McGill Law Library. The latter was established in the early 1840s, and represents one of the oldest intact law libraries in central Canada.

The authors have obviously taken great care in determining the pedigree of these sources, in examining them for annotations and other insertions, and in constructing the framework of topical categories and sub-categories within which they are presented. This framework is itself revealing of some of the contours of the culture. For example, the remarkable number of books under the sub-category 'Pleadings' suggests that the culture remained strongly oral (as opposed to textual) in orientation. Similarly, the extraordinary number of editions of, and commentaries on, the *Coutume de Paris* recorded under the sub-category 'French Surveys: Customary Law' is an indication of the enormous controlling power this source exerted over the local legal imagination. That control was not total, however, as the following wholly irreverent annotation reveals: 'I would not give a cent / for the time that I've spent / In reading the *Coutume de Paris* / O foolish concessions / Of time and 'Success' loaned / ...' (pp. 170-1). A third proportionate analogy of some interest is the significantly greater number of sources listed under the category 'Property' relative to those under the category 'Consensual Legal Relations' (i.e. contract). What this implies is that property, not contract, remained the dominant mode of social ordering throughout the period 1760-1890.

Taken together, the framework of categories and the marginalia will help to open up whole new perspectives on the infrastructure of nineteenth-century Quebec legal culture. The reader will also find the three essays which surround the sources – the first an overview of the province's socio-economic history, the second a survey of Quebec legal historiography, and the third a history of the McGill Law Library – of great assistance in contextualizing these otherwise distant sources.

DAVID HOWES

(David Howes is a member of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Concordia University.)

Patricia Lockhart Fleming. *Upper Canadian Imprints, 1801-1841: A Bibliography*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press in co-operation with the National Library of Canada and the Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Supply and Services Canada, 1988. xviii, 555 pp.; \$125.00 (cloth). ISBN 0-8020-2585-4; Supply and Services Canada Catalogue number: SN3-209-1 / 1988E.

This extraordinary work is arguably the most significant contribution to Canadian bibliography since Marie Tremaine's *A Bibliography of Canadian Imprints, 1751-1800* (1952). Indeed, Tremaine's classic is invoked in the title, the publisher's blurb, Marianne Scott's Foreword, and Patricia Fleming's own Introduction. If this association accomplishes little more than helping the uninitiated to discover Tremaine, then it is for the better. But Fleming's book stands on its own with authority and reserve as a fully developed descriptive bibliography based on the principles evolved by Greg and Bowers and refined by Gaskell and Tanselle.

The monumental quality and influence of Tremaine seem to cast an intimidating if alluring shadow that causes some initial confusion. Professor Fleming's decision to refer the reader to Tremaine for eighteenth-century Upper Canadian imprints and to begin her work with the year following Tremaine's cut-off date, while neat, is frustrating and questionable. The bibliography begins with the useful inclusion of descriptions and locations for four previously unlocated Tremaine items – two previously unrecorded broadsides that fall within Tremaine's period, and two known items not in Tremaine. This adds to the dilemma. Upper Canada, Ontario's earliest political incarnation, was created by Great Britain's Constitutional Act of 1791 which divided the Province of Quebec into Upper and Lower Canada, and it was terminated when Britain reunited them to form the Province of Canada early in 1841. This work would be a more complete and useful record of printing history if its dates coincided with those of Upper Canada. This would have meant the addition of probably fifty to sixty more imprints and the correcting of any of Tremaine's errors and omissions. This expansion also would have allowed for the inclusion of the work of Louis Roy, Upper Canada's first printer, who died in 1799, as well as other printers active prior to 1801.

In her Introduction Professor Fleming provides a short statement of the overall purpose of her rigorous, critical analysis:

The political, economic, and social events and attitudes which came together in Upper Canada in the first half of the nineteenth century have shaped this work both as bibliography and history. My choices about description, detail, and sources are intended to show the relationship of print and society in Upper Canada.

The principal section of Fleming's bibliography describes in meticulous detail over 1,600 books, pamphlets, government documents, broadsides and other ephemera printed in Upper Canada (with some overlap into the Province of Canada) from 1801 through 1841. The arrangement is alphabetical by main entry within each year. Items issued without dates are placed in the most likely or earliest possible year. With few exceptions, exclusions include maps and illustrations that were separately published as well as bank notes, labels, cards, invitations, tickets and printed forms. Three appendices complete the record: 'Newspapers' (arranged by place of publication) compiled separately by Elizabeth Hulse, author of *A Dictionary of Toronto Printers, Publishers, Booksellers..., 1798-1900* (1982); 'Journals' (arranged chronologically) and the tantalizing 'Imprints Not Located' (arranged by main entry), both the work of Professor Fleming. The work concludes with six excellent indexes that cover all the imprints: Names, Titles, Genre and Subject, Place of Publication, and Language. Newspapers are indexed by title, place and trades, and journals by title, subjects, trades, and place.

Each entry in the imprint and journal sequences includes the following: established main entry; quasi-facsimile title-page transcription; format; size; complete, detailed collation formula; contents note that accounts for every leaf put through the press; type of paper and method of manufacture including watermark

identification and distance between chain lines; notes regarding illustrations; identification of text and display types as well as size of type page and measurement of twenty lines of text; binding style including notes on colour and texture of wrappers, endpapers, and skins; historical, biographical, and bibliographical notes; a list of copies examined; and references to authorities. The degree of detail is formidable and concentrated; it is certainly sufficient to distinguish most variants, states, and issues. Professor Fleming's identification of type faces used is a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the printing shops of the period; more frequent citation to her sources for specific faces would have been useful. As might be expected, both because of the author's expertise as a binding historian and the nature of the book trade during this time, the copy specific notes on binding variants are lengthy and complex. At times one must read them more than once. The compiler examined thirteen copies of David Willson's *Letters to the Jews* (1835), offered for sale at 2s., with no fewer than eight contemporary binding variants noted. Four copies of Julia Beckwith's *St. Ursula's Convent, or the Nun of Canada ...* (1824) were examined. Professor Fleming muses that the Metro Toronto Library's copy of this first Canadian written and published novel 'bound lavishly but not with great finesse' in 'very dark green ... straight grain morocco' was the work of the author's husband, a Kingston bookbinder and stationer.

As with Tremaine, the more one uses this book the more it is appreciated and respected. Booksellers will undoubtedly add 'not in Fleming' and 'Fleming locates only two copies ...' to their lexicons, but the copies located in the over fifty locations searched do not constitute a census. Because of the rapid growth of the colonial book trade many omissions will be uncovered; over seventy-five are noted in the 'Imprints Not Located' appendix. One notes with particular interest when referring to the Rebellion years, Mackenzie's printing of Thomas Paine's *Common Sense ...* (1837) selling for 'five shillings per Doz....' Fleming notes: 'Mackenzie announced on 19 July 1837: "We have commenced the publication of an edition of twelve hundred copies of the far famed political publication *Common Sense*.... We have departed from our original design so far as to use large type...." He claimed that 600 copies were already purchased and paid for. "Copious extracts" were also published in the *Constitution* for several weeks. The elaborate rules framing the title-page appear again at the *British Colonist* office in 1839.' Similarly, a work by Daniel Defoe catches the eye: *The True Born Englishman, A Poetical Satyr* (1823). Fleming notes: 'Although no publisher or place is recorded on this work William Kingsford, citing precisely the title, edition statement, and pagination (but with 12° format), listed it as an early Ontario imprint. The paper, types, and dashes are consistent with Charles Fothergill imprints from the *Upper Canada Gazette* press, particularly Hawles on juries. Selection of this text, a satire of English opposition to William III because of his foreign birth, may be a comment on the alien question.'

Because of the important role of the newspaper office, Elizabeth Hulse's contribution of the newspaper appendix is a significant and valuable addition to this bibliography. Compiled according to her usual high standards, it documents 145 newspapers in at least thirty-two communities throughout the region. Each entry provides full title and variants, dates published, frequency, printer, publisher, editor, biblio-

graphical and historical notes, issues seen, and references. Professor Fleming examined fifteen journals including Rowsell's *Child's Bible Expositor* which continued to publish in 1842. Her notes regarding these elusive journals are extensive.

The indexes are revealing in themselves. The Language Index lists only two French items: Charles Taylor's *Remarques sur la culture et la préparation du chanvre* (1806), a French translation from the English; and *Règles et règlements permanents de L'Assemblée Législative du Canada* (1841) published after the union of Upper and Lower Canada. Aside from one Gaelic catechism the only other languages listed are German, Mohawk, and Ojibwa which share twenty-one titles among them. The Genre and Subject Index is useful in quickly judging the extent and popularity of particular topics. It divides the imprints and journals into 84 categories from Acts to the War of 1812. There were only three works of fiction published separately and six journals that published it. Election notices accounted for ninety items, while duels only generated four publications. As expected, canals, education, the Rebellion, and the War of 1812 were highly publicized. There is no separate heading for broadsides, although handbills, trade notices, and other heads may include them. The Trades Index lists bookbinders (3), illustrators, newspaper offices, printers, publishers, etc., and stereotypers. There are 312 entries under printers with Coates, Fothergill, Lawrence, Mackenzie, and Stanton being the most prolific.

Originally announced as a two volume set (*C.B.I.P.* 1988 lists it as such), this is a large (27.3 x 20.3 cm.) and sturdy book issued without a dust jacket. I am pleased to say it opens flat without a struggle. Handsomely designed by William Rueter with a striking typographic cover stamped in red and black, it is printed in two columns in Stemple Garamond. The text features black letter, pointing fingers, use of the long S, and other typographic refinements to enhance a descriptive bibliography of this quality. The format of the entries is well thought out and clearly arranged. Wider margins would have facilitated the annotations that users will surely want to make. The work cries out for illustrations; regrettably it is devoid of a single picture.

Patricia Fleming's *Upper Canadian Imprints* is a remarkable achievement that will make a lasting contribution to a wide variety of disciplines and interests. One's desire for more is a natural reaction to plenty. It suffers from the lack of a historical introduction, but this deficiency is not insurmountable. When used in conjunction with other standard texts for the period and the subject, it significantly adds to our knowledge. Fleming succeeds in putting books in our hands as well as telling us how, when, why, and by whom they were made. Professor Fleming has produced a wonderful piece of bibliographical scholarship, in addition to providing the groundwork and the playground that will foster and encourage further research.

DAVID B. KOTIN

(David B. Kotin is Manager of the History Department and the Baldwin Room of the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library and is an editor of *The Devil's Artisan*.)