
II. Bibliography


See also Holmberg-Janzén, den Hoed and SMIL, under General, Jansson under Runology, and Sahlgren under Place-Names.

LITERATURE

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I. Surveys and Works of General Interest

Under the general editorship of Professors C. I. Stähle and E. N. Tigerstedt a new anthology, Sveriges Litteratur (ScUB, Svenska Bokförlaget) is under way. So far three vols have appeared, vols III, Frihetsstidens Litt., ed. by L. Breitholtz; IV, Gustaviansk Litt., ed. by A. E. Sjöding, and V, Sengustaviansk klassicism och begynnande romantik, ed. by Tigerstedt, and vols I and II are under preparation. The work is to replace the old anthology ed. by Schück, etc., which has long been out of print. It is more utilitarian in appearance: most pages are laid out in two columns; gone are the introductions to each vol. and the gracious vignettes. But this anthology gains enormously in other respects. The selections are both representative and characteristic; we are always told from which eds the extracts have been taken; the original spelling and old forms are faithfully reproduced; good explanatory footnotes (in vol. III even a short glossary) are provided; and there is no division between prose and verse of the same period—even with the same author—that occasionally made Schück’s anthology
irritating. The eds warn us in a prefatory note that ‘because of the abundance of material the following vols will to some extent have to take on a different character’. If they maintain the present standard this will prove an admirable substitute for Schück’s dated ed. Olle Holmberg’s *Skratt och allvar i svensk litteratur*, Bokförlaget Aldus, 242 pp., contains 23 essays ranging from the 17th c. to the present day. Most of them have appeared elsewhere before, but these have been revised and brought up to date. Some of the items—the ones on the child’s prayer ‘Gud som haver’ and on playing charades at the time of Kellgren’s ‘Dumboms leverne’ for instance—are mere soufflés. Others are much more substantial. ‘Några ord till hennes kära guddotter’ contains nine letters (found by Holmberg in the Brinkman archives) from Fru Lenn gren to her niece L. M. Malmsted, written between 1788 and 1813. ‘Erik Lindorm ung och i fångelse’ and ‘Brev från Stina Aranson’ also contain revealing letters by these two authors. In all three cases the letters are linked together by Holmberg’s enlightening, often witty, biographical commentary. Especially important is ‘Frans G. Bengtsson i Lund’, a sensitive study of Holmberg’s personal friend, at once affectionate and critical.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Svensk litteraturhistorisk bibliografi in *Saml*, lxxxiv, is for 1961. Compiled by Gunilla Bergsten. *Sca*, ii, lists contributions made in 1962 to Scandinavian studies in other periodicals. The ‘Review of Reviews’ is to be a regular feature of this new periodical.

2. **From the Renaissance to the Gustavian Age**

*Spegel*. In his thesis, *Spegels Guds Werk och Hvila*, Natur och Kultur, 506 pp., B. Olsson reinstates a work which has suffered many vicissitudes. He divides his study into three parts. Part i investigates the identity of the author and proves as conclusively as seems possible that the poem is indeed by Spegel. O. discusses the date of writing and the literary tradition against which the work must be considered. The poem is a paraphrase of Du Bartas’s *La Premiere Sepmaine* but careful study of the MSS. shows that S. did not turn to the original until his poem was half completed. Instead he used Heyns’s Dutch translation *Bartassi Wercken* and a