

One must also protest unfairness to others. Napoleon is described after his famous interview with Dolgorukii as "seared with rage" at the Russian's presumption, whereas, in fact, he was pleased at having duped the insolent envoy into thinking that he was afraid of the Russians and anxious to withdraw. Pushkin is twice victim of allusions that mislead. No doubt the tsar was pleased to receive a verse epistle written "in love and gratitude to our great monarch" from the star pupil at Tsarskoe Selo. But Pushkin was then only fifteen; he wrote at the invitation of a government minister; he never allowed these verses to be reprinted. And as for Pushkin's remark on the flood of 1824—"it serves accursed Petersburg right"—the passage has a different ring when the next phrase is added: "voilà une belle occasion à vos dames de faire bidet."

ALLEN McCONNELL  
*Queens College, CUNY*

DAUGHTER OF A REVOLUTIONARY: NATALIE HERZEN AND THE BAKUNIN-NECHAYEV CIRCLE. Edited with an introduction by *Michael Confino*. Translated by *Hilary Sternberg* and *Lydia Bott*. LaSalle, Ill.: Library Press, 1973. 416 pp. \$8.95.

This is the latest collection of documents (mainly letters) unearthed by Confino in the manuscript collection of the Bibliothèque Nationale. Many of the documents have already appeared in earlier publications—in *Cahiers du monde russe et soviétique* and *Encounter* and in Confino's *Violence dans la violence* (Paris, 1973). He has supplemented them with excerpts from published memoirs and other sources which illuminate the history of Sergei Nechaev's relationship with Natalie Herzen, Bakunin, Ogarev, and their émigré associates in Switzerland. Approximately one-third of the collection is devoted to Natalie Herzen's heretofore unpublished correspondence. Letters by and to her reveal in detail the style of life, sensibilities, and personal trials of the Herzen ménage during the 1860s. Though not shaped into a narrative like E. H. Carr's *Romantic Exiles*, Confino's documents tell their own story. All of them have been translated into English but, unfortunately, not always gracefully. The opening line of the "Catechism of the Revolutionist" is translated: "The revolutionary is a *dedicated* [rather than *doomed*] man." This mistranslation significantly alters the character of the document.

An excellent introduction increases the value of the collection. Confino explores once again the bizarre events of the Bakunin-Nechaev scandal. Suggestive rather than exhaustive, Confino does not try to present a full psychological analysis of either this or the Nechaev-Natalie Herzen relationship. He has rendered a considerable service by making the materials available for further analysis. Nowhere can one find a better concrete picture of Nechaev's techniques of psychological manipulation or of the complex reactions which he evoked. Both the vulnerability and resiliency of the émigré revolutionists are dramatically revealed. One can hardly imagine any further discoveries telling as much about the atmosphere of l'affaire Nechaev as Confino's documents.

PHILIP POMPER  
*Wesleyan University*