

num siding, plastic shutters set outside the window surrounds, and loss of most original detail is dismissed with the comment "tasteful modifications in the twentieth century" (p. 116). Although the book might mislead the casual-reader with such judgments, its broad style and skillful format make it a generally useful addition to a preservation library.

Historic Madison, Inc.
Madison, Ind.

Thomas Moriarity

Caesars of the Wilderness: Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers and Pierre Esprit Radisson, 1618-1710. By Grace Lee Nute. (New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, Inc., and the American Historical Association, 1943; reprinted, St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1978. Pp. xx, 386. Maps, notes, illustrations, appendixes, bibliography, index. Clothbound, \$12.50; paperbound, \$5.95.)

Nearly four decades ago Grace Lee Nute told the story of the brothers-in-law Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, and Pierre Esprit Radisson. These intrepid seventeenth century French adventurers made several journeys off eastern Canada, into Hudson Bay, and into the Great Lakes region. Greedy Quebec governors who wanted too large a share of their fur trading profits propelled des Groseilliers and Radisson into history as the Frenchmen who convinced King Charles II of England to charter the Hudson's Bay Company, thereby contributing to the eventual downfall of New France.

Nute's *Caesars* is a thorough treatment of this and much more. She rescues des Groseilliers and Radisson from biographical oblivion and unravels the confusion about their several explorations and fur trade activities in the political, diplomatic, religious, and economic contexts. *Caesars* remains the best treatment of the subject, even though the French, Hudson's Bay, and other archives are far from exhausted on related areas. This reprint edition gives availability to a long out-of-print standard work. No changes have been made except for the deletion of an inconsequential illustration and the addition of a helpful map of the travels of des Groseilliers and Radisson. A new introduction explains the relocation and reorganization of some of Nute's sources.

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