

*A Historical Dictionary of Psychiatry*. All in all, it is difficult to imagine anyone alive today more qualified to undertake it.

IAN DOWBIGGIN  
*University of Prince Edward Island*

R. Gregory Lande. **Madness, Malingering, and Malfeasance: The Transformation of Psychiatry and the Law in the Civil War Era.** *Washington, DC: Brassey's Inc., 2003. Pp. xii + 231. \$27.95. ISBN 1-57488-352-6.*

There is an old adage, namely, that military justice is to justice as military music is to music. R. Gregory Lande's study of military justice during the American Civil War is confirmation of this saying even though that may not have been his intention in writing this book. During the Civil War the military was forced to confront various forms of misbehaviour. Although officers were occasionally brought before military tribunals, the overwhelming number of cases involved ordinary soldiers.

The overriding concern of military commanders was, of course, combat efficiency, and anything that proved a barrier had to be dealt with quickly and effectively. Misbehaviour, desertion, malingering, malfeasance and alcoholism – all of which threatened to undermine morale and reduce the number of soldiers available for combat – were causes for the convening of courts martial. In theory the military legal system had built in safeguards to inhibit prosecutorial bias and protect the rights of the accused. In practice, however, the accused had few rights. Prosecuting officers were generally experienced, whereas soldiers had no right to legal counsel. In many cases the mental status of the individual became an issue, yet military tribunals lacked the expertise required to identify mental illnesses or mental deficiency.

Courts martial were by no means trivial occurrences. Penalties were often harsh. Between 1861 and 1865, 267 enlisted men were executed. With but a few exceptions, those who received the death penalty were privates; not a single officer was executed. More than half had been convicted for desertion; a quarter for murder; and less than ten per cent for rape or mutiny. African Americans were far more likely to face execution; no less than fifty-two received the death penalty (a number far in excess of their representation in the army).

*Madness, Malingering, and Malfeasance* is a bifurcated book. Its research base is impressive. Lande has mined unpublished military records at the National Archives, and supplemented these with published government documents, military legal treatises and selected medical texts, as well as newspaper accounts, memoirs and diaries. His description of specific courts-martial proceedings provides an invaluable insight into the workings of the military justice system during the Civil War.

The analytic and interpretative aspects of the book, on the other hand, are deeply flawed. The subtitle – *The Transformation of Psychiatry and the Law in the Civil War Era* – is misleading. Lande does not demonstrate any change in psychiatry. More important, Lande is poorly versed in the history of nineteenth-century psychiatry. He relies on Albert Deutsch's *The Mentally Ill in America*, which was first published in 1937, but the history of psychiatry has been a vibrant and exciting field of study since the 1960s, and there is a vast literature which has gone far beyond Deutsch's classic and pioneering book. Yet Lande is apparently ignorant of this literature, a knowledge of which is indispensable if one is going to write intelligently about psychiatry. For example, although writing about the Civil War career of William Hammond, Lande did not consult Bonnie Blustein's full-length biography (*Preserve Your Love of Science: Life of William A. Hammond, American Neurologist*, 1991). Similarly, his comments about alcoholism ignore a very large and revealing secondary literature dealing with this subject. The result is that his research in military records dealing with courts martial is vitiated by the absence of any context.

The history of military justice is certainly a subject worthy of study, and Lande has performed an important task in examining military records and presenting materials which other scholars will find useful. It is a pity, however, that he did not take the time to consult secondary sources which might have enabled him to present his material in a more illuminating and sophisticated manner.

GERALD N. GROB  
*Rutgers University*

Lynette A. Jackson. **Surfacing Up: Psychiatry and Social Order in Colonial Zimbabwe.** *Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005. Pp. xiii + 230. ISBN 0-8014-8940-7.*

*Surfacing Up* is a study of psychiatric practice in Ingutsheni Asylum (later Ingutsheni Mental Hospital), in colonial Zimbabwe. Ingutsheni was a facility that housed both African and European patients, but segregated them by race, and provided drastically unequal living conditions and therapeutic regimens. Jackson gives a chronological overview of the institution, and situates it in the larger social and political history of Zimbabwe. But her closest attention is dedicated to critical readings of patient case files, of which she obtained an impressive number.

Jackson's method hinges on the pliable and subjective nature of madness, particularly in colonial contexts, with their sharp political and cultural divides. She reminds her readers throughout that her approach does not entail a denial of the reality of illness, but involves training a critical eye on diagnostic practice. As she writes early on: 'If one defines the insane as those who are