

kapitaalkrachtige herbergiersters of tapsters, maar voornamelijk kleinschalige verkoopsters van dunbier of brandewijn dat uit de fles werd verkocht. Een deel van de gehuwde vrouwen en weduwen wist daarnaast zelfstandig de overstap te maken van drankverkoop naar een tapperij of een herberg waar weliswaar meer uren gemaakt werden, maar de verdiensten ook groter waren. Er waren voor vrouwen dus mogelijkheden om binnen de sector hogerop te komen.

Ook de internationale vergelijking in het laatste hoofdstuk (voorafgaande aan de conclusie) levert interessante constatering op. Terwijl in Holland de gilden geen belemmering vormden voor de arbeidsparticipatie van vrouwen in de drankproductie en -handel, bleek dit wel het geval in Engeland waar vanaf de zestiende eeuw commercialisering van de bierbrouwerijen samenging met de uitsluiting van vrouwen.

Het is jammer dat Van Dekken haar gegevens vooral beschrijft en weinig analyseert waardoor haar bijdrage aan het internationale debat niet zo groot is als die had kunnen zijn. Toch levert haar onderzoek een schat aan gegevens op over de rol van mannen en vrouwen in de drankindustrie en toont tegelijkertijd aan de veronderstelling dat instituties een belemmerende factor vormden voor de arbeidsparticipatie van vrouwen. Van Dekken toont aan dat in deze sector de toegang van vrouwen tot de markt niet zozeer werd beperkt door het beleid van de gilden, maar veel meer door de beschikbaarheid van kapitaal.

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Patrouch, Joseph F., *Queen's Apprentice: Archduchess Elizabeth, Empress María, the Habsburgs, and the Holy Roman Empire, 1554-1569* (Studies in Medieval and Reformation Traditions 148; Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2010, x + 455 pp., ISBN 978 90 04 18030 7).

Elizabeth, Archduchess of Austria (1554-1592) is mostly remembered as Queen of France after her marriage with Charles IX in 1570. Nonetheless, the author has chosen to bring up the less familiar story of her 'apprenticeship' from birth onwards up to her betrothal to the French king at the age of fifteen in 1569. This novel perspective has clear advantages: Elizabeth appears as daughter of Emperor Maximilian II and his wife María, and is thus reassessed within Habsburg dynastic history instead of French royal policy. Moreover, whereas the Archduchess is often cited as her father's favourite, here she figures prominently within a daughter-mother relationship. Throughout the book, events as diverse as the Vienna festival in 1560, Maximilian's Bohemian coronation in Prague and imperial election in Frankfurt in 1562, his ascension as emperor in 1564, the Hungarian War in 1565-1568 and the Reichstag in Augsburg in 1566 are all presented from the unusual viewpoint of a growing up queen-in-waiting. The largely chronological narrative still succeeds in integrating daily court life, including descriptions of court music, literature, architecture and horticulture. In this way, a convincing picture emerges of how the young archduchess prepared for her future by learning both from the motives and iconography in the literature, music and artefacts surrounding her, and from her attendance at court, ceremonies, festivals, travels, pilgrimages, war scenes and political negotiations.

The book transcends the biographical genre when introducing questions on the nature and embodiment of queenship in the early modern period. As announced in the title, this then brings Empress María, whose life and court is amply documented in contrast to her daughter's, to the foreground. Through her exceptional child-bearing

capacities (16 children!), classic patterns of marriage, pregnancy and child death are discussed in terms of symbolic capital for her and her daughter. Court residences are analyzed in terms of female space and access, even leading to the discovery of separate kitchens for the Emperor in the Vienna castle and for the Empress in a nearby building (354). Iconographies and stories of the Virgin Mary, female patron saints such as Elizabeth of Hungary and female predecessors like Empress Eleonora are discussed to contextualize the education and socialisation of the young archduchess.

The outstanding contextualization of the central European dimensions of the Habsburg dynasty explains the second half of the title; this is where this monograph is at its best. Elizabeth's baptism, with the Hungarian bishop Miklós Oláh as godfather, and the Spanish court lady Ana Maria Lasso de Castilla as godmother serves as an introduction into both the family and dynastic background and into international history. The narrative switches with remarkable ease from Vienna and Wiener Neustadt to Prague, Bratislava, Frankfurt, Munich and Augsburg, and deals extensively with their city histories and architectures. Especially the Bohemian and Hungarian regions are under scrutiny, but Spain and the Low Countries also receive due attention. In this context, it is somehow disappointing that the story ends *in medias res*: the marriage negotiations with Charles IX are hastily summarized in one final paragraph. One might wonder why no reference is made to the fact that Elizabeth preferred to return to Vienna after the mourning period following her husband's death in 1574, even if this required leaving her daughter behind in France. Both elements perfectly fit in the storyline of the book and would have helped to put the childhood and adolescence of the protagonist in a wider perspective.

The Archduchess Elizabeth of course left few sources of her own during the first fifteen years of her life. The author compensates for this scarcity of evidence with an abundance of other sources ranging from the classic correspondence and court documents to literature, images, music, art, and

festival or ceremonial accounts. This broad scope implies that this biography should be understood more as a 'thick description' in four long chapters (three of which are more than a hundred pages long) than as a clearly focused account. Chapter four for example deals consecutively with the war in Hungary, court gardens, music, court preachers, jesuit history including their schools, printing presses and dramaturgy, early modern charity and ideals of female monasticism. In addition, the reader has to cope with many suggestions and speculations, perhaps characteristic for the biographic genre, but reinforced here through the description of a girl before the age of fifteen: 'It is difficult to imagine that the eleven-and-a-half-year-old princess did not at least offer a prayer on behalf of her little siblings. She probably remembered [...]' (280). Even so, this monograph is a successful attempt at providing the full story, without privileging either the political or the cultural perspective.

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González de León, Fernando, *The Road to Rocroi: Class, Culture and Command in the Spanish Army of Flanders, 1567-1659* (History of Warfare 52; Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2009, xvi + 406 blz., ISBN 978 90 04 17082 7).

In het beknopte dankwoord spreekt de auteur over 'a labor of years', zonder een enkel jaartal te bieden als houvast voor de wordingsgeschiedenis van dit boek. We moeten echter ver terug in de tijd. González de León promoveerde namelijk al in 1991 aan de Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Het gaat hier dus om de handelseditie van een achttien jaar oud proefschrift. Het verzwijgen van deze voorgeschiedenis maakt dat we in het duister blijven over de aanpassingen. Er is recente literatuur gebruikt, maar in hoeverre heeft dit het inzicht van de auteur beïnvloed? We weten het niet, zoals we evenmin weten waarom deze mystificatie heeft plaatsgevonden.