This is a useful and ambitious attempt to cover a field which has long awaited study. On three large maps Miss Sutherland has plotted the distribution of colonial population on the eve of the Revolution. Data, covering the years 1770-1783, have been assembled from census returns, tax and militia lists, and many other sources. Just what procedure the author used in reducing her miscellany of figures to order is not altogether clear, and therefore her estimates are hard to test. The text is devoted to population tables and an historical account of conditions affecting the distribution of population. Statistics of colonial exports and imports for 1771 appear in a long appendix. Miss Sutherland concludes that out of the 2,507,150 colonials of 1775, 1,298,733 lived north of the Mason's and Dixon's line as compared with 1,208,417 to the south. This is less of a difference than has generally been assumed.

The purpose of a work like this is to provide the scholar with a reliable and ready reference manual. Unfortunately this volume is lacking in these virtues. Nothing but a general impression may be gained from the maps. If a Pennsylvanian has difficulty in locating the Lehigh and Schuylkill rivers, he is certain to run into real trouble in dealing with Maine, or South Carolina. No use can be made of these maps when an analysis of population distribution in a small area is desired. Such vital physical features as mountains and lakes (Winnepesaukee, in New Hampshire, for instance), are omitted from the maps, as are towns and county lines. Moreover, the index is hard to use.

Miss Sutherland displays, I think, a more than conservative attitude toward colonial population statistics. It is true that enthusiasm seemed to affect all provincial census takers—or was it bad judgment? But one can err as much on the short as on the long side. It hardly seems the part of wisdom to base the estimate of Philadelphia's population on figures for 1777 when the town had suffered an exodus in anticipation of Howe's occupation. M'Robert, whose judgment is considered very sound, estimated the town to contain 40,000 in 1776; Miss Sutherland prefers 18,770. Others, among them Thompson Westcott, accept 35,000 as the probable number. I am inclined also to think that New York's population was nearer 25,000 than Miss Sutherland's figure of 22,000, but in any case New York must have been smaller than Philadelphia. Contemporary observers thought it so.

No historian who has had to wrestle with the meager data available for a study of colonial population will be disposed to press a case against Miss Sutherland very far. She has essayed a difficult and most discouraging task. Her conclusions are based on careful research. One can only regret that they were not made available in a more usable form.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

CARL BRIDENBAUGH.
Elizabeth and Her Neighbors. By Richard Taylor Wiley. (Elizabeth, Pa.: Published by the Author, 1937. Pp. 386. $3.00.)

The writing of local history goes on apace in Pennsylvania. The volume before us is one of the most welcome that has appeared in years. The author has lived most of his four score years in the midst of the community whose history he sets forth in these pages, and he has done a remarkably good job. He has written not only with the sympathy of one whose family has for three generations, lived in and worked with the people of the community, but with the critical discernment of a widely recognized newspaper editor. He has an excellent grasp of the material about which he writes. He knows the background from which he has culled his facts. His previous works like “Sim Greene and Tom the Tinker’s Men,” “The Whiskey Insurrection,” “Early Western Pennsylvania,” and others, have gained for him a state wide reputation.

The present volume is rich in local history. It could not be otherwise in dealing with such a subject as Elizabeth and Her Neighbors. Beginning back in 1769, when the land office in Philadelphia first received applications from people who wanted to settle on lands that had recently been acquired from the Iroquois, and continuing on down through the remainder of the eighteenth century, numerous claims were filed for these rich lands, and a swarm of settlers poured into this region. But the author begins his history even earlier than that date. Chapters dealing with such titles as “Earliest Inhabitants” and “Before White Occupancy,” treat of this section even before white settlements had been planted.

Part II consists of those features of the community’s history which, in the opinion of the author, could not well be included in the historical narrative, comprising Part I. These incidents are however, of sufficient historical importance to be included somewhere in the volume. The incidents are listed in alphabetical order. Some of the most valuable articles include a History of Bridge Building, Early Industries, a discussion of Old Newspapers, Steamboat Builders—and of considerable local importance is a treatment of the part played in the community by the most prominent families of this section. The reviewer knows of no local history that contains more valuable bits of information, most of it unavailable elsewhere, than is to be found within these pages.

While the book is lacking in some of those historical standards which one likes to see displayed, such as footnotes, documentary citations, list of reference materials, etc., yet one has the feeling that the author is speaking with such confidence that he rarely questions the conclusions here set forth.

The University of Pittsburgh

JOHN W. OLIVER.


South After Gettysburg, another attractively printed volume from the
press of the University of Pennsylvania, is the story—through her letters—of Cornelia Hancock and her wanderings in the Army of the Potomac during the years 1863-1865. Miss Hancock, although born at Hancock's Bridge, near Salem, New Jersey, spent a great part of her active life in Philadelphia. She was an upright and vigorous Quakeress, one of those rare individuals who knew not only what needed to be done but how to do it. Annoyed she must have been to those charged with conducting the war in a "military manner," but she was an angel of mercy to those she loved. Before a month of her war career had passed, she was given a medal as a "Testimonial of regard for ministrations of mercy to the wounded soldiers at Gettysburg, Pa.—July 1863"; by the end of the conflict she had earned the title of "the Florence Nightingale of America." One would perhaps call her honest rather than kindly, efficient rather than tender.

Cornelia Hancock went off to war early one morning in July, 1863. As she rode through the little town of Salem, she hid in her carriage lest her friends say, "Why, Cornelia, thee is too young to go." Joining her sister's husband, Dr. Henry T. Child, in Philadelphia, she started—without a pass—for the battlefield of Gettysburg. When the carnage there had ended and Lee's forces were moving southward, she closed up her hospital and moved to Washington to care for the contrabands. Then began a journey that took her often uninvited but always useful—with the army—of the Potomac to Belle Plain, Fredericksburg, Port Royal, Newtown, White House Landing, Coal Harbor, City Point, Petersburg, and finally Richmond. Her letters, written exactly as she saw events, are not only strikingly interesting but exceedingly valuable in many ways. Much that Miss Hancock says is not history, but all is expressed in the vigorous words of an earnest soul more a crusader than a humanitarian. One wishes that the editor could have included letters from later years and indexed the whole.

Temple University

JAMES A. BARNES.


Elsie Singmaster is widely recognized for her skillfully done stories for children and tales carrying the Pennsylvania Dutch motif. In Stories of Pennsylvania, a two-volume collection dealing with the history of the Keystone state from 1616 to 1797, she makes a real pedagogic as well as juvenile literary contribution. The books are clearly meant to be not a history text, but supplementary reading material.

Though "most of the stirring events of our early history as a nation took place in Philadelphia," Miss Singmaster does not confine herself to such locally placed subjects as the early settling by the Dutch and the Swedes, the Wampum Belt Treaty between the Indians and the English and the subsequent tricking of the Lenapes out of their land by Penn's successors, the arrival of Benjamin Franklin in the city of Brotherly Love, the Declaration of Independence, and Fitch's paddle-wheel steamboat. Included besides are the settlement of the interior, John Harris' experience with the fierce Iro-
quois at his stockaded trading-post on the Susquehanna in 1740, the French and Indian Wars, Thomas Cresap and the land disputes between Pennsylvania and Maryland, Conrad Weiser and his mediation with the Indians, and Daniel Boone, native son of Pennsylvania—all contributing to the colorful pageant.

The development of arts, crafts, and industries in Pennsylvania is well brought out in several of the stories. How the Germans made pottery, glassware (notably the beautiful Stiegel ware), quilts, and embroidery is told, and one story interestingly relates the oft-repeated tale of Benjamin West, the poor Quaker lad who learned to paint with Indian pigments and a brush made from the tail hairs of his well-loved cat. The first uses of such natural resources as anthracite and petroleum, in which Pennsylvania abounds, are explained, and some account is given of animals and plants indigenous to Pennsylvania.

The names of many of those who contributed to the making of our country's history are personalized in these narratives, and incidental descriptions of dress, food, furnishings, and customs are bound to enrich the young reader's viewpoint. Through many of the thirty-two stories runs inevitably the current of hardship and strife which the white settlers underwent.

The adult reader is many times irritated by statements that not only add nothing to the meaning, but are often in themselves wholly impossible. For the child, however, the imaginative dramatization with corresponding enlargement of known facts no doubt adds reality to the stories.

Young Pennsylvanians will relish these appetizingly attractive doses of the fascinating history of their native commonwealth, and intermediate grade pupils of other states as well will enjoy the stories.

Philadelphia

ELINOR S. BARNES.

Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland. By Raphael Semmes. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1937. Pp. 856. $5.00.)

Dr. Semmes's title must not be taken too literally, for he has by no means confined himself to the activities of those sturdy mariners who first sailed the waters of Chesapeake Bay. Instead he has given us a history of Maryland in the seventeenth century, with a good third of his text devoted to the many tribes of Indians who dwelt along the Bay and its tributaries, and alternately traded and fought with the white men.

Quoting freely from the Archives of Maryland, High Court of Admiralty Proceedings, and other sources, the author has written a lively and sometimes salty account of the struggles of the pioneers to maintain a foothold on the rich land they had selected for their domain—an account refreshingly free from heroics and sentimentality.

The organization of the volume leaves much to be desired. Each of the twenty-six chapters is in effect an independent narrative, dealing with such topics as "Mariners of the Sea," "Captains and Commanders," "Choptanks, Pigs and Petticoats," and while it enables the casual reader to take his history in small doses, it results in considerable repetition and confusion. One feels that if the author had presented his material as a unit in its
chronological sequence the book might advantageously be shortened by a hundred pages, and at the same time have presented a clearer picture of the events described, their causes and effects.

From these pages emerges one heroic figure—that of William Claiborne, who established his trading post on Kent Island three years before the Maryland colonists arrived at St. Mary's, and fought valiantly but unavailingly to maintain his independence of the Calverts. Like the Indians with whom he traded his "trucking stuffe" for beaver pelts, he deserved a better fate.

As is to be expected of a Johns Hopkins publication, the volume is physically attractive, in spite of its bulk, and remarkably free from typographical errors. It is fully documented, with extensive bibliography and indices. The reader would, however, have been grateful for a map showing the position of the rivers, islands, settlements, and Indian villages frequently mentioned. Occasionally the author's statements or conclusions are open to question. For instance, on page 66, "On Kent Island he had many 'fathome,' or arm's length of roanoke and peak" (the local wampum). The fathom, now standardized at six feet, was originally the space to which a man can extend both his arms. Again, on page 72, in quoting a list of boat-building supplies, he refers to "Pitch, Tarre, Ocome [ocher], canvis for a Sayle, etc." "Ocome" is obviously oakum, not ocher.

University of Pennsylvania Press

PHELPS SOULE.