

which provides a more in-depth discussion of some of the translation issues, thorough background information and more resources. Sometimes the emphasis is on source text comprehension and sometimes on target text production. Punctuation is also dealt with, stressing the importance of correct punctuation for comprehension.

Chapters close with a third text, for which a sample translation is offered at the end of the book. In the concluding pages there is a list of grammatical terms and a section on useful resources for problems that the authors have not covered - grammars, reference works on translation and online translation resources. Finally, an index that includes the various topics dealt with and the different points of language and grammar makes for easy reference.

To sum up, *Dutch Translation in Practice* is a really excellent, comprehensive and useful textbook that teaches the development of translation strategies to guide decision making during translation and offers a wealth of resources for reference. If readers apply the advice and use the information contained in it, they are certain to achieve what the authors regard as the goal of translation: to produce texts in English that function effectively for the purpose for which they are required. A must-buy for (aspiring) Dutch-English translators. Beware though, a quick look at online vendors reveals that prices vary hugely from very expensive to very reasonable, so be sure to look at a variety of different sites. Some sites also offer an electronic version, which makes searching for information very easy.

LINDSAY EDWARDS

Jane Fenoulhet & Alison E. Martin, *Dutch Translation in Practice*, Routledge, Oxford, 2015.

Dutch and Other Languages in Seventeenth-Century Britain and the Dutch Republic

Two Monographs by Christopher Joby

What we have before us here are two substantial scholarly monographs by one British academic, both focussing on the history of Dutch in contact with other languages, in the Dutch Republic of course, but especially also in early modern Britain. Both adopt the cultural-historical perspective on European multilingualism as developed in Peter Burke's seminal contributions, and combine this with Peter Trudgill's approach to historical, socio- and contact linguistics. And both remind us how near England has always been, in close contact and competition with the Low Countries. Just two days'



sailing across the North Sea, it was for centuries the Protestant ally of the Dutch in Europe, though often also a fierce rival in politics, in enterprise, trade and commerce.

The first of Christopher Joby's books presents a historical case study of the multilingualism of Sir Constantijn Huygens (1596-1687), whose wonderful portrait by Thomas de Keyser (now in the National Gallery in London) graces its cover. Dutch statesman and man of letters, servant to the House of Orange and Renaissance humanist scholar, Huygens's contribution to Anglo-Dutch relations during the Golden Age was handled in 1962 by Professor Fred Bachrach CBE (with a second volume edited in 2013, by Evelien Bachrach and Ad Leerintveld). Joby, therefore, can concentrate fully on this 'truly remarkable early modern polyglot', who wrote poetry and letters playing in and with the eight languages he mastered - Dutch, French, Latin, Greek, Italian, Spanish, English and German (plus a little Hebrew and Portuguese).

Language and languages take centre stage here, in seven detailed and attractive chapters on Huygens's multidimensional multilingualism - successively, on his acquisition of those languages; on the keen ear he developed for different languages, dialects and their uses; on the use of language(s) in his vast official and private correspondence, in thousands of his poems, in his translations, in his comedies and in language play; on his use of Dutch, alongside Latin, French and also Italian, in writings about music, science and architecture; on the way in which he presented himself through all these languages - sometimes mixing them up, sometimes shifting back and forth between them - as a learned and playful Erasmian humanist; and on the education, including language learning, of his children.

Joby's second book, with a portrait of William and Mary on its cover, goes far beyond the elite multilingualism of high-ranking individuals such as Huygens. Instead, it makes a formidable contribution to the historical sociolinguistics of English-Dutch language contact in early modern Britain, by

focussing on the use of Dutch in a range of societal domains.

The period studied by Joby in this social history of language is the long Golden Age, beginning with the establishment in 1550 of the first Protestant Dutch Church, in Austin Friars in the City of London (still functioning today), and ends with the death in 1702 of the Stadholder-King William III, the first (and last) to unite the two countries under one ruler. This was indeed a very significant period, even though there have been other waves of Dutch-Flemish immigration which merit further investigation, both before 1550 (the Flemings who under William the Conqueror came to settle in the land of Madoc in southern Wales) and after 1702 (with the wars of Napoleon, and later the First and Second World Wars).

For documentary evidence on the British language situation during the seventeenth century, Joby's book extends well beyond what we know from the many Dutch loanwords in English. What he presents here - for the first time - is a huge collection of primary sources and archival documentation concerning the localities, communities and domains where, and the purposes for which, Dutch was used, in letters, wills and many other forms of communication. On this basis Joby demonstrates how the Dutch language - or rather, the various 'Dutches' concerned - had a very substantial presence in early modern Britain, across not just England but also in Scotland and Wales, where the language was used in everyday contact and competition with English, French and Latin, in many different social domains - in the church, in education and learning; in immigrant communities and their government; in domestic matters and the world of work, crafts and commerce; in court culture, literature and translation; as well as in diplomacy, military and naval matters.

Joby's two books make a major contribution to research into the social, linguistic and cultural historical dimensions of early modern multilingualism. As his findings demonstrate, there is a clear need for rewriting the standard histories of early



Literature

Émile Verhaeren

The Only National Poet Belgium Has Ever Had

If someone were to be nominated as the greatest Belgian of all time, it would surely have to be Émile Verhaeren (1855-1916). He was a man who wrote in French but who was regarded as a Fleming; and who died in the First World War as a staunch defender of gallant little Belgium. A poet with his boots on, fighting for the cause, indefatigably mounting the barricades for his fatherland; last bastion of civilisation in the face of the Teutonic barbarians; falling to his death under the wheels of a train at Rouen station in France, uttering the perfectly cast last words: 'Je meurs...ma femme... ma patrie' ('I am dying...my wife...my homeland').

In these famous last words, which are almost certainly apocryphal, Verhaeren's love for his wife, for whom he had created the monument *Les Heures claires* in 1896, goes hand in hand with his love for his homeland. They are appropriate words for a 'symbolic' death: a man who sang the praises of the leviathans of the New Age was crushed to death by one of those very machines. There can surely be no doubt, then, that this was the greatest Belgian of all time. Except that Verhaeren's name did not even appear on the 'Flemish' list of 111 nominees a few years ago in the quest for the greatest Belgian. And on the list of French-speaking Belgians, his name languished in a very modest 67th place.

Flemings who write in the French language fall between two stools today: too Flemish to be French-speakers and excluded by those who believe that 'the language is the nation'. It is unlikely that Verhaeren ever knew the Dutch language. Some remnants of the Flemish from his childhood may possibly have remained, the language spoken with other boys in the streets of his childhood village of Sint-Amands on the River Scheldt, and at village fairs; but there will not have been much of it, and the Jesuit priests at the Sint-Barbaracollege school in Ghent will have done a thorough job of eradicating what little there was. At the same time, Verhaeren's French was regarded in Paris as ex-

modern Dutch, and also of the English language, where the contribution from Dutch - amongst other languages with a significant influence on English - has been seriously underrated.

Both books come with an exemplary scholarly apparatus of references, notes, bibliography, and index. Both also contain uncommon illustrations regarding their subjects - maps, letters, paintings, poems, manuscripts, the Dutch house on Canvey Island, the Dutch Church in London and Huygens's Dutch translations of John Donne. And both were published within a few months of each other, in prestigious book series, by two of the most reputable academic publishers in the Netherlands.

Not many researchers can pull off such an impressive double act. But Christopher Joby, who is Assistant Professor in the Department of Dutch at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea, just went and did it.

We owe him a great debt of gratitude for these two new and fascinating standard works.

REINIER SALVERDA

Christopher Joby, *The Multilingualism of Constantijn Huygens (1596-1687)*, Amsterdam Studies in the Dutch Golden Age, Amsterdam University Press, 2014, 350 pp.

Christopher Joby, *The Dutch Language in Britain (1550-1702). A Social History of the Use of Dutch in Early Modern Britain*, Brill's Studies in Language, Cognition and Culture, vol. 10, Brill, Leiden, 2015, 451 pp.