

## Ma Re Vous Avez La Parole

The first complete edition of Elizabeth Stuart's letters ever published. Volume I covers the years between 1603 and 1631: Elizabeth's life as princess and consort, charting her transformation from political ingenue to independent stateswoman.

This book prints for the first time two remarkable interlocking sequences of letters between Paris and the Netherlands: 40 letters from Gilles Ménage in Paris to Johann-Georg Grævius in Utrecht, and 30 from the printer Henrik Wetstein, in Amsterdam, to Ménage. Their principal focus is the publication of a considerable number of Ménage's works outside France, above all his monumental edition of Diogenes Laertius's *Lives of the Philosophers*. The letters give an engaging picture of mutual help within the community of scholars, Dutch, German, English, and French, including Huguenot exiles like Le Clerc and Bayle. Ménage's are full of information from Paris; while Wetstein's, forthright and humorous, concentrate on publishing details in a sometimes stormy relationship. The great Diogenes edition encountered an extraordinary range of problems: difficulties at every stage of publication, hazardous wartime communications, and, not least, a bizarrely eccentric collaborator in Marcus Meibomius. The two correspondences provide a fascinating case-study of the practical working of international scholarly

publishing in time of war, and the European network of learned correspondence in the later seventeenth century. Each letter is printed in full, accompanied by a summary, detailed commentary, and extensive annotations.

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This book, which is in French, derives from a detailed empirical study of the Komo, a population of some 60,000 hunter-gatherers in Zaire. Dr de Mahieu builds a new theory of ritual practice on to his description and analysis of circumcision rituals among the Komo, and draws important comparisons between the significance of these rituals to the actual participants and to wider Komo society and beliefs.

Rai lu et relu {laquo}Rodolphe Bresdim. C'est un beau livre, obscurs-la question des reports sur pierre des eaux et qui aura grand succ~s. On ne le refera plus; on sera fortes, celle de la metamorphose de plusieurs cuivres, oblige de toujours s'y referer. C'est serieux, precis, in celle de la premiere litho de l'artiste, catalogue 82 telligent. (Neumann n6, complete par une piece de l'ancienne Un des grands interets du livre est une chronologie collection Bonger). Il etait bien place pour le faire, serieuse, et tres sou vent nouvelle, des gravures et etant lui-meme graveur. lith os (l'auteur a eu raison de ne pas les separer dans Il tient a ce qu'on n'oublie pas que, comme son son catalogue). Van Gelder croit-et sans doute les frere aine, l'historien de l'art J.G. van Gelder, il a eu lecteurs avec lui-avoir resolu les problemes si deli pour modele son pere, grand historien, fondateur du cats du classement anterieur a 1854; apres 1854, les hesi Musee municipal de La Haye. tations etaient moins nombreuses, mais Van Gelder On a donc ici, redisons-le, un beau travail,

serieux, montre qu'on ne peut se fier complètement aux indi honnete, representant plus de dix ans de la vie de son cations confuses de Bresdin lui-meme. auteur, intelligent et particulierement bien informe. Within the United States of America, French is of importance in only two areas, Louisiana and New England, the latter often being referred to as the Québec d'en bas for its high number of French-Canadian immigrants. Among the six states that constitute New England, Massachusetts is the one that attracted most of them, Québécois as well as Acadiens. Despite the high number of citizens of French-Canadian origin and the proximity to Canada, French has been losing ground as a langue du foyer in all of New England but especially in the southern part. This sociolinguistic study concentrates on the process of language decay among the French-Canadian population of Massachusetts. Based on a corpus consisting of 87 qualitative interviews and a quantitative questionnaire survey of 392 questionnaires in 7 areas (covering the centers of French-Canadian immigration throughout Massachusetts), this study approaches the topic in a new, broader angle by encompassing the following aspects: an analysis of U.S. Census data on ancestry and language use, an overview of the history of French-Canadian presence in Massachusetts, various specificities of the varieties of Canadian French spoken there, as well as an analysis of the

