

shame that the collection does not include a discussion of *The triumph of the eucharist* enamel commissioned by Cardinal Charles de Lorraine that is now part of the Frick collection in New York. Other than Robert Sturges's discussion of Henri I's pursuit of a heavenly Jerusalem during the wars of religion, the religious reputation of the Guise is not particularly well represented in the collection. This is perhaps a deliberate decision on the part of the volume's editors who wanted to offer another facet of the Guise than the one that they are most commonly associated with, namely their alleged fanaticism, but is strange, given their legacy. The volume should be praised for its ambition and scope: to discuss the fortunes of one of Europe's most powerful and prestigious aristocratic families from the point of view of different disciplines over two centuries. *The Guise in Europe* is a valuable addition to the historiography surrounding the Guise and offers insights into their legacy that have been neglected until now.

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

LUC RACAUT

*La Ligue et ses frontières. Engagements catholiques à distance du radicalism à la fin des Guerres de religion.* Edited by Sylvie Daubresse and Bertrand Haan. (Histoire.)

Pp. 258 + 2 tables. Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2015. €18 (paper). 978 2 7535 4124 5

*JEH* (67) 2016; doi:10.1017/S0022046916000853

In 1589 the Protestant Henri of Navarre – the future Henri IV – acceded to the throne of France, causing a profound political and religious crisis for Catholics in the kingdom. Contemporaries and many later historians have tended to cast this crisis as a struggle between *politiques* – who remained loyal to the monarchy and its new king ahead of religious concerns – and supporters of the Catholic League – who privileged religious considerations over others by asserting that only a Catholic could rule France. While one can find figures who fit comfortably into these two camps, this simple dichotomy between *politiques* and Leaguers masks a far more complex situation where Catholics, for a variety of reasons, maintained alternative positions. The interactions of Catholics with the League were shaped by religious concerns, but also by personal considerations, local and corporate loyalties and the shifting political and religious landscape in France – especially Henri IV's abjuration of the Protestant faith and the assassination of the Guise brothers and Henri III. The twelve essays in this volume examine, through case studies, the complex factors at play in Catholic society, offering a nuanced exploration of the spectrum of responses to the League. The three contributions in part I, 'Des Divisions omniprésentes des frontières mouvantes', highlight in turn the variety of positions taken by members of the clergy, the *parlement* of Paris and the nobility, many of whom shifted between sides or maintained their neutrality as they reacted to an evolving situation. The importance of local circumstances and corporate interests in shaping the interaction of groups with the League is examined in part II, 'La Primauté des solidarités locales, communitaires and corporatives', through case studies of peasant communities in Normandy and Brittany, the Cour des Monnaies in Paris and Leaguers in the Auvergne. Part III, 'À la Distance de la Ligue', explores ways in which groups distanced themselves from the League, with one essay focusing on clergy who opposed the movement,

a second on several figures in Provence who vacillated between sides to protect their interests, and a third on how some sons of Leaguers reintegrated into society after Henri IV's victory. Finally, part IV, 'En Quête de coherence le choix assume de la moderation' focuses on three individuals who pursued alternatives beyond those offered by *politiques* and Leaguers. Ennemond Rabot d'Illins, a magistrate from Grenoble, sought to use rhetoric and persuasion to overcome extremism in Dauphiné, while Guy Coquille, a jurist based in Nevers, sought peace through reform of the papacy and the French Church. René Benoist, a parish priest in Paris and future confessor to Henri IV, pursued a strategy of 'non-choice' in his writings and actions that allowed him to survive and even thrive during this difficult period. While the case studies explored do not present a coherent overview of the League or the struggle over Henri IV's accession to the throne, they do provide valuable insight into the complex mix of religious, political, corporate, local and personal factors that shaped Catholic loyalties during the final convulsion of religious and civil war in sixteenth-century France.

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

ERIC NELSON

*Jacques Bongars (1554–1612). Gelehrter und Diplomat im Zeitalter des Konfessionalismus.*

Edited by Gerlinde Huber-Rebenich. (Spätmittelalter, Humanismus, Reformation, 87.) Pp. xii + 152. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2015. €79. 978 3 16 152724 1

*JEH* (67) 2016; doi:10.1017/S0022046916001007

The contributions in this volume were papers delivered at a colloquium on Jacques Bongars organised in March 2013 by the Philosophisch-historischen Fakultät of the Universität Bern. The meeting concluded a series of events the previous autumn to mark the 400-year anniversary of Bongars's death, and given that Bongars's library and personal documents have been in Bern since 1632, the location was perfect. The essays included here reflect the interdisciplinary perspectives brought to examine both Bongars's political career as an ambassador in the service of the French crown as well as his scholarly accomplishments and humanist network. After a brief foreword by the editor, Philip Benedict's contribution situates Bongars in the context of the many other Huguenots in the service of the crown, finding that in many respects Bongars was typical of other Protestants who began their employment under Henri of Navarre and weathered the storm to continue service through the 1590s and beyond. Heinz Schilling's essay offers an overview of the development of the structures, institutions and functions of foreign policy during the age of confessionalisation, noting also that Bongars embodied the scholar-diplomat who combined their own personal inclinations and networks with their public service to the state. A case study by Ruth Kohlendorfer-Fries, whose book of 2009 on Bongars so thoroughly demonstrated his international significance for modern scholarship, investigates Bongars's correspondence and exchange of news with a Dutch merchant, Daniel van der Meulen, concluding with a call for further research on Bongars's other contacts. From a different perspective Andreas Ammann surveys Bongars's early intellectual environment and investigates his philological and editorial production, particularly in the case of his edition of the *Historiarum Philippicarum epitoma* by the Roman historian Marcus