

The translation unfortunately, is less admirable. The authors content themselves with a very brief, and totally inadequate, introduction which baldly states that the translation is “free rather than verbatim” without any further explanation. The illustrations are deplorable, something of a cross between Asterix the Gaul and Noggin the Nog, horned helmets and all. Several of the tables seem pointless, for example the ‘genealogical table of Thorgrim the Evil’ contains precisely three names, Thorgrim and his two sons.

The freedom of the translation comes across in a sentence like ‘lizt Rafni fagrt silfrit’, literally ‘the silver shines bright to Urafn’, which becomes ‘Rafn liked the silver’. Here and in other places, one suspects that in using Carl Rafn’s 1832 edition of the saga, the translators’ eyes have occasionally strayed towards the ‘Faeroisk og Dansk Oversaettelse’. Translations are like Thrand’s creeds “there are many and they do not need to be identical in order to be right”, but the translator has an obligation to his text.

Ted Cowan.

NOTES

‘CHRONICLE OF MANN’

George Broderick and Brian Stowell have produced an edition of the *Chronicle of Mann*. They reproduce the Latin text together with an English translation and a translation into Manx Gaelic. The volume costs £3.75 and will be followed by a historical commentary on the chronicle. The same team has produced a Manx Gaelic map of the Isle of Mann and they are working on a long playing record of Manx traditional songs sung by Brian Stowell. Further information on any of the above projects can be obtained from George Broderick, ‘St Judes’, 25 Granby Road, Edinburgh EH16 5NP.

LAND TRANSPORT IN EUROPE : (eds) A Fenton, J Podolak and H Rasmussen. (Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen 1973)

The fourth in a series of volumes in folklife studies published by the National Museum of Denmark, *Land Transport in Europe* is dedicated to Béla Gunda, Head of the Ethnological Institute of the Lajos Kossuth University of Science, in Debrecen, Hungary.

Contributions range widely – North Asia and Russia, Central and Western Europe, the Baltic countries and the Scandinavian countries. Particular papers relate to Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Lappland and Scotland.

The material covers the three main modes of land transport – directly by human beings whether about their person, or in hand-operated barrows, sledges etc.; transport on the backs of horses and other animals; and transport in carts, wagons and sledges. Equipment, terminology and techniques are all examined in turn, in what is claimed to be one of the fundamental subjects of ethnology.