

Reviews

Dickstein-Bernard, Claire. *Le livre de la Confrérie de Saint-Jacques d'Overmolen à Bruxelles (1357-1419)*. Fontes Bruxellae, 1. Bruxelles: Archives de la ville de Bruxelles / Archief van de stad Brussel, 2005. Pp. xxxix, 186 + ill. ISBN 2-9600373-2-4 (paperback) n.p.

In the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries the Brussels confraternity of Saint-Jacques d'Overmolen founded and managed an eponymous hospital for the shelter of poor pilgrims.

The confraternity's most striking surviving legacy is a register, written in Flemish, of 2,365 members from 1357 to 1419. In 55% of cases the list includes the member's occupation, thereby providing us with a remarkable list of trades and offices in the period. This handsome publication is dedicated to making the register more accessible and useful to scholars. It provides a complete transcription, including marginal notes and marks, and a reference number for each entry. The list was written in alphabetical order by first name (blank pages were originally included in the manuscript where new members could be added), so the appendices include an index of surnames, as well as a list of modern French translations of the Flemish first names.

The richest potential for research in this document lies in the list of occupations. To make it accessible to a wider number of researchers, the editor has provided a list of French translations for each of these terms, as well as an index of where each trade can be found in the register.

A brief introduction outlines what little is known from other sources about the foundation, structure, and history of the confraternity and its hospital, outlines the method used in the transcription, and points to some of the potential uses of this material in historical scholarship.

DYLAN REID

CENTRE FOR REFORMATION AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Lennon, Colm (ed.) *Confraternities and Sodalities in Ireland. Charity, Devotion and Sociability*. Blackrock, Ireland: The Columba Press / Dufour Editions, 2012. Pp. 216 + 25 ill. ISBN 978-1-85607-792-7 (paperback) \$26.95.

The ten essays in this collection are the product of a major research project on confraternities in Ireland undertaken in 2005–08 by Colm Lennon with funds from the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, and a conference held in September 2007 at the National University of Ireland in Maynooth on the theme “Honouring God and Community: Confraternities and Sodalities in Modern Ireland” (see the report on the conference published