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Publisher: Routledge

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3JH, UK

Folklore

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rfol20>

Review

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Published online: 14 Feb 2012.

To cite this article: A. Nutt (1892) Review, Folklore, 3:3, 425-426, DOI:

[10.1080/0015587X.1892.9720120](https://doi.org/10.1080/0015587X.1892.9720120)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0015587X.1892.9720120>

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REVIEW.

GRUNDRISS DER GERMANISCHEN PHILOLOGIE, hrsg. von H. Paul. Vol. II, Part II, Section 6: Uebersicht über die aus mündlicher Ueberlieferung geschöpften Sammlungen der Volkspoesie (a) Skandinavische Volkspoesie, von A. Lundell.

Paul's Grundriss is nearing conclusion, and the last pages of the work, much of which has direct interest for folk-lorists, are devoted to folk-lore as such. Lundell's account of Scandinavian folk-lore research is not completed in the present section: what is given is of extreme interest to all students of our science. Scandinavia, indeed, led the way in the organisation and prosecution of folk-lore studies. How many folk-lorists are aware that in the year 1630 the Swedish State-antiquaries were officially instructed to collect "old chronicles, histories, immemorial traditions, and ballads about dragons, great worms, dwarves, giants, tales about celebrated persons, old monasteries, castles and their former kings, hero-songs and rhymed ballads, as well music as words"? Nearly two centuries went by before such liberal and intelligent instructions were given by any other Government.

Portions of *Paul's Grundriss* have already been noticed in these pages (Prof. York Powell's article on "Teutonic Myth and Saga", *supra*, i, 118). We hope before long to notice Dr. Mogk's *Mythologie*, the only existing survey of Teutonic mythology which starts from a folk-lore basis. In the meantime I may briefly indicate the importance of the work as a whole to the folk-lorist. The student of ballads or tales is being perpetually brought into contact with the productions of literature proper; the student of

customs must ever take note of legal antiquities and of social life as pictured in literature; the student of folk-speech must take account of the sure results reached by philological research. No one can hope to be a specialist in all these subjects; what is needed is a business-like exposition of specialist investigations, a clear statement of those results which are practically assured, a full and trustworthy guide to the literature connected with each subject. This need is admirably met by *Paul's Grundriss*, and the work should be in the hands of every student.

A. NUTT.