

Institute of Neohellenic Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation, *On Travel Literature and Related Subjects. References and Approaches*, Ed. by Loukia Droulia, Athens 1993, 558 p.

The significance of travellers' accounts for the historical research of the Ottoman era in the Greek region has often been emphasized. A significant landmark for the development of interest in such travellers' texts in the Greek field was the publication of the still classic four volume work of K. Simopoulos, *Foreign Travellers in Greece* (Athens 1972-1974). This work played a catalytic role for the use of such texts as sources for the study of the history of the Greek people during the period of the Ottoman occupation. With the development and rapid evolution of the other humanistic sciences in the second half of this century, the importance of travellers' accounts as sources has come to the fore all the more as Loukia Droulia, the editor of the publication reviewed here, notes in the introductory note of this exceedingly interesting and useful collective work. Disciplines such as anthropology, ethnology, sociology, demography, geography, comparative literature and the history of thought also have much to gain from travellers' accounts. As an answer to the increased need for the codification of the material so as to render it accessible to researchers, the Institute of Neohellenic Research has planned and is actualizing a special research program with direct computer support and with the theme: "Foreign-language travellers' writings on Southeast Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, 15th-19th centuries". Within this elegant tome are presented the very first fruits of this program. Its structure, as will also be evident from the presentation here of the individual treatises, traces and records the stages of development of the program and the problematics which these stages provoked.

The first two articles of this volume expose the solid substructural work which was set forth from the beginning and which is being continued within the framework of this program for the codification of the travellers' accounts as well as the information which these accounts proffer. The first of these articles is entitled "Travel Literature on Southeast Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, 15th-19th centuries. Short Title Catalogue". Within this article the researchers Ioli Vingopoulou and Rania Polycandrioti present a catalogue of all travellers' accounts which have already been recorded and which are found registered within the computer system of the Institute of Neohellenic Research—about 1,500 entries from the 5,000 which have been located bibliographically. The introductory note to this article informs us on the amount of time which was needed for the preliminary research, which was limited to a specific geographic area, the method which was followed in the recording of the

information, and the creation of the electronic information bank. The information bank gives the future researcher the capability for access to various lemmatic fields and aspires to include all published or manuscript travellers' accounts, re-issues, their translations, as well as cases of partial publication of texts in periodicals and anthologies. The catalogue presented here which results from this information bank contains the full name of the author, the abbreviated title of the work, its time and place of publication, and the chronology of the journey. It is accompanied by two indexes —organized by last names and titles of anonymous works— and three charts —abbreviations of place of publication, location of copies, abbreviation of libraries and of the collections from which the texts were discovered. This catalogue, until now nonexistent for research and an indispensable guide for its continuation, has proven exceedingly useful thanks to the efforts which were put forward for the identification of persons (travellers, authors, publishers etc.) and the recovery of the chronology of various trips. Whatsoever work has already been done as well as that which is being planned for the future show a desire for consistency and methodical work which we deem necessary to elaborate upon here.

All researchers who deal with Balkan history during the duration of the Ottoman sovereignty and who have made use of travellers' accounts, have quite often had to face the problems regarding the identification of place-names, as they appear in accounts of varying time periods, with their modern counterparts. The ethno-linguistic variety which is observed in the region during this entire period as well as the planned linguistic policy aiming towards the national annexation of place-names which was exercised with intensity and wide scope during the 20th century by the Balkan states, created a significant methodological problem for scholars. This problem, for the 16th and 17th centuries at least, is what the second article of this volume endeavors to solve. It is authored by the researchers Agathoklis Azelis and Ilia Chatzipanagioti and is entitled: "A Catalogue of Place-names and Lodgings for Travellers' Accounts of the 16th and 17th centuries". In their introductory note the writers of this article report on the methodology which they followed and the problems which emerged from this endeavor. The revealing of the methodology, as well as the presuppositions and principles which were employed in the composition and presentation of the catalogue, do not allow room for any doubt regarding the soundness of their methodological choices and the consistency with which they were adhered to. From the catalogue one can draw information such as which travellers and when did they visit a specific place, what name did they use to define the place, and to which present-day country does the place belong to and what is its present name. The unique characteristic of this catalogue lies also in the fact that it is not merely a simple

index of place-names which are referred to in the travellers' accounts, rather, it is a catalogue of the names of stations in the travellers' itineraries. This specific characteristic resulted from the fact that the drafters of the catalogue, as they themselves admit, besides the simple need for the identification of place-names, took their problematics a step further and saw the place-names as conveyors for the stimulation of questions on the following themes: for the determination of the starting points and the destinations of the journeys; the level of development of public transportation and of the road system; the ability for access to island and littoral areas; the degree of safety of the journey; the existence of a substructure for the welcoming and hospitality of travellers; the creation, existence and/or extinction of settlements and the change of their names. After the catalogue there follows a list of the itineraries of the journeys of the travellers which comprise the sources for the catalogue. Finally, after this follow the full bibliographic information for the sources themselves (a total of 60) and the general bibliography and maps which were used supplementarily.

The third article of this tome is authored by George Tolia, well-known by the Greek public also through his co-operation with the Greek Literary and Historical Archives in the writing of the essay, "One Hundred Years of Cartography of Hellenism (1830-1930)". In the volume reviewed here the author presents a work entitled "In the Shadow of the Travellers: The Greek Geographical and Cartographic work of Jean-Denis Barbié du Bocage (1760-1825)". The author, using the work of a French geographer-cartographer who concentrated his interest and research on the Greek region, attempts to trace the oftentimes common components which are observable in travellers' accounts and in geography-cartography. Specifically he comments on their mutual interdependence and on their parallel development during the 18th and 19th centuries. During this period, with great care, enthusiasm and interest, travellers supplied geographers with a plenitude of information which was indispensable for the forming of an exact geographical picture of the Greek region and for its proper publication in analogous maps. In their turn, these maps inevitably accompanied the publication of the manuscripts of the travellers' notes. The life and scientific activity of Jean-Denis Barbié du Bocage shows that the travellers' accounts comprised the raw material for the educated cartographer who would in his turn supply the travellers with maps, information, directions and advice. The catalogue which accompanies this article contains 188 "Printed or Manuscript Maps and Topographic Sketches, Geographic Studies, Monographs, Articles, Notifications, and Collaborations with Periodicals and Other Publications" which have to do with Greece and which have been classified according to geographical regions. This catalogue has

been drafted in Greek and French and every entry includes: the area which is referred to in the work, its title, its bibliographic description and its origin in the case that it is placed within another publication or collection. This study is enriched with a table of manuscripts, a chronological table of works, an index of geographical places in French, and bibliographic notes of the cartographer from one of his contemporary texts in the form of an appendix.

Yet another interesting and significant type of travellers' account which deals with the Greek region and which until now has not been given due attention —excluding the work of a very few travellers such as, for example, the painter E. Lear— is the category of the illustration of the journeys. The scientific recording of all types of illustrations which appear in travellers' accounts was made possible for the most part thanks to the special program planned by the Institute of Neohellenic Research for the recording of sketches, water-colors, lithographs and photographs of travellers' accounts from about 4,000 books as well as other loose illustrations unattached to particular books. The problematic which precede its planning, the method which was followed during its plotting out, its goals and ambitions as well as the importance of such a venture, are set forth in this volume in the article entitled "A Data Bank of the Illustrations Accompanying the Texts of Travel Literature", authored by Eugenia Drakopoulos. This is in fact a significant substructural work for the creation of a special information base which places as a criterion the illustration not as an art object but rather as a stimulus for historical information in the wider sense, i.e. as a source useful for many sciences besides history; for archaeology, history of art, ethnology, epigraphy, geography etc. In order to render possible and feasible such a use for illustrations every item of illustration studied by the program —one example is appended to the article— quite appropriately is seen as providing what we have perceived as the following four categories of information: a) whether or not the illustration comes from a book or is in loose form, the name of the book or of the private collection from which it comes or whether it has commercial origins, b) the dimensions of the illustration and the technique used for its production, c) the name of the designer, artist, engraver, lithographer, cartographer, the publisher and the publishing company, d) the date of the drawing of the illustration and the date of its engraving and of its publication.

The no less intriguing subject of the anecdotal manuscripts of travellers' accounts is dealt with in the article by Heleni Angelomatis-Tsougarakis who is known due to her excellent book *The Eve of the Greek Revival: British Travellers' Perceptions of Early Nineteenth Century Greece* (London 1990). In the essay in this volume entitled "Travel Manuscripts: Proposals for their Utilization by Modern Research", the author sets forth her problematic for the

locating of, recording of and evaluating of manuscripts. She includes not only anecdotal travellers' accounts but also any similar manuscripts which have been published in order to render possible the evaluation of their authenticity amongst other things. She also formulates views on the theoretical and methodological issues which emerge from such a study, such as the definition of the phrase "travellers' accounts", the geographic region covered and the chronological starting and ending points. Finally, the author refers briefly to every kind of practical problem which accompanies such a research project and ventures to suggest equally practical solutions towards their overcoming.

Within this volume of collected works there is yet another presentation by Ilia Chatzipanagioti, autonomous this time, entitled "Towards a Typology of the Travel Literature of the 18th century". In contrast to the five preceding articles which comprise or are indirectly connected to substructural works of basic significance, this study has a composite character. Its particular significance lies in the fact that the author attempts something unique within the Greek field: a total review of travellers' accounts tracing how they are related with each other (in form and content) so as to register them in speciological categories based on these internal characteristics. In the works of travellers' literature of the 18th century—which is perceived as the century *par excellence* for journeying and for the remarkable development of travellers' literature—two main groups are distinguishable: a) those which only present pure experience and b) those which classify, analyze and evaluate the experience. The author classifies as belonging to the first category the descriptions of expeditions, the *isolaria*¹, topographical texts and collections of illustrations. In the second category she includes collections of travellers' accounts, travellers' histories, bibliographies of travellers' accounts, their corresponding book reviews and book summaries, reading material for travellers, travellers' methods and travellers' guides. Some of these categories of both groups are subdivided further based on the contents, form of description etc. The author of the article analytically describes the categories and the travellers' accounts themselves, she formulates views on the causes for their development as a literary genre, on their blossoming or decline and on their extinction. She also comments on the causal relationships that exist between these specific categories of work and the accompanying development of morphic relationships as well as relationships in content amongst these different types. Furthermore, she proposes a method which she perceives as most sound for the tracing and verification of these relationships, a method which she upholds by applying it

1. Catalogues with descriptions of islands which belong to an island chain within which every island of the group is described in individual sections bearing the island's name.

to two specific examples of travellers' texts. Finally, she enriches her article with a special indicative bibliography of works of travellers' literature from the 18th century, organized according to the categories which she herself proposes in her text.

The final contribution —from the Greek point of view— in this volume is the also composite work of Rania Polycandrioti, "The Prologue of the Travellers' Account: French Publications during the 17th century". The research carried out by the author of this article revealed that there exist thematic sections which are to be found in all prologues of the French travellers' texts of the 17th century. These sections deal with: the content of the narration; the analyzation of the motives and aims for the publication of the experiences of the journey; the projection of motives for its reading; stylistic observations and allusions to the linguistic elaboration of the text; its comparison to other travellers' texts; and a mention of sources for further information. These observations gave the author of this article the ability to advance to a deeper analysis of the prologues and the travellers' accounts and to touch upon questions which we have placed in three general categories: a) those which have to do with the personality of the author: the way in which he perceives and evaluates his work; the emotional loading which he himself gives to what he describes; the message he wants to communicate to his readers; b) those which deal with the reading habits of French society during the specific time period; the effect that these travellers' accounts had on the specific reading public; the dominant ideology of the society which that public belonged to; c) finally, whatsoever is related to the development of the style and content of the prologues of the 17th century; the formation and evolution of the prototype travellers' account during that century and its particularity as a genre of literature —including elements of literature, history, oral tradition etc.

The volume closes with the article by Raia Zaimova "Le plan d'une monarchie universelle: quelques écrits français sur le levant (XVIe-XVIIIe ss.)". This article differs from the other articles of this volume which are all either substructural works or studies on problematics regarding the travellers' accounts themselves. Here, in contrast, we have an example of the way in which the researcher —in this case specifically a scholar of history— can profit from travellers' accounts in his attempt to recover a picture of some sector of the historical past. In this essay, the author traces the way in which French society became acquainted with the Ottoman Empire and society and the stages of this evolution including their acquaintance with its institutions and customs as well as the development of the French view on the Franco-Ottoman cultural relationships during the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, tracing the motives for the French penetration into the Ottoman Empire, the nature of this penetra-

tion and its consequences.

This plethoric tome, elegantly printed, is composed of about 560 pages and can boast of the added advantage that it is accessible to the Hellenophone as well as the foreign language scholarly public. At this juncture, however, I would like to make the following observation: the multilinguism of this publication is to a certain degree alienating and could perhaps create certain problems for its prospective readers. This is due to the fact that the first two articles are accompanied by parallel translations in a foreign language, the first is in English as is also the introductory note of the publication while the second is in German. The remaining articles are all in Greek, except for Raia Zaimova's article which is written in French. Within this context the following strange variety in form is observable: the summary in a foreign language which follows each article is in French for two of the articles and in English for the other three. I am unable to fathom the reasons for this specific choice of three such different languages keeping in mind that this is not a periodical with set official languages but rather a self-sufficient publication. Allow me only to make the following comment without harboring the slightest intention to mitigate in the least the incommutable importance of this publishing venture. It is a fact that a bilingual edition for every article of this already massive tome would have necessitated the publication of two or even three volumes, something which would have altered its practical character. Nevertheless, it would have seemed quite a bit more reasonable and essential that at least the existing translations and summaries be drafted in only one foreign language, perhaps preferably in English which is the second language not only of the introductory note but also of the pages preceding it.

In closing I would like to note that this work is accessible to scholars as well as to the wider Greek public in an era when, as is evident from a provisional statistical study of recent publications, travellers' literature —translated in Greek— once again can boast of a significantly high ranking in terms of popularity. In the last fifteen years numerous elegant publications present in good translations travellers' texts which are of interest to the lesser as well as the greater field of Hellenism during the whole duration of the Ottoman sovereignty². Despite the high quality and diligence of these works, often accompanied by extensive commentary, these publications leave —naturally—

2. The travellers' accounts of H. Holland, J. C. S. Bartholdy, Evlija Celebi, F. C. H. L. Pouqueville, L. Heuzey, V. Bérars, R. Puaux, G. Dechamps and others have already been translated into Greek. There are even Greek publishing houses which specialize in the publication of translated travellers' texts. Allow me to cite here the publishing house Tolidi Bros. which publishes the specific series *Foreign Travellers in the Greek Region*; also the publishing houses *Trochalia* and *Ekati* and, finally, the publishing houses *Oikos* and *Kyriakidis Bros.*

quite a few questions unanswered or they provoke questions regarding the geography of the region described. This volume, however, solves these as well as other problems with success³.

Institute for Balkan Studies

XANTHIPPI KOTZAGEORGI

Angelomatis-Tsougarakis, Helen, *The Eve of the Greek Revival: British Travellers' Perceptions of Early Nineteenth Century Greece*, London, Routledge, 1990, pp. XVII+289, maps, index.

The author, a member of the Research Center of Medieval and Modern Greek Studies of the Academy of Athens, presents to the reader a critical overview, an exhaustive analysis and a personal interpretation of the published and some of the unpublished accounts of British travellers in "Greece" during the years 1800-1821. This carefully prepared study is, according to the author, "an adaptation" of the text presented at Oxford University, England, in 1986, as a partial requirement for the obtention of a doctoral degree.

This reviewer understands that the word "revival", used in the title, is not meant to evoke the much longer period which preceded the outbreak of the 1821 Revolution and that the word "Greece", used in the subtitle, has a rather dubious geographical application: even if we were to tolerate the anachronism and accept a definition of "Greece" within its present boundaries, we still do not see how to fit in it such cities as Constantinople, Smyrna, Kydonies and some others in Asia Minor, which come into the discussion.

The editing has been executed with care: misprints, misspellings and other uncorrected mistakes are rare. Among the exceptions, it may be pointed out that the two Rumanian reviews in French, which figure in the list of abbreviations, could have been printed correctly, that the abbreviation PHQ, used on pp. 214-5, could have been included in that list, and that the Turkish equivalent of Kydonies could have been either avoided or spelled in a more acceptable way. Moreover, Leake's lead, which causes Attica, Boeotia,

3. For those who are aware of Stephanos Yerasimos' recent excellent work, *Les voyageurs dans l'empire ottoman (XIVe-XVIe siècles). Bibliographie, itinéraires et inventaire des lieux habités*, Ankara 1991, allow me to note the following: that it covers a smaller time period than that of the research program dealt with here; that it was published while research was already being conducted by the Institute of Neohellenic Research and that the researchers of the Institute were aware of it. Finally, the publication of this book does not mitigate the value of the research program whose major task is, for the time being, the creation of a complete and informative computer information bank useful and accessible to all researchers.