to be congratulated on making it easier for many of his colleagues and their students to become more closely acquainted with this most significant episode in Russian history.

*Department of History*  
*University of Aberdeen*

PAUL DUKES

Köpeczi, Béla and Tarnai, Andor (eds). *Laurus Austriaco-Hungarica. Literarische Gattungen und Politik in der zweiten Hälfte des 17. Jahrhunderts*. Schriftenreihe der Österreichisch-Ungarischen Gemischten Kommission für Literaturwissenschaft, vol. 1. Akadémiai kiadó, Budapest, and Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, 1988. xii + 300 pp. Notes. Illustrations. £15.00.

THIS first volume of a new Austro-Hungarian series contains twelve studies. Ágnes Várkonyi sets the reconquest of Buda in 1686 in its wider background of a systematic plan to compel the Turks to withdraw once and for all from Central Europe. The significance of this event to both sides emerges in two essays. The first, by Martin Mandlmayr and Karl Vocelka, surveys the very large number of German-language publications that recorded it; they range from eye-witness accounts to songs, sermons, and panegyrics celebrating the triumph of Christianity. This study should encourage further investigation to include publications in other languages; the extracts given here (p. 19) show remarkable similarity to an anonymous English account of 1686. On the

Turkish side, the loss of Buda was mourned in folk-poetry. Markus Köhbach's careful study reveals that the theme was still alive in the present century. Hungarian political literature is surveyed by Lajos Hopp in a wide-ranging essay that includes published letters, political tracts, and religious protests. Harriet Nemeskürty recalls Georg Friedrich of Württemberg, who was killed while fighting at Kassa in 1685 and buried in the Lutheran church at Bártfa.

Three contributors examine Latin verse of different types. László Szörényi analyses Melchior Guttwirt's *Amores Mariani*, fifty elegies which clearly owe as much to Ovid as to the cult of the Virgin Mary. Richárd Korzenszky surveys the baroque epigram with particular reference to Johannes Baptista Adolph, a Jesuit like Guttwirt, and evidently a brilliant poet. This makes a good introduction to István Kilián's illustrated study of late baroque pattern-poetry in Hungary (George Herbert's 'Easter-wings' is an English parallel), which reveals truly astonishing virtuosity in both Latin and Hungarian.

The late Géza Staud contributes a brief survey of Jesuit school-dramas, the themes of which are based on the struggle against the Turks, while Sándor Iván Kovács examines the links between Hungarian and Italian baroque lyric, a condensation of his extensive work on this subject published in Hungarian. Béla Köpeczi's essay on the representation of Imre Thököly in French and German literature is taken from his comprehensive Hungarian study of European reactions to Thököly. The final illustrated study by Edit Haider and György Rózsa describes the young Joseph I's game of goose, a kind of snakes and ladders also known in Britain.

The whole volume provides a useful and enjoyable background to the history of the late seventeenth century.

London

G. F. CUSHING

Barratt, Glynn. *Russia and the South Pacific, 1696-1840*. Vol I: *The Russians and Australia*; Vol. II: *Southern and Eastern Polynesia*. Pacific Maritime Studies Series, Nos 5, 7. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, 1988. xiv + 338 pp., £27.50; xx + 302 pp., £23.15.

As Europeans began to enter the Pacific Ocean in increasing numbers during the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Russian government was forced to recognize the need for a stronger naval presence there, in order to protect Russian interests in Siberia and the north-west coast of America. This could be achieved only by sending ships on the long journey from the Baltic, either westwards around Cape Horn or, if the season was unfavourable, eastwards around Africa and into the Pacific Ocean via Australia. Either route took them into South Pacific waters where, as a result, a number of Russian vessels made significant voyages of reconnaissance and discovery in these years. First into the region were I. F. Kruzenshtern and Iu. F. Lisianskii in the *Nadezhda* and *Neva*, who visited many parts of Polynesia in 1803-06, while perhaps the most spectacularly successful voyage was F. G. von Bellingshausen's Antarctic exploring expedition in 1819-21. Some of the ships involved were storeships carrying provisions to Russia's Pacific outposts, but others were fitted out for systematic scientific exploration and eventually carried back to St Petersburg botanical and zoological specimens