Rebecca Lyman attempts to analyse the conversion of Justin Martyr against the background of second-century Roman Hellenism. Drawing on modern theories, especially the works of Edward Said and Homi Bhabha, her jejune discussion of the sources is imbued with pseudo-theoretical statements, and on the whole is rather incomprehensible. Eric Rebillard discusses the funerary inscriptions and burial practices of converts, and reaches the conclusion that conversion to a new faith had no effect on the choice of a particular place of burial or on other burial practices, and this, as he points out, 'confirms that burial is not primarily a religious concern and that burial rites cannot be explained, at least not only explained, by religious belief' (74). Richard Lim focuses on the evidence for the conversion of stage performers, whereas Michael Mass studies the 'Christianisation' of early Byzantine ethnography as a measure of the transformation of Byzantine society in the period between Justinian and Heraclius. The highlight of the collection is a splendid paper by Raymond Van Dam, 'The many conversions of the Emperor Constantine', in which he sheds fresh light on a well-trodden issue. And finally, Julia Smith's fascinating paper relates the *translatio* of the relics of the two Roman martyrs Marcellinus and Peter, orchestrated by Einhard. While demonstrating elegantly the ways in which the Carolingians and their advisors appropriated the Roman past in order to promote their own reform programme of *correctio*, this paper certainly pushes the definition of 'conversion' to its limits. The volume concludes with an extremely learned piece by Neil McLynn, who manages to thread the various papers into a sound overview of conversion in Late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages. One would be well advised to start reading this rich volume with McLynn's conclusion.

Yitzhak Hen   Ben Gurion University of the Negev

L. Sawicki and D. Shalev (eds.), *Donum grammaticum. Studies in Latin and Celtic Linguistics in Honour of Hannah Rosén*. Orbis/Supplementa 18. Leuven, Paris and Sterling, Virginia: Peeters, 2002. xvi + 411 pp. ISBN 90 429 1026 7 (Leuven), 2 87723 582 3 (Paris).

This Festschrift for Hannah Rosén, published to mark her retirement, offers forty short articles on diverse linguistic and philological topics. Most of the papers deal with aspects of Latin, in appropriate homage to the important contributions of the honorand to Latin linguistics, but Celtic, her other main field of endeavour, is also well represented; a few contributions are devoted to other Indo-European languages, such as Greek or Hittite. The volume also contains a list of Hannah Rosén's publications and a useful subject index.

    The synchronic grammar of Latin looms largest and many of the papers deal with aspects of the syntax and use of this language. Two of the best are concerned with discourse analysis: the late Machtelt Bolkestein contributes a finely-observed study on 'Anaphoric absolute ablatives in Caesar', analysing the factors involved in the choice of *hic* or *qui* in this construction, and Caroline Kroon, 'How to write a ghost story? A linguistic view on narrative modes in Pliny *Ep*.7.27', clearly illustrates how narrative modes relate to discourse function.

    Other papers cover a wide range of syntactic topics that can only be listed here: relative clauses (Christian Touratier), free-choice quantification and concession, and the grammaticalisation of *quamquam* as a concessive connective (Mirka Maraldi), the role of *quamuis* (Alessandra Bertocchi), the reference of reflexive pronouns in complex indirect statements (Michèle Fruyt), transitivity and passivisation (Huguette Fugier), syntactic paradigms in relation to *cum*-clauses, participle constructions and the case system (Marius Lavency), the use of the perfect in non-narrative function in exclamations (Lea Sawicki and Donna Shalev), middle and reflexive in Latin and Romance (Reinhard Stempel), the nominative and infinitive construction after *debeo, uideor* and *dicor* (Friedrich Heberlein), sequence of tenses as a parameter of indirect speech (Lyliane Sznajder), adverbial uses of *nisi* (Anna Orlandini), transferred epithets in Statius (René Amacker);

the opposition between adjective and preposition + substantive – e.g. *uasa argentea* vs. *pocula ex auro* (Paulo de Carvalho); degrees of comparison in Latin and Hungarian (Jean Perrot). More purely semantic is the study of Benjamín García-Hernández on the basic meaning of the prefix *dē*.

A few papers are concerned with later Latin and even neo-Latin: the late Robert Coleman tracks the decline and eventual demise of the *w*-preterite; Joseph Geiger considers the identity of Egeria's *Graecolatini* and discusses the formation of similar compounds, only to concede a lack of consistency; Claude Moussy discusses *signa et portenta* and alternative expressions in the Vulgate; Pierre Flobert offers an analysis of interrogatives, negatives and imperatives in question and answer sequences in Latin manuals; Jesús de la Villa discusses the translation of Greek participles in the Vulgate; Bengt Löfstedt reviews features of the Latin of Abraham a Santa Clara (1644 [?]-1709). A solitary Romance paper is the interesting study of Leena Löfstedt on the word *co(u)rt* in Law French.

Several papers fall within the field of comparative and historical linguistics, covering topics in morphology, vocabulary and etymology, and syntax, predominantly with reference to Italic and Celtic. As regards morphology, an admirable paper by Herman Seldeslachts and Pierre Swiggers, 'A propos de la flexion de latin *velle*', offers a useful and judicious survey of the Latin forms and the comparative evidence. Patrizia de Bernardo Stempel, 'Aktiv und Medium im Präteritalsystem der keltischen Sprachen', boldly argues that the plural endings of many forms of the Old Irish preterite are old middle endings, whose generalisation originated in the *t*-preterite after phonological developments in the 3sg. had led to the collapse of the original active–middle distinction.

There are rather more papers dealing with words and their etymologies. Jaan Puhvel, 'Latin *guttur* and Hittite *kuttar*: an amicable separation', argues against an etymological connection between the two words. Wolfgang Meid, '"Freundschaft" und "Liebe" in keltischen Sprachen', deals mainly with the roots **kar-* and **am-*, found also in Latin. Françoise Bader, 'L'immortalité des morts dans l'*Iliade*: autour de grec ταρχύω', offers an ambitious interpretation of a difficult Homeric word in the context of an exploration of Greek ideas of immortality. Rolf Ködderitzsch, 'Air. *cáin* f. "Gesetz, Regel, Steuer, Tribut": Aksl. *kaznĭ* f. "Strafe, Beschluß, Anordnung"', after noting that derivatives in **-ni-* are usually formed from a full-grade root, pleads in this instance for a lengthened *o*-grade of the root and therefore a derivative from a causative-iterative verbal stem. Eric Hamp, 'The *Dag(h)d(h)ae* and his relatives', discusses various words for 'good' that can also mean 'noble', arguing that *Dag(h)d(h)ae* < **dago-deiwos* is not so much the 'good god' as the 'god of the nobles' and proposing to see in *donn* 'princely' and *Dannann* cognates of Latin *bonus* (OL *duenos*), with ablaut variations. Jürgen Untermann, 'Zu den *verba dicendi* im Oskisch-Umbrischen', offers a very clear and helpful survey of this section of Sabellian vocabulary.

Syntax is also represented. Philip Baldi, 'Some observations on inalienable possession in Hittite and Indo-European', argues against the view of Gamkrelidze and Ivanov that inalienable possession was marked by enclitic pronouns both in Hittite and the parent language, preferring to follow Garrett's suggestion that a split genitive construction was used in Hittite, and suggesting that in Indo-European *bahuvrīhi* compounds served the purpose. Karl Horst Schmidt, 'On the Indo-European background of the Old Irish preposition', presents an outline of the possible positions of occurrence of prepositions in Old Irish (following Thurneysen) with a few comparative observations.

Some papers contrive to address both Latin and Celtic. Thus Stefan Zimmer, 'Latin and Welsh', gives a convenient overview of Latin loanwords in Welsh, ordered by historical periods. As a synchronic study, Pierluigi Cuzzolin, 'Vorläufige Bemerkungen über die Impersonalien im Lateinischen und Keltischen', contrasts the Latin use of the 3sg. form as an impersonal with Welsh use of a separate verbal form, with a tentative suggestion concerning the reduced role of semantics in the latter type. The modern Celtic languages are the subject of papers by Pierre-Yves Lambert, 'Pour une typologie des phrases nominales celtiques', and Hildegard Tristram, 'DO-Periphrasis in Irish'.

Finally, two papers refreshingly depart from purely grammatical matters: Gualtiero Calboli, taking his cue from Horace's *parturient montes*, explores the possible origins of the motif of mountains in travail; Deborah Levine Gera, 'Some characterizations of Celtic speech in Greek and Roman ethnography', presents a fascinating collection of passages from classical texts.

This volume is a fine and well-deserved tribute to the scholarship and inspiration of Hannah Rosén, and will surely have brought her much pleasure. All of us who have read with such enjoyment her *Latine Loqui* will certainly wish to add our thanks and congratulations, and offer all good wishes for her retirement.

J.H.W. Penney   Wolfson College, Oxford