

(the purpose of persuasion here being the 'justness' of the judicial conclusion). The most innovative demonstration of the relevance of narrative analysis to legal theory is Klinck's inclusion of an entire case summary, and his subsequent dissection of it into its narrative elements. This is a clear and persuasive method of presentation, and its more frequent use could have helped create a greater degree of "intensity," for the rest of the text.

Klinck also examines the relevance of narrative analysis to law in general, by discussing the possible interpretation of precedent as a narrative convention of law: that all like stories must have like endings. He discusses theories that see "archetypal stories" as lying behind all narratives (which would justify our practice of distilling a case into its archetypal meanings for use as a precedent). These contrasting positions of 'archetypal' and 'concrete' underlie the dichotomy in legal thinking between, the demand for application of generalizing rules, and the demand for distinguishing these rules based upon the specific facts of each case. By examining the effectiveness of methods for presenting narratives, whether in legal writing or witness testimony, Klinck gives us yet another set of tools to control (or understand the control of), a legal explication of reality.

Unfortunately, *The Word of the Law*, as a text, has some substantial problems. Supposedly written as an "introduction" to the area, Klinck's work shows very little sympathy for the new reader in the field. It contains far too much jargon and technical terminology, and poorly differentiates between the use of the same term by different schools of theory. It generally suffers from: "unjustifiable substantive complexity" (too much material extraneous to the author's argument), and an overall lack of "intensity." In short, it may quickly discourage all but the most persistent of readers. Although Klinck's *The Word of the Law* is a substantial contribution to the study of the relationship of law and language, it suffers from the major failure, ironically, of being written in a style that hinders communication.

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Margaret Conrad, ed., *Making Adjustments: Change and Continuity in Planter Nova Scotia 1759-1800*, (Fredericton: Acadiensis Press 1991).

There has been a debate within the academic community regarding the viability of "regional" history as a means of understanding and interpreting Canada's past. Though the days are gone when history was a narrative of the "grand scheme" of things, there is still a tendency to view Canada's history as the sum of its parts. Among those countering this trend are scholars in Atlantic Canada who have been generating a rich and varied regional historiography which speaks not only to "locals," but to people outside the region as well.

Evidence that aspects of Canadian history on the periphery have been overlooked in the "Upper Canadian stew" can be found in the way in which historians view the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists into what is now Ontario and Nova Scotia. Often not considered are the cases of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, where Loyalists were not the first wave of migrants to arrive from the former British Colonies to the south.

Planters predated Loyalists by roughly twenty years, yet Canadian history studies often give them little notice. However more than the Loyalists, the Planters, along with the Micmac, Acadians and German Protestants, defined Nova Scotian society and set the tone for Nova Scotia's response to the 1867 union. Revising notions about the extent of Loyalist influence across regional boundaries is among the work being done by scholars in the field of Planter Studies.

Indicative of how certain groups have been obscured by history — and historians — is that the term Planter must be defined. After the expulsion of the Acadians in 1755, efforts were made to "repopulate" the fertile dykelands they left behind. Between 1759 and 1768, the Planters, approximately 8000 emigrants from New England, came to "plant" settlements throughout the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia. As well, they tried to transplant the political, social and economic structure of eighteenth-century New England to colonial Nova Scotia.

They Planted Well: New England Planters in Maritime Canada, published in 1988, contained the proceedings from the first confer-

ence in Planter Studies held in 1987. The participants and their papers covered a broad spectrum of topics and methodologies, from immigration patterns through community development and on to material culture. Margaret Conrad suggested, in her introduction to that volume, that "most of the research is tentative . . . and little of it is definitive. Much remains to be done." (13) *Making Adjustments*, the second volume in the series, presents the new developments within the field.

The essay which perhaps contains the most "food for thought" and best reflects the themes of the book is John Reid's "Change and Continuity in Nova Scotia, 1758-1775." Rather than rejecting "geopolitical" studies of the past, Reid suggests that the work of passé historians can now be cautiously reexamined. For within their sense of the grand sweep of Empire lies the seeds of understanding the complex shifts within the political, economic and social realities of life in Nova Scotia during this period. At work in these collective survival strategies were the notions of continuity and change which characterize Maritime history. Given the new thrust of historical investigation in the 1990s, these "societal realignments" can now be discussed in terms of ethnicity, the environment and native and non-native relations and, although Reid does not mention it, I would also suggest gender and class.

The multidisciplinary approach utilized by Planter scholars provides a lively interdisciplinary perspective to the volume. There is room within the field to include Joan Dawson's interpretation of contemporary maps, Marc Lavoie's look at archaeological evidence and Nancy Vogan's study of Planter music traditions, as well as pieces in the more "traditional" realms of history, such as Julian Gwyn's essay on the Planter economy or Donald Desserud's exploration of the concept of Planter neutrality during the American Revolution. Like any volume of conference proceedings, however, not all essays are created equal. Some are more scholarly, others more accessible and the level of research and analytical varies.

As the range of papers suggests, Conrad is quite right in stating that "the larger cultural and comparative context seems to be a more rewarding avenue for research than one that focuses narrowly on the Planters themselves."

(11) So, it would appear that Planter Studies, like many of the sub-fields within Canadian history, has matured and begun to look beyond itself for both questions and answers. The proceedings from the 1993 Conference, which has the family as its theme, will no doubt further contribute to all historians' understanding of the totality of our past.

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Michael Piva, *The Borrowing Process: Public Finance in the Province of Canada, 1840-67* (Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press 1992).

As left-leaning provincial governments across Canada champion austerity programs, Michael Piva's historical examination of the fiscal crises of the Province of Canada prior to Confederation may be more timely than he or his publishers expected. In this solidly documented account of the history of public finance in the Union period, Piva reminds us of an earlier set of debt crises which successive governments struggled to resolve, or avoid. Indeed, Piva contends that the public debt helped give birth to the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

This book will prove to be a valuable resource for those scholars interested in economic development and state formation in Victorian Canada. We can all thank Piva for wading through a complex set of Department of Finance documents, and for making sense of the trade and public finance statistics of the period. Piva shows that it was worth the effort, demonstrating the importance of the borrowing process to economic development and to state formation.

Scholars obsessed with Canada's staple exports have often forgotten that Canadians consistently imported far more goods than they exported, creating a potential balance of payments crisis. Piva argues that governments overcame these continuing trade deficits by importing capital. Prior to the 1840s, defence spending by the British government provided the flow of money which allowed Canadians to pay for imports. During the Union period, provincial government expenditures functioned in a similar fashion. The Canadian state borrowed money from British investors to