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„... ihre alte Muttersprache ... unvermengt und unverdorben“: Zur Rezeption der taciteischen Germania im 17. Jahrhundert

Christopher B. Krebs

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Abstract
Little is known about the reception of Tacitus’ *Germania* in the 17th century. Yet it continued unabated: the historian and geographer Philipp Clüver; the alleged father of German poetry Martin Opitz; the linguist Justus Georg Schottelius; the novelist Daniel Casper von Lohenstein; and the lyrical poets Jacob Balde and Paul Fleming, all read and used Tacitus’ *libellus aureus*. They further developed the Germanic tradition, begun almost two centuries before, inserting the *Germania* into current discourses, especially the ones about the ‘teutsche Ur-Sprache’ – said to be as pure as the ancient Germans had been – and ancient German(ic) poetry as performed by Bards. The 17th century also witnessed...
the appearance of the Germanic warrior on the stage, whence he would not budge for
many centuries. Tacitus’ *Germania* continued to be an important and oftquoted text in the
age of Baroque.

**Keywords:** Tacitus; Germanen; Rezeption; Barock; Schottelius

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