

fishery of the early nineteenth century. While Cadigan devotes too little attention to the questions of underdevelopment he raises, his careful research illuminates the intricate legal and productive relations that governed merchants, planters, and servants. Three other essays by Del Muise, James Pritchard, and Ira Dye aim quantitative methods at Jack Tar. As part of a larger study of the effects of industrialization in the Maritimes, Muise uses census data to trace changes in the nature of Yarmouth's seafaring workforce between 1871 and 1921. His explications of landward transitions in local employment are usefully situated within Yarmouth's broader social and economic history. Pritchard likewise acknowledges the value of context, linking his estimation of the size of the 1746 French expedition to Acadia to studies examining the socio-economic origins of the force. Regrettably, the most technically impressive of the quantitative essays — Dye's reassemblage of American seafarers from prisoner-of-war records kept by Britain during the War of 1812 — does not follow suit. Dye never suggests what use might be made of the profiles he develops and thus the import of his findings remains unclear.

The two remaining essays, Dianne Dugaw's examination of balladic "women warriors" and Eric Sager's consideration of the value of sailors' "oral reminiscences" as historical sources, are substantially methodological and fit somewhat uneasily in subject and approach with the other writings collected. Nevertheless, these essays are indicative of some of the strengths and flaws of the anthology as a whole. On one hand, Dugaw and Sager represent the vanguard of their field: their innovative contributions argue convincingly for breadth both in conceptualizations of Jack Tar and in sources for seafaring life and labour. On the other, both authors neglect to articulate the *raison d'être* of their research — that is, its historical or historiographical significance. This omission, one shared by many of the contributions, hampers the volume's capacity to communicate developments within the field of maritime history to a general scholarly audience. A journey through *Jack Tar* is likely to be most fruitful for those with established interests in seafaring history or in history "from the bottom up". The non-specialist may just feel adrift.

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Betsy Dewar Boyce — *The Rebels of Hastings*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1992. Pp. 233.

The rebellions of 1837–1838 in Upper Canada are well suited as subjects of popular history, given the common view that they are among the few exciting events in this country's supposedly otherwise dull past. More than a few prospective readers will wonder, however, how a history of the rebellion years in the eastern Ontario county of Hastings can comprise an entire book. The rebellions of 1837 occurred nowhere near Hastings and its chief centre, Belleville, nor did the most celebrated of the related events of 1838 and 1839, including the burning of the *Caroline* near Niagara and the invasion of Windsor.

The answer is that *The Rebels of Hastings* aspires to offer more than another local history of limited scope. Most local histories of Ontario, almost by definition, make little effort to explain the larger context of the events being described. This is true even of some of the best, including Brian Dawes's *Old Oxford is Wide Awake* (1980) and Ian MacPherson's *Matters of Loyalty: The Buells of Brockville 1830–1850* (1981). Betsy Dewar Boyce's book, on the other hand, uses Hastings almost as a case study to illuminate several well-known themes in Ontario history. Her larger objective is to refute suggestions that eastern Ontario was a haven of tranquillity during the late 1830s by exploring the many stirs of discontented strife occurring there.

*The Rebels of Hastings* is divided into three sections. "Gunpowder" describes the background to the rebellion of 1837 in the province generally. It sympathetically explains popular grievances (the constitution, education, roads, and clergy reserves, for example), provides thumbnail sketches of leading Reformers and Tories, and elaborates the local scene on the eve of the rebellion. The second section, "Treason", describes militia activity in Hastings in the immediate aftermath of the rebellion, including the arrests of a number of local worthies suspected of Reform sympathies. There are parallel accounts of the activities of the malcontents, including an attack on Tonti Island in the St. Lawrence and a foiled plot of 1838 to invade Kingston from the United States with assistance from Hastings. The final quartet of chapters, "Plot", examines discontent in Hastings in 1838 and 1839, including fears awakened by the battle of Windmill Point in Prescott and a riot in Belleville in November 1838, in which a Reform press was attacked. The book concludes with a discussion of Lord Durham's Report, responsible government, and biographical accounts of leading figures in the narrative. Appendices detail claims from Hastings for losses during the rebellion and list prisoners arrested in connection with the disturbances there.

For Boyce, the rebellion was not, as so many authors have described it, a comic-opera affair. It was the product of serious grievances; it resulted in death for some and imprisonment for more than 850; it prompted the emigration of untold numbers from the colony; it contributed to a period of considerable domestic turmoil; and it left in its wake a society deeply divided for years to come. Much of this, of course, is familiar territory, but few writers on Upper Canada have bridged the gap between scholarly and popular history as skilfully as Boyce.

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Lucia Ferretti — *Entre voisins : la société paroissiale en milieu urbain : Saint-Pierre Apôtre de Montréal, 1848–1930*, Montréal, Boréal, 1992, 264 p.

L'histoire de la paroisse Saint-Pierre-Apôtre de Montréal, de 1848 à 1930, publiée récemment par Lucia Ferretti apporte une remarquable contribution à l'histoire sociale du Québec et, plus particulièrement, de Montréal. Sans vouloir trancher le