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employment. This possibility strains the idea that Morris's view of Aboriginal-Crown relations was one of reciprocity.

Nevertheless, *Negotiating the Numbered Treaties* presents a complex, thorough, and thought-provoking portrait of Alexander Morris, who may very well have been a thoroughly unique character in the Crown-Aboriginal relationship at the time of the first expansion of Canada. The book makes a case that he was, but I remain to be convinced.

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TRAVERS, Tim — *Pirates: A History*. Stroud, UK: The History Press, 2009 (hardcover edition, Tempus Publishing, 2007). Pp. 336.

Numerous books on piracy have been published in recent years. Historians working in this field are hardly able to keep up with the surge of publications. This book provides a broad survey from the ancient Mediterranean to modern Somali pirates, from the seventeenth-century Caribbean to the Malacca Straits. Unlike most other recent publications on the subject, this book is written by a professional historian, so it is worth considering his perspective in some detail.

To begin with the most important point: readers who expect new insights or interpretations of one of the most romanticized chapters in history will be disappointed. Tim Travers provides a narrative designed for a wide readership. Most topics are addressed in very general terms, based largely on the reading of secondary literature rather than original research. The use of primary sources is restricted to a few manuscripts exclusively from London depositories.

The structure of this book is rather unconventional. Instead of an introduction, the reader finds a chapter on "The Pirate World," which deals with some features of the social and cultural history of piracy. Only in the conclusion does the author try to answer the question: what is a pirate? Piracy is generally defined as the arbitrary and indiscriminate seizure of goods, persons, and vessels at sea. Vikings, many Elizabethan sea rovers, and most buccaneers were not pirates, even though their exploits are described in Travers's book. The organization certainly has its merits, as it enables Travers to insert a broad spectrum of related topics, yet the title of the book is misleading.

Travers's expertise in pirate history derives from having taught courses on the subject matter at the University of Calgary for more than a decade. This enables him to avoid the various traps into which too many authors fall. For example, Travers is correct to raise serious doubts as to whether Edward Thatch, better known as Blackbeard, really was the violent and ruthless roving villain portrayed in the literature. As well, the passage concerning the only two known female pirates of the early eighteenth century, Anne Bonny and Mary Read, is also more realistic than in most other recent publications. To be sure, this book still contains a number of errors; for instance, Dirk Chivers's real

name was Richard Sievers (p. 164), and Bartholomew Roberts did not kill the governor of Martinique, as asserted on page 195. Nevertheless, in comparison with other popular books on this subject matter, the author has done a good job sorting fact from fiction.

In sum, this book provides a useful introduction to a topic that has drawn considerable public and scholarly attention in recent years. Travers's work places maritime depredations into the larger context of international rivalries and conflicts. One hopes that this book will find an eager and interested readership.

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TULCHINSKY, Gerald — *Canada's Jews: A People's Journey*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Pp. 597.

This one-volume condensation of Gerald Tulchinsky's magisterial *Taking Root: The Origins of the Canadian Jewish Community* (1992) and *Branching Out: The Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community* (1998) adds some further references to scholarship and events since 1998, but fundamentally covers the same ground as the two original volumes did. Since their contents are presumably well known, I focus here on issues of emphasis, construction, and coverage in this immense 600-page compendium.

As the subtitle suggests, this book is intended for a generalist audience with little or no knowledge of Jewish history in Canada. Although Tulchinsky is always advancing arguments that bear on the causes of this or that phenomenon or its origins, arguments that belong to the order of historiographical discourse, he never engages directly with the scholarship to which he is responding, which feels a bit like shadow-boxing. Historians of Canada or Jewish historians will know the debates about the origins of antisemitism in twentieth-century Canada, but general readers will have to take Tulchinsky's word that there was no real antisemitism or anti-Jewish feeling in eighteenth- or nineteenth-century "Canada" (or its predecessor polities) — rather, it appeared sometime before the end of massive Eastern European Jewish immigration to Canada in 1925 and caused the change in that policy to boot (p. 236). Furthermore, while the antisemites responsible for the end of mass immigration — just as things were getting really bad for Eastern European Jewry and not long before the Shoah — were federal civil servants and government officials (especially Frederick Blair and William Egan), Tulchinsky feels that the main nexus of Canadian antisemitism was to be found in "clerico-fascist" Catholic circles in Quebec. This is only one example of the contradictory and sometimes downright asymmetrical arguments Tulchinsky advances (while refusing to engage the specialist literature or debates explicitly). Some of these problems result from duplication, probably due to merging two previous books that somewhat overlapped into a single volume. There are two distinct and very detailed sections on the Jewish role