artistic function in context: they are stylized disruptions of normal syntax designed to reflect disturbances internal to the speaker.

Vickers' book does have some limitations, chief among them a distressing overdependence on secondary sources at times when he could easily have gone to the original, a fact which his choice of parenthetical documentation can painfully point up. This dependence on things secondhand shows up in his apparently total reliance on translations of the Latin and Italian originals that he does use (though I confess a preference for his use of quotations in English to the assumption that every reader is at ease in four languages). In his defense it must be said that Vickers seems to conceive of his main task as being that of synthesizing the work that modern scholarship has already done, and that as a synthesizer he is a judicious one (see, for example, his attempt to reevaluate and moderate the claims for Ramus and his influence in rhetorical and intellectual history).

The book's larger limitations are in thoroughness of treatment and, at times, even in scope of knowledge. These are limitations that Vickers is himself aware of. "I am conscious that much more needs to be said about rhetoric in the Middle Ages and in the eighteenth century. Perhaps my inadequacies will provoke others to fill the gaps" (p. 11). Some variant of this statement occurs at least a half dozen times in the course of the study, and it gives the book an odd quality, rather that of a work-in-progress, its author apparently conceiving of part of his duty as pointing the way for future studies, delineating the gaps and the weaknesses in present scholarship, calling attention to the pitfalls and wrong turns. In itself this is not an unadmirable task, but meanwhile, while waiting for others to follow the indicated paths, this work is a good start in the right direction. The scholar already familiar with current studies of rhetoric will still find the book a convenient addition to his library; the student looking for easy access to the field will find it a valuable tool indeed.

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James M. Osborn. *Young Philip Sidney: 1572-1577*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1972. Pp. xxiv, 565. \$25.

The windfall of seventy-six unpublished letters from 1573 to 1576 gave James Osborn the opportunity, in a partial biography of Sidney, to detail the actions, friends, and thoughts of the young man during these formative years. In addition, twenty-four letters hitherto unpublished strengthened the impetus to tell the story of this part of Sidney's life. Many backgrounds and occupations are covered by Sidney's correspondents of that time, among them two young sons of Admiral Coligny, survivors of their father in the St. Bartholomew's massacre; Wolfgang Zündelin, almost a syndicated newsgatherer residing in Venice; Jean Lobbet, a professor of law in Strasbourg; Andreas Paull, an adviser of the elector of Saxony; Cesare Carrafa, an Italian Catholic poet; Théophile de Banos, a Huguenot minister in Frankfurt; the Bohemian Baron Slavata, a sometime student in Padua, sometime freeloading traveler in England; Charles de l'Ecluse, the eminent botanist; Jean de Vulcob, the French ambassador to Vienna. Many of these were the friends and intellectual allies of Hubert Languet, who eagerly opened all doors for the impressive youth Philip Sidney

whom he first met in Paris in 1572. What Mr. Osborn tells is the story of Sidney's *Bildungsreise* of 1572-75 and its short-term consequences.

In addition to passages from letters old and new, Osborn prints "Certain notes concerning the present state of the Prince of Orange, and the provinces of Holland and Zeeland, as they were in the month of May 1577." This was printed by Kervyn de Lettenhove in 1890, but is only here brought to attention as part of Sidney's *oeuvre*. Osborn also prints for the first time the instructions for Sidney's embassy to the imperial court in 1577. Finally, a long letter to Edward Denny from 1580 is included. Denny on going into Ireland asked for Sidney's "minde of the directinge of [his] studyes." The valuable letter is Sidney's advice on what the young man of thirty-three should read.

When Sidney began his continental tour, he was fortunately discovered by Languet and chosen for his protégé, thus gaining access to the learned and diplomatic world of Paris, Strasbourg, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Vienna, Venice, and Padua – to name just the cities where Sidney stayed. His tour would have been incomparably poorer without Languet's active influence. With the wealth of new letters, Mr. Osborn wisely chose to tell this story at length, beginning his comprehensive narrative with the Paris of 1572 which was preparing for the wedding of the King of Navarre and Marguerite of Valois. The full account ends with Sidney's embassy to the imperial court in Prague. Sidney's life before 1572 and after 1577 is merely sketched in.

The story of these five years covers almost five hundred pages and is accordingly rewarding for the student of Sidney. This same exhaustiveness, however, makes it a specialist's book, for much of the recovered correspondence (which is by no means printed in full) occurred simply for the exchange of news. Personal details are disproportionately few. The collection, known to be at Penshurst until the mid-eighteenth century but misplaced after that, serves to validate the assertion of Greville and others that Sidney was known and respected by learned and important men abroad, with whom he corresponded. Languet and his friends were eminent but never powerful themselves, were at most advisers to the powerful. In Sidney they saw the opportunity to translate their dreams into reality. Sidney, they thought, had the rank, ability and virtue to carry their counsels into execution. But Sidney never made it into the inner circle of men who ruled his country. His role at home, as conceived by the Queen, was distinctly minor. Only the accident of a dramatic death on a battlefield abroad gave Sidney the brief attention of kings. After only a dozen years which saw the publication of Sidney's romance, poems and criticism, the political Sidney was forever submerged in the poet.

Several small errors may be noted. Sir Henry Sidney was installed K.G. in May 1564 (cf. Wallace, pp. 22-23), not May 1565 (Osborn, p. 4). Thomas Moffett was physician to the Earl of Essex (cf. Moffett, *Nobilis*, p. xv), not to Walsingham (Osborn, p. 21). Languet was born in 1518, not 1528 (p. 47). Thomas Coningsby, Sidney's companion in Vienna in 1573, was not Sidney's first cousin, son of Philippa Sidney Coningsby (p. 75); he was later to marry Philippa FitzWilliam, who was Sidney's first cousin, daughter of Anne Sidney FitzWilliam.

Mr. Osborn misquotes Sidney's description of himself on his embassy of 1577. He was not "*Proregis Hibernici filius*" (p. 454), but carried "*Pro-regis Hiberniae filii*" (among other things) under his coat of arms (cf. Collins, p. 100). Daniel Rogers did not accompany Sidney across the Channel (cf. pp. 452-453). He arrived in Louvain in the middle of

the day that the English ambassador Thomas Wilson, taking Sidney with him, had congratulated Don John on the recent peace between Spain and its Low Country subjects. Rogers' arrival with new instructions – to protest the favour which English recusant rebels found in Don John's court – made Wilson seek a second interview on the same day. Dr. Wilson, not Sidney (as Osborn states on p. 454), spoke frankly to Don John and received fair answers in return. (The sequence is clear from the sources printed in Lettenhove's volume IX of *Relations politiques des Pays-Bas et de l'Angleterre*).

Sidney's companion in 1577 who "is a very near relation of mine" (p. 462) can be identified. He is Fulke Greville. On April 8 in Prague, Sidney wrote to l'Ecluse in Vienna that he would not personally be able to see him on this occasion, but he sent a letter of introduction with the unnamed gentleman: "... since he has a great desire to see your beautiful city of Vienna, I gave these few words to take with him ..." (Osborn's translation). On April 12, l'Ecluse, using Sidney's own words, wrote to Joachim Camerarius the younger "... ad nos venit Generosus Adolescens Dominus Fulko Grivel, Illustris Legati Anglici Domini Philippi Sidnei consanguineus, urbis videndae causa, qui per dispositos equos, ut venerat, Pragam revertitur" (printed in J. A. van Dorsten, *Poets, Patrons, and Professors*, p. 51).

Robert Sidney did not begin his foreign travels with Languet and Count Casimir on their return to Antwerp from London in February 1579. Correspondence between Sir Henry Sidney in London and Robert in Strasbourg from September, October, and November 1578 is printed (or alluded to in letters) in Collins. One of Philip Sidney's famous letters of advice to Robert on how to travel is endorsed as having been received on June 21, 1578 (Feuillerat 3: 336-337).

Philip's wife Frances was not pregnant when she joined him in the Netherlands in June 1586 (p. 514). Philip had been away from England for seven months and Frances was expecting when Sidney died four months after she arrived. The unborn child is included in Philip's will. Conyers Read (*Walsingham* 3: 424) quotes Leicester to Walsingham on the exhausted pregnant widow. Frances returned to England, and on December 24, no more than six months after she had joined Philip, Walsingham her father wrote to Leicester: "I thank my God for it I am now in good hope of the recovery of both my daughter and her child." His language implies that the child has been born and is out of danger, but this is impossible less than six months from conception. If Walsingham meant that he hoped Frances' health were recovered enough to bring the baby to a safe term, his hopes were again in vain, for the child did not survive. These lapses hardly detract from the work as a whole.

Mr. Osborn presents an excellent picture of Sidney which Languet and his friends would recognize. In contrast, the Sidney of legend, the shepherd knight, the author of *Arcadia* and *Astrophel and Stella*, and the dramatized Sidney of Zutphen and Arnhem are a Sidney they never knew. Their Sidney is the charming, extremely sensitive aristocrat, a highborn youth whose mind, judgment and virtue destined him for the greatest sway in European affairs. The thoroughness of this picture is the chief accomplishment of Mr. Osborn's biography.

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