

placing of returned servicemen on the land, and so on. Students of many different topics relating to the settlement of the land in New Zealand will find material and discussion of great value in this book.

Another attractive feature of *Horowhenua County* is what might be called its multi-media approach. The author imaginatively intersperses within the text and between chapters photographs, extracts from newspapers, poetry, plans, and maps. The photographic sections are particularly good, with useful captions. In the text, diaries and other records left by settlers are freely and sensitively used. All in all, this is a local history of superior quality, and it is to be hoped that it attracts a readership wider than that of people particularly interested in the Horowhenua district.

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*Victoria's Furthest Daughters: A Bibliography of Published Sources for the Study of Women in New Zealand.* By Patricia Sargison. Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust with the New Zealand Founders Society, Wellington, 1984. N.Z. price: \$10.00.

WITHOUT bibliographical guides the historian's task is far more daunting. A good bibliography can save the researcher valuable time and, if of the best, can bring to light new source material to stimulate research. Patricia Sargison's bibliography of published sources for the study of women in New Zealand, 1830-1914, should succeed on both counts. The author has limited her claims to comprehensiveness to sections 4, 5, and 6 ('The Voyage Out', 'The New Land: Diaries, Journals, and Reminiscences of Pioneer Women', and 'Secondary Accounts of Pioneer Women'). The bibliography is, then, a beginning, and Patricia Sargison requests that any further items readers note should be brought to her attention for a possible supplement.

The bibliography is divided into 12 sections according to subject matter such as 'Emigrants' Handbooks' and 'Women and Employment' and each of these is further broken down by useful subheadings. Section 10, for example, on 'Women in Public Life' is subdivided under the headings of 'General', 'Temperance and Prohibition', 'Suffrage' and 'Women's Organisations'. Not surprisingly, it is this area which has received the most attention from academic historians. But as the listings on theses in progress suggest (the author might perhaps have checked these entries with the relevant university as some are out of date) important new work is being undertaken on less readily accessible materials such as Anna Gibbons's on 'The Voyage to New Zealand, 1840-1870' and Charlotte Macdonald's on 'The Migration of Women to New Zealand, 1853-1872'.

The female dependency suggested by the title *Victoria's Furthest Daughters* is belied by the vitality and indomitable spirit of many of the women mentioned in the volume. Women's activities as missionaries, novelists, alpinists and social reformers, to name a few, are suggestive of immense energy. The great personal courage of Ahumai Te Paerata during the battle of Orakau in 1864 receives individual recogni-

tion in James Cowan's *Hero Stories of New Zealand* (item 49). Her remarkable story has made her one of the few Maori women that historians have noted, hence the disturbing brevity of the section on 'Tangata Whenua: Maori Women'.

Pakeha women have fared better in the historical record though often it is the privileged such as Lady Barker who have left observations in print. Perhaps Susan McKearney's *Just me: the life story of a nobody* (item 137) offers some insights into everyday domestic life. It is by supplementing published material like this with work in archival and manuscript sources that we will be able to put women's lives in a wider social context. A guide to such material would be an invaluable supplement to *Victoria's Furthest Daughters*.

The publication of the bibliography is timely, with many groups around the country engaged in the search for women for the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. It has already been of great use to local committees and will be an indispensable tool for others interested in the history of New Zealand women. The ease of locating material within the bibliography is assisted by indexes to authors, titles and biographical subjects. Taken as a whole, the volume reminds us that there is much to be done, and many gaps to be filled. Indeed, the very fact that women have contributed to the enrichment of our past has often been overlooked by men. It has been left to women to record their own stories, as the author index to *Victoria's Furthest Daughters* makes abundantly clear.

With this publication the subject of 'women' is brought decisively to our attention. But it is important to remember the wide spectrum of experience, shaped by class and ethnicity as well, within New Zealand's past. If we know little of the experiences of Maori women, how much less do we know of the lives of the 50 Chinese women whose presence in New Zealand in 1907 made one Member of Parliament claim it was 'imperative' to control Chinese immigration (See Ng Bickleen Fong (1959) *The Chinese in New Zealand: A Study in Assimilation*, p.26). Research on women demands new and imaginative approaches to source materials. *Victoria's Furthest Daughters* suggests some skeletal outlines — it is up to historians to flesh them out.

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*Glimpses into Early Manawatu: the Saga of Amos and Lydia Burr.* By Vera L. McLennan-Boman. Heritage Press, Waikanae, on behalf of the author, 1985. 222 pp. N.Z. price: \$29.95.

AMOS BURR was an eighteen year old seaman on the New Zealand Company's survey ship *Cuba* when she entered Port Nicholson in January 1840. When the emigrant fleet arrived a little later Burr did his duty with the signal gun by firing a salute. A shot misfired. As he attempted to withdraw the charge it exploded, flinging him into the water with both arms shattered beyond repair; yet he recovered and lived to the age of 85 wearing wooden stumps fitted with hooks, eating tools and other implements. In 1855 he married the attractive and capable Lydia Hoskins, whose father