

likely to have been of concern in the Oxyrhynchus documents. **3640**: for rope-making as a "staple" monastic "industry," cf., e.g., D. J. Chitty, *The Desert a City* (Crestwood, NY, 1966) 3, 31. **3641.6 n.**: for sons following in their fathers' trades, cf., from the Byzantine papyri, *P. Grenf.* II 87 (purple-dyers), *P. Oxy.* XVI 1890 (bakers/millers), *P. Hamb.* 23 and *BGU* I 308 (vinedressers), *P. Cair. Masp.* III 67296 (beekeepers). **3643**: this second-century letter of recommendation, with its stress on the close friendship of the commended party's uncle, an Epicurean philosopher, calls to mind the Epicurean teaching and practice of self-interested friendship, e.g., N. W. De Witt, *Epicurus and His Philosophy* (Minneapolis 1954) 101-05, 190-91, 307-10, even if not, strictly, at issue in the papyrus.

This is, in short, a rich volume, a distinguished addition to a distinguished series.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

JAMES G. KEENAN

*SYMPOSION 1977*. Vorträge zur griechischen und hellenistischen Rechtsgeschichte (Chantilly, 1.-4. Juni 1977). Herausgegeben von Joseph Modrzejewski und Detlef Lieb. (Akten der Gesellschaft für griechische und hellenistische Rechtsgeschichte, Bd. 3.)

This collection of twenty-six papers is dedicated to Hans Julius Wolff. Many of them, written by his students and colleagues, were inspired by Wolff's works, and either confirm or challenge some of his theses. While every paper presented in *Symposion 1977* shows scholarship *in statu nascendi*, all of them together offer a survey of legal thought from pre-classical Greek to early Byzantine times. They also give a full insight into the workshop of an historian of law, with its most striking features: an increasing ability to extract new information from sources exploited for centuries, and the numerous methodological difficulties.

These difficulties begin with the task of translation. In particular, studies of Cyprian sources, written in an ambiguous syllabic script, permit only hypothetical conclusions because of the uncertainty of their translations. H. B. Rosén, in his "Questions d'interprétation de textes juridiques grecs de la plus ancienne époque: La contribution de la philologie à la compréhension juridique," shows "à quel point le savant juriste dépend du philologue qui doit lui fournir les moyens de comprendre les textes de manière plausible, avant qu'il puisse de son côté en aborder