

SHORT REVIEWS

✓ Unsigned Short Reviews were written by the Editor.

Cope, Kevin L., and Robert C. Leitz, III, general eds. *The Eighteenth Century: A Current Bibliography*. N.S. Volume 25 for 1999. New York: AMS Press, 2003. xi, 561 pp. Cloth, \$238.50. (ISBN 0-404-62227-5; ISSN 0161-0996)

After two previous reviews of catch-up volumes of this invaluable bibliography in this section, nothing remains save to wish *EC* well as it sails majestically towards the goal of timely production of volumes with annual coverage. This volume resumes annual publication and promises that the desired port will shortly be reached.

Giroud, Vincent. *St. Petersburg: A Portrait of a Great City*. New Haven, CT: The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale Univ.; distributed by Univ. Press of New England, 2004. 143 pp. Illus. Paper, \$29.95. (ISBN 0-8457-3153-X)

The greater part of this richly illustrated depiction of St. Petersburg, the capital of the Russian empire, drawn from Yale resources consists of detailed descriptions of the exhibits together with adjacent or superior illustrations, many of which are colored. Historians and Russophiles will find much of interest here as will the general reader: at the price this is a good buy for a humane library. Major university libraries should buy it as a matter of course.

Kliman, Bernice W., and Paul Bertram, eds. *The Three-Text "Hamlet": Parallel Texts of the First and Second Quartos and First Folio*. 2d ed., rev. and enl. Introduction by Eric Rasmussen. New York: AMS Press, 2003. xxxvii, 267 pp. Paper, \$45.00. (ISBN 0-40462730-7)

It is somewhat surprising to be reminded that the first edition of this most useful aid for editors and scholarly readers of *Hamlet* appeared over ten years ago (in 1991), a period in which there has been an explosion of studies of the text of the play. Eric Rasmussen, a collaborator on the New Variorum edition of *Hamlet*, contributes a substantial and well-informed introduction, "The Texts of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and their Origins" (ix-xxiii) that alone justifies the acquisition of revised edition. The first edition established the utility of juxtaposing the three primary texts with which editors need to work — the 1604 first quarto, the 1605 second quarto, and the First Folio of 1623 — and the second edition supplies a laudably short list of "First Edition Errata and Second Thoughts: Corrections Incorporated in This Edition" (267) garnered from the observations of very close readers or from renewed scrutiny of the original texts. For the first time, Appendix 1 lists "Press Variants" (263-5) in copies of the two quarto editions, based on a fresh