
This superb book, handsomely printed, a model of editorial workmanship, is indispensable to the study of Pennsylvania history in the period 1760-1813. It would be important for its text alone, a very mirror of Benjamin Rush's wide-ranging, wonderfully wayward intellect. But Dr. Corner has added to the text such illuminating essays, painstaking notes, and expansive comments that he gives us an encyclopedia of Rush's world. This world he fills with people great and small, developing Rush's names and references into portraits authentic, convincing, and immensely helpful. No writer or teacher in the field can afford to be without this book. It is an achievement for which we ought to have a high professional award.

Two separate sets of documents confront us. One, "Travels Through Life," Rush wrote in desperate unhappiness, impelled by the need of self-justification, pleading always for sympathy, agreement, ratification. I do not like Dr. Rush in this mood. He tells us things we know are not true and demands our support in views we know (and he should have known) to be wrong. He speaks, with a smugness annoying in anyone, of his "usual punctuality and industry" and of his "life of constant labor and self-denial." And he says that in his early practice no other physicians sent him patients, that from the beginning they confederated against him. This is begging for pity by distorting the facts.

But when he becomes so interested in his narrative as to forget his unpopularity, Rush is wholly appealing. His early life, his medical studies at Philadelphia and Edinburgh, his military and political career, he recounts accurately and with spirit. His reflections on his public life are stimulating, and his character sketches of a hundred of the first men of his day are bound from now on to sparkle in our history books.

From Rush we learn that John Penn used to whisper to his neighbors while sitting in Congress; that Francis Hopkins ("a facetious agreeable man") relieved the tedium of debate by sketching irreverent cartoons; that James Wilson's mind was "one blaze of light"; and that Lord Stirling sometimes impaired his judgment with toddy. And the sketches of John and Samuel Adams and Thomas Mifflin are among the finest bits of all Rush's writing.
The second set of documents, Rush's nightly jottings of the day's events, shows the doctor at his very best—informal, impulsive, curious about everything, acquainted with everybody. He is not bitter here, nor concerned for his reputation; he is writing for himself. And he reveals himself on every page. He confesses he does not think well in solitude; it is conversation which stimulates him, and he records his conversations with the vast variety of people who come his way.

With Jefferson and Adams, with Dr. Franklin, Dickinson, and Madison, Rush talks, and with ministers, doctors, lawyers, and with quaint characters who come briefly into his sphere. The odd John Stewart, for example, a Londoner, started a life-long walking tour of the world at the age of twenty-three. At forty-three he reached Philadelphia, and there Rush quizzed him over several days about Turks, Hindus, Laplanders, Swedes, and Russians; about the strange places he had been to in search of the original source of moral motion; about his sex life and eating habits; and about his political and religious principles. Man, said John Stewart, was an anticipating animal. The Irish, however, were not.

A German physician from the Danish West Indies informs Rush of the intellectual and moral faculties of the Negroes. An English physician from the East Indies tells him of earth-bathing, opium-eating, vegetarianism, and facts of miscegenation egregiously wrong. The botanist André Michaux, the aeronaut François Blanchard, a Swiss doctor from Trinidad, Americans from every part of the continent—all appear in Philadelphia to be recorded in the doctor's book. And Rush, meanwhile, chronicles the progress of Philadelphia, attends a Jewish circumcision, supports his Negro friends in their great works of self-improvement, and observes all that is going on about him.

The student of scientific matters will find Rush's notes a tree bearing abundant fruit, mostly hybrid. But it is to the social historian that this volume has most to give, to the writer who always wants to know more of men and women than the sources tell. Here he can learn the appearance of Franklin's body after death, and a few pages away can find Dr. Priestley recoiling in horror from Richard Price's doctrine of philosophical necessity. He can follow the speculation mania of the 1790's, when the city of Philadelphia "exhibited the marks of a great gaming house," or note the history of penal practices; he can feel himself suddenly a part of the life of the federal era, understand how it was that Rush could believe as he did, and what the influences were which kept him behind the thick curtain of his own prejudices.

This is, in short, a book of fascination to any reader of this journal. No technique of reviewing I know of can give a just picture of its spirit and charm. Dr. Corner never heckles Benjamin Rush with his comments. As editor, he enriches every page by explaining who people are, even when Rush himself did not know, and certainly when few modern scholars could ever have found out. There must be two thousand notes in the volume. So far as I can tell, there is only one mistake, a minor one, which I heartily
welcomed as an indication of human fallibility in what is in all respects a masterly performance. 


In a day when religion does not have the popular concern that it has had in past days, we find it hard to understand a person who really and literally seeks "first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." Most persons today do not understand one who refused to eat certain kinds of food and to wear clothes made from dyed cloth because the food and the dyes were the products of slave labor; who refused to send messages by mail when he learned that the horses pulling the mail coaches were maltreated; who refused to pay war taxes or to accept payment for the soldier who was billeted in his home; who succeeded in getting the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends to adopt a proposal that Friends raise money to pay Indians the value of the land stolen from them by others; and who was distressed by the amount of wealth being acquired by some of his Quaker contemporaries because he saw in wealth and political office the power that carried with it the possibility and, at times, the necessity for unchristian action.

In matters relating to social evils, Woolman insisted that personal responsibility should always be considered. It was not enough for one to protest against war or slavery or the pursuit of wealth. One must first and always ask, "How far am I responsible for this? What am I doing that condones this evil?" We are, therefore, not surprised to find that Woolman was "not merely a pacifist, but a peacemaker—not merely a person who objected to wars when they came, but one who really lived 'in the virtue of that life and power' from which conflict could not possibly arise" (p. 57).

Woolman, however, not only lived what he thought and taught; he also recorded his thoughts in a Journal and in many other writings. Using these as his sources, Mr. Reynolds has given us an excellent exposition and analysis of Woolman's thought and action, coupled with many of his own ideas which find their roots in Woolman.

In writing this book, the author has set out to accomplish three aims. First of all, he has attempted to create in his readers a desire for more of Woolman. In his own words, the book is designed to be an "hors d'oeuvre that will produce . . . the desire for more," not a "Woolman-Made-Easy for the lazy minds" nor a "Woolman Digest" (p. 2). Secondly, he has attempted to codify Woolman's ideas. To accomplish this purpose he has put his selections from Woolman's works under three headings. Those under "The Seed" show us the divine inspiration to which Woolman looked for "pure wisdom," those under "The Flower" reveal the spirit of charity in which he lived, and those under "The Fruit" disclose four of the several forms of activity
in which this charity appeared. Three of these forms, namely, wealth and
poverty, slavery, and war, were chosen because they represent, in the author’s
mind, “Woolman’s best and most typical social contribution.” The fourth,
showing his “attitude to bird and beast,” was inserted because it “rounds off
the picture of the man” (p. 42). Thirdly, the author has attempted, by
his selections and extensive comments, to indicate the “amazing relevance
of Woolman’s teachings” to the problems which the world faces today. He be-
lieves that Woolman’s thought was rooted not in his own period, but in
eternal truth. As he so aptly puts it, “you can drop bombs on the Mount,
but not on the Sermon” (p. 61).

Does the author accomplish his purposes? This reviewer believes that he
does. The book is a good introduction to Woolman for those who do not
already know him. It is not a biography. The purely biographical material is
kept to the barest minimum, and the majority of the readers who meet
Woolman here for the first time will want to read more about him and by
him. Some will wish that there were more of Woolman and less of Reynolds.
The selections from Woolman’s works, which the author says are the most
important part of the book, comprise only the last fifth of the contents.

It must also be noted here that many readers of this book will be as un-
sympathetic to Woolman’s ideas about some of the problems of his day as
they will be unsympathetic to the author’s application of those ideas to some
of the problems of our time. This will be especially true with respect to the
problems of wealth, war and peace, and politics. If these persons, however, do
not read with closed minds, they will be more persuaded to the rightness of
Woolman’s ideas than they ever have been before.

The book is written in an easy, informal style. The deep conviction and
the complete sincerity of the author are evident throughout. It is somewhat
surprising, though, to find one who is so much impressed by Woolman’s
spirit, which included charity and kindness in judgment, referring to Carlyle
as “this nineteenth century wind-bag” (p. 89).

Chester, Pa.

Paul L. Austin

Pennsylvania Songs and Legends. Edited by George Korson. (Philadelphia:
University of Pennsylvania Press, 1949. Pp. 474. $5.00.)

Pennsylvania Songs and Legends, edited by George Korson, is without
question the best over-all volume which has thus far appeared on the folklore
and folk music of any state. The only other book approximating it in scope
and character is Professor Harold Thompson’s Body, Boots, and Britches,
which, in a somewhat different way, does for the state of New York what
Korson has so admirably done for Pennsylvania. The two volumes together
set an extraordinarily high standard for folklore studies of individual states,
and the folklorist studying other regions would be brash indeed if he did not
at the least consult them as patterns for his work.

Korson’s book is preeminent because he has had as collaborators fourteen
Pennsylvania scholars, each of whom is a specialist of long standing in a
chosen field of folklore. And the fields were chosen and studied—as the reader
will at once discover—with affection and understanding. The volume is, consequently, human, warm, and thoroughly readable. It is Pennsylvania.

Besides being readable, the book is authoritative. From Professor Bayard's opening chapter on "The British Folk Tradition" to Professor Evanson's closing chapter on "Folk Songs of an Industrial City," it is evident that the contributors have undertaken original field research, have conscientiously related their findings to previously published materials, and have not—gratia dei—resorted, or succumbed, to the prevalent mania for "rehashing." The greater part of the material in the book is new and fresh, hitherto unpublished in any form. As a result, the book not only presents a synthesis of Pennsylvania folklore, but becomes at the same time a primary source for any future student of the mores and manners of the state.

The thirteen chapters, with their authors, are: "The British Folk Tradition" (Samuel Preston Bayard); "Pennsylvania German Songs" (Thomas R. Brendle and William S. Troxell); "Amish Hymns as Folk Music" (J. William Frey); "The Conplanter Indians" (Merle H. Deardorff); "Central Pennsylvania Legends" (Henry W. Shoemaker); "Pike County Tall Tales" (Robert J. Wheeler); "Conestoga Wagoners" (Howard C. Frey); "Canallers" (Lewis Edwin Theiss); "Railroaders" (Freeman H. Hubbard); "Lumberjacks and Raftsmen" (J. Herbert Walker); "Coal Miners" (George Korson); "Oilmen" (Harry Botsford); and "Folk Songs of an Industrial City" (Jacob A. Evanson).

From a cursory glance at the chapter titles, it is at once apparent that there is much more to the book than its title indicates. There are, true enough, 109 folk songs with music, and there are, also, tales and legends in virtually every chapter. These alone would have made an interesting, perhaps an excellent, anthology. But the chief value of **Pennsylvania Songs and Legends** lies in the fact that it has gone beyond the work of the mere anthologist, and that its pages of songs and legends are skillfully and thoroughly related to the total way of life of the Pennsylvania folk. Here, for example, is no Amish hymn standing alone in splendid vacuum. Instead, we have a full account of the origin of the Old Order Amish sect in Europe and of the first settlement of Amishmen in eastern Pennsylvania in the early eighteenth century. We have also a full account of their economic life and home life, their dress and social customs, their language, and, finally, their religious beliefs and observances. Then, and only then, the songs. This treatment is characteristic of that accorded the material in the other chapters of the book. We have, consequently, not a book of songs and legends, but a book of folklore, in the broader sense of the term, and of social history. Conestoga wagoners, canallers, lumberjacks, and coal miners come alive. For that matter—and particularly for the non-resident of the state—Pennsylvania comes alive. And since it does, the book may be heartily recommended to anyone wishing to know more of our country.

There is a finding list for all the songs and ballads included in the book, and a proper-name, but not a subject, index to the contents. It is regrettable that there is no bibliography—except as references to other works are contained in the body of the text—but extenuation may be made in view of the
fact that the bulk of the material used is original with the authors and drawn from their own manuscript collections of folklore. A separate bibliography of Pennsylvania folklore, however, prepared by the present writers and published by the same Press, would be a most desirable item.

*The Library of Congress*

**Duncan Emrich**

*Peter Cooper: Citizen of New York.* By Edward C. Mack. (New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1949. Pp. xvi, 432. $5.00.)

This is a genial biography of a most genial man, one whose death all New York mourned, one who could say in all honesty—and with strong truth—"I have always recognized that the object of business is to make money in an honorable manner. I have endeavored to remember that the object of life is to do good."

Peter Cooper's good doing was evident not only in the larger circle of public philanthropy, but also where good doing is sometimes more difficult—in the family circle. At the age of ten he began his inventive career by devising a washing machine for his mother—there were nine children in the family. To his wife—for whom through fifty-six married years he maintained an idyllic attachment—on the birth of their first child he presented a self-rocking cradle. Under his hospitable roof his two "old-maid" sisters lived to advanced age, one, incidentally, with what must have been the annoying habit of keeping a lamp burning each night in her window for a sailor sweetheart long ago lost on a John Jacob Astor ship around the Horn.

In his good doing outside the Cooper family walls Peter Cooper carried on a fifty-year running fight with municipal corruption in the city of New York. He was an early advocate of a paid police and fire department, of sanitary water conditions, and of public schools, but his great monument is the Cooper Union at Astor Place, New York City, founded in 1857-59 "for the advancement of science and art." This institution is unique in the combination it offers of the ideal and the practical, and, moreover, it is the place where, early in 1860, Abraham Lincoln delivered the address which won the East and thus paved the way for his election, for the Gettysburg Address, and for Ford's Theatre.

Of course, all this civic activity of Peter Cooper's was made possible by money making of the highest order. A Yankee of the days when a man could be a master of many trades and jack of none, Cooper, successively hatter, brewer, coachmaker, manufacturer of shearing machines, traveling salesman, and storekeeper, founded his fortune with the purchase, in the depression of 1821, of a glue factory which would soon supply the bulk of the American market. With capital thus obtained, Cooper seven years later purchased within the Baltimore city limits the 3,000 acres of land on which he built the Canton Iron Works; later he progressed to Trenton where his Cooper works made the first cast-iron beams successfully used in the tall buildings to rise in a New York City that was growing parallel to the fortunes of Peter Cooper. The engine, *Tom Thumb*, was a Cooper venture; backing Cyrus Field in laying the Atlantic cable was another. Early in his life Peter
Cooper had devised an endless chain for moving boats on the Erie Canal; toward the end of his days he still favored the contraption and very nearly convinced the City of New York that it should be used on the contemplated Third Avenue Railway.

Dr. Mack's book follows by eight years C. Sumner Spaulding's critical bibliography and by fourteen years Allen Nevins' somewhat necessarily cursory references to Cooper in his *Abram S. Hewitt*. These two books were the only successors to Zachos' scrappy account of Cooper's life prepared from conversations with him and to Hughes' life which was withdrawn by order of the Cooper family. Parenthetically, it was through his interest in Thomas Hughes, English author of *Tom Brown's School Days*, that Dr. Mack, Professor of English in the City College of New York, discovered Peter Cooper. It is well that he has done so.

*New York State Historical Association*  
MARY E. CUNNINGHAM

The Pennsylvania German Folklore Society, Volume XIII, 1948. Edited by Preston A. Barba. (Fogelsville, Pa.: The Society [1949]. Pp. v, 264. $5.00. [Orders for this book should be sent to R. P. Moore, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa.])

Recently the Pennsylvania German Folklore Society has published outstanding works of dialect literature, source materials for those interested in genealogy and in German background, and contributions on Pennsylvania German influence outside of our state. Nor has the society neglected either Pennsylvania German art or Pennsylvania German dialect. The thirteenth Yearbook presents as its first and major item Guy F. Reinert's treatise on "The Coverlets of the Pennsylvania Germans" and their weavers, a work based on long and arduous efforts to preserve a record of the native weaving art. In the second article, entitled "Linguistic Variants in the Pennsylvania German Dialect," Dr. Albert F. Buffington, Professor of German in The Pennsylvania State College, continues his study of this dialect, a study which he began with his doctoral dissertation at Harvard University.

Without disparagement of Professor Buffington's contribution, one may truthfully say that the 1948 Yearbook is the treatise on coverlets. One is immediately struck by the attractiveness of the cover with its partial reproduction of an 1834 *Deppich* by Peter Harting. The 118 illustrations add to the visual quality of the book. Of these, 107 are photographs of coverlets by the author. Most of these are in black and white, but twenty-four are either in red and white, or in blue and white. It is unfortunate that the prohibitive cost prevented the reproduction of coverlets in their many exquisite colors. Several copies of patterns are taken directly from the pattern books used by the weavers. Several drawings in red by Edward C. Smith enhance the appearance of this treatise.

This study of coverlets distinguishes itself in more than outward, physical qualities; it possesses inner greatness too. Mr. Reinert has saved from oblivion the names of 182 coverlet weavers by resorting to graveyards, newspaper files, old account books, and interviews with old people, as well as by
travels over thousands of miles in seven southeastern Pennsylvania counties in order to see about 2,000 coverlets. The most elaborate and gorgeously colored of all those viewed is the one shown in illustration 108. The author does not attempt to teach the weaving art nor to discuss the early coverlet of geometrical design, but rather aims to emphasize the so-called Jacquard coverlets of the first half of the nineteenth century. He found only one woman coverlet weaver in southeastern Pennsylvania, i.e., in Lancaster County. He lists alphabetically the various weavers, gives the cost of production, and presents a fascinating translation by Dr. Edward E. Fogel of Solomon Kuder’s Der Praktische Familien-Färberei. He treats also the practical aspect of producing dyes. All told, his study, although it contains some typographical errors and lacks essential summaries and effective organization, is a major contribution to the recent literature on Pennsylvania German art.

The thirty-five pages of Buffington’s article are “intended to be a preliminary report of the geographical distribution of the variable features of the phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary of the Pennsylvania German dialect spoken in the various sections of Pennsylvania.” It is a continuation of Reed’s and Seifert’s investigations. The study, “a valuable and scholarly piece of work,” according to Dr. Barba, required travel of over 4,000 miles and the interviewing of eighty-two informants. The author, although he admits the inconclusive character of his work, has nevertheless taken a step in the right direction. What annoys the reviewer more than anything else is his inconsistency in orthography, still a great problem in the accurate study of the Pennsylvania German dialect. For example, Buffington uses the letter R to represent the personal pronoun, but omits it when it has vowel quality and when it is pronounced just a little. Mr. Buffington has started a trend, but much needs to be done before the linguistic truth can be reached.

Dr. Arthur D. Graeff’s “1948 in Pennsylvania German History” concludes this striking Yearbook.

The editor, Dr. Preston A. Barba, because of his painstaking efforts to maintain high literary standards, has left his indelible mark on this volume.


The author has not only presented an interesting and vivid description of an important step in the development of our industrial life; he has succeeded in making the fact clear that great inventions are generally due to the tireless efforts of many persons, and are not the product of a single individual. He has also shown his readers that new machines, new methods, and new processes usually result from the pressure of necessity rather than from the sheer pleasure of invention.

Man as a hunter required only simple tools and weapons, such as the stone hammer, the bow and arrow, and the spear; but as a tiller of the soil,
as an industrialist, and as a miner he needed more complex machines. Chief among these was a machine that could supply him with water and that could prevent flooding of the mines.

In the early days water was raised from a low to a higher level by means of crude buckets that were operated by man or animal power. As the quantity of water to be handled, and the height to which it had to be raised, increased, larger sources of power became necessary. This need stimulated the development of steam power.

The evolution of the steam engine is traced through the experimental work of della Porta, Solomon de Caus, Papin, and others to the practical steam pumps of Thomas Savery and of Thomas Newcomen.

After much study and experimentation James Watt, an instrument maker, improved the existing pumps to such an extent that he is often credited with the invention of the steam engine. His ability and originality are further emphasized by the fact that he invented and built testing instruments to carry on his investigations. When Watt devised means of converting the reciprocating motion of the piston into rotary motion, he made possible the application of the steam engine to manufacturing processes, thus promoting the withdrawal of industry from the homes to the central plant.

The author has enriched his book by surrounding the central theme with a description of the cultural and scientific life of the period, and by including interesting accounts of many of the personal problems that entered into the lives of Watt and his contemporaries.

This book will make an excellent addition to the library of the engineer as well as to that of the general reader.

Bucknell University

Warren D. Garman


The name of the subject alone would have been an adequate title for this thin biography of 315 pages, first in the Ohio Governors Series. Joseph Benson Foraker’s career is not one to inspire the devotion of students or to stir the historian to years of research. The story that Dr. Walters has presented will not need to be redone. Its greatest value, perhaps, lies in its illustration of the barrenness of American politics as exemplified by many of its leaders in the closing years of the golden age of industry, less aptly called “the Gilded Age.”

Dr. Walters in twenty chapters traces Foraker’s life from his birth on an Ohio farm on July 5, 1846, to his death in Cincinnati one May morning in 1917. The ingredients are exciting enough—soldier in the Civil War, governor of his state, leader in Republican national conventions, chief figure in many political duels, member of the Senate, advocate of imperialism, and friend or foe (or both) of such national figures as John Sherman, Mark Hanna, William McKinley, Warren G. Harding, Theodore Roosevelt, and William
Howard Taft—but the tale is in many ways discouraging. Foraker no doubt possessed many gifts and some sincerity, but his gifts were mostly employed on speakers' stands to give the voters what they wanted to hear, and his sincerity rarely rose above the level of partisanship. In his younger days he waved the bloody shirt to shreds, and in his mature political years he became the dauntless warrior who manned the bastions of big business to fight off the evil men who would regulate the swelling corporations. He was unconscious of the changing forces in the nation and unaware of the unrest that was rising under him. To him reformers—Democrats in general, and Tom Johnson of Cleveland and Golden Rule Jones of Toledo in particular—were but prattling Communists and Socialists. Yet Foraker had his virtues and his gifts; he could talk of honest elections and of efficiency, and he could defend the friendless colored soldiers in the Brownsville affair. His basic difficulties were that his guiding star was one of shifting personal ambition that gave him no solid ground on which to walk and that his horizon was limited by partisan politics. He retired from public office frustrated and disappointed, with the letters of John D. Archbold hanging heavy over his head. Reconciliation with Theodore Roosevelt and others of his onetime enemies gladdened his last years.

Dr. Walters tells his story in a straightforward manner. He records the sorry details of political intrigue with care and without sermon and follows objectively the circuitous progress of his hero. A careful examination of modern studies would have thrown more light on many subjects, such as the gold plank of the 1896 platform, the tariff, and the Treasury surplus, than can be obtained from Foraker's *Notes of a Busy Life* or from Peck's *Twenty Years of the Republic*. The series is a commendable undertaking.

*Temple University*  

JAMES A. BARNES

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*Guide to the Published Archives of Pennsylvania*. By Henry Howard Eddy.  

This *Guide*, in pamphlet form, will prove extremely valuable to those seeking information contained in Pennsylvania's multi-volumed published archives. Publications of this type have earned a very definite place among the principal finding aids that librarians, archivists, and public-records officers should provide, because they help to orient scholars, students, and information-seekers with respect to the general characteristics of published archival source materials, and also because they provide a definite point of departure for study, search, and the location of specific information. Congratulations on the publication of this aid are therefore in order.

When read as a whole, the *Guide* offers the reader sufficient information to acquaint him thoroughly with the content and the publication history of the published archives, and with certain areas in which the archives may prove most useful. It must be remembered, however, that the ordinary searcher will not take the time or the pains to read this work thoroughly, and that accordingly he will miss much information of value for purposes of
orientation. For such inadequate use the faulty construction of the pamphlet will be partly to blame.

The third section of the Guide, the "History of Publication," contains much introductory informational material (such as expanded summary statements of general characteristics, "nature of contents" analyses, and "indexing" discussions) which would be more serviceable to the ordinary searcher, especially the uninitiate, if placed at the beginning of the pamphlet, supplementing the very brief "Brief Summary." In this way sufficient orientation would be given in the first pages to permit the searcher to use specific finding lists intelligently. The introductory material contained in the third section is of sufficient general interest to warrant its being put in the first section, whereas the actual data on the history of publication are almost solely of academic or technical interest and are rightly put near the end. This being the case, the ordinary searcher may pass by the "history of publication" discussion without missing much information of fundamental value for understanding the published archives.

We may criticize this work, then, because not enough attention was paid to organizing it to serve its special purpose and its probable clientele. This criticism is, however, a personal one and is quite technical. The Guide, by supplying so well a long-felt need, deserves a hearty welcome into the fold of finding aids. It should prove exceedingly valuable to anyone who will take the trouble to use it intelligently.

New York State Education Department,
Division of Archives and History


Although the title and the first few chapters do not tell us so, yet the major concern of this book is the early history of Minnesota. Approximately the first half of the volume comprises the detailed itineraries of ten or twelve explorers and missionaries in the Great Lakes region west of Mackinac; the second half deals ostensibly with the first settlers in Minnesota, but this 140-page story is weighted in the center with a 50-page monograph on the founding of the University of Minnesota.

The section devoted to the explorers, though beginning with a non-Midwest adventurer, De Soto, includes chapter (or part-chapter) accounts of leaders such as Nicolet, Radisson, Joliet, Marquette, Du Lhut, Father Hennepin, La Salle, and Jonathan Carver. Although the clear, objective style and well-organized facts often arouse narrative interest, yet some of the details are unnecessarily minute and there is a meagre amount of interpretation. Undoubtedly some of the material is here newly brought to light, but even the casual student of history has the impression that much of this has been told before. The style occasionally becomes naively explicit, e.g.; "Father Hennepin was born in 1640 in the village of Ath, Belgium. More than three hundred years have passed since that time . . . ." (p. 40). Niagara Falls is "one of the most famous sights in America" (p. 41). Two inaccuracies appear to the
present reviewer, and though not serious in themselves, they suggest that other passages might be scrutinized for accuracy. On page 16, the author states that Nicolet in 1634 “stepped ashore at Green Bay.” Aside from the fact that Green Bay was non-existent at the time, the place of landing specified is not correct: Nicolet stepped ashore about fifteen miles down the bay at a point later known as Red Banks. Also, on page 32 the author states that Joliet and Marquette “... followed the Fox River to its end in a little lake. Here they had to carry their canoes and supplies a long way overland. ...” The portage is river to river and actually only a distance of two miles.

In the latter part of the book there is a good chapter on the New England contribution to Minnesota; and the account of the University’s long parturition is meticulous and no doubt valuable, but its scope and bibliographical apparatus seriously overbalance the less elaborate treatment elsewhere. Homespun realism characterizes the farmwife’s 1873 diary of a thirty-five-day journey, quoted in its entirety. One chapter deals with a few “pioneers of the second line,” i.e., the early social planners, reformers, and public benefactors. The concluding portion of the volume is a coda of Minnesota historical development with an obligato of state pride.

Bucknell University  

ALLAN G. HALLINE


Since this is the best (repeat: best) book ever written on the theory and practice of Quaker education, it is a cause for rejoicing that it is back in print. Those who know this little classic, first published ten years ago, will recall that it consists of an introductory statement on “the aims of education” which reveals the author’s broad philosophical grasp of a controversial subject; an authoritative eleven-page explanation of the nature of Quakerism not matched anywhere in Quaker literature for lucidity and incisiveness; a most useful outline history of Quaker education in the British Isles and America; a knowledgeable and perceptive analysis of Quaker educational policies in the past; and a prophetic forecast of the probable lines of future development in Quaker education. Anyone seeking to understand the distinctive character of Quaker life over the generations will find more clues in this book than in any other volume of comparable size.

Having unburdened himself of this encomium, the reviewer feels himself under some perverse necessity of pointing out a flaw in the book. The best he can do, however, after diligent search, is to call attention to a lone misprint carried over from the earlier edition: 1717 for 1817 in the reference to Westtown School on page 58! A more fruitful exercise is to compare this text with the earlier one and note some of the emendations and additions. Having in mind, no doubt, the shortcomings of too many contemporary Quaker meetings, Howard Brinton observes that “a message appropriate to a forum or discussion group is not appropriate for a meeting, the primary purpose of which is to wait upon God” (p. 13). In his discussion of Quaker
testimonies, he substitutes the word *harmony* for *pacifism*, feeling that the latter term has acquired "an unfortunate negative connotation" (p. 16). In the sketch of Quaker boarding schools he has added an interesting note on the Kimberton school in Chester County which "operated with no rules except the golden rule" (p. 35). The enrollment in Friends schools, one notes, has risen from 7,400 in 1940 to 9,041 in 1949, while the percentage of Friends in the student body has dropped from twenty to fourteen; the proportion of Friends in Quaker colleges has remained constant at about eighteen per cent (pp. 36, 38).

Perhaps the most significant recent development in Quaker education is hinted at under the heading of equality of educational opportunity between the races. Whereas the first edition read, "Except in some of the earlier elementary schools [Friends] have generally favored separate schools for whites and Negroes," Howard Brinton is now able to say, "In some Friends schools Negro students are admitted" (my italics). Against the earlier experience of a Friends school which "admitted one Negro and as a result lost a considerable part of its patronage," he can point to another prominent Quaker school which "after hesitating to admit Negro students discovered that their inclusion made no difference." He concludes that "the practice of racial discrimination is so clearly contrary to Friends principles that the removal of prejudice should be a primary objective in Quaker education" (p. 72). The implications of Quakerism for educational theory and practice are still unfolding themselves.

*Swarthmore College*  

**Frederick B. Tolles**


In this volume the purpose is "to sketch in broad outline the lives and work of a selected group of men, each of whom, in his own way, made a priceless and enduring contribution to the advancement of our agriculture and, in many instances, to world agriculture." Seventeen men are considered in separate essays, and twelve others are grouped together in a final chapter. In a prefatory essay the general relation of a more abundant food supply to the forward impulses of civilization is noted, but in the remainder of the book this argument is largely left to implication rather than sustentation.

In reading these essays anyone familiar with the subjects will meet statements made as facts which will make him murmur, "I wonder," and in a few places he may exclaim, "I don't believe it!" Most of the disturbing statements may be true, but the entire absence of specific documentation puts the burden of proof on the conscientious reader. In some instances the accuracy of statements is dependent on the meaning of a word, and in others the statement is so phrased that the author takes no responsibility. Examples of the first are the assertions that Jefferson "introduced horizontal or terraced plowing" and that he "introduced the practice of having the moldboard cast entirely in iron instead of wood." Here much depends on the meaning of the
verb "introduce," and it can certainly be argued that the statements are contrary to the facts. An example of the second is the statement that Washington is credited with being the first farmer to cultivate pecan trees."

In essays of this type other writers using the same data might derive somewhat different conclusions. In the case of Henry L. Ellsworth the inclusion of his large-scale land-speculation activities would have provided a more adequate background for an interpretation of his career. In some of these essays the facts, if considered from a long-time view, would seem to be more significant than they are represented to be. The rôle of the agricultural fair of Elkanah Watson in American life is an example. In order to emphasize the work of George Harrison Shull, and thus justify the selection of him as the principal figure in the story of hybrid corn, inadequate recognition is given to the many other men involved in a story that goes back at least to 1694 when the fertilization process in corn was first discovered by the Dutch botanist, Camerarius.

In the fourteen pages of references the items include both writings on and by the men concerned, but the basis of selection is not made clear. Some of the sources are inadequately identified. A notable omission is A. Richard Crabbe's The Hybrid-Corn Makers (1947).

The volume is very readable. It may be used as supplementary reading in history courses, and it will have a wide and extended vogue among those professing an interest in reading about the development of agriculture. Except that rural Pennsylvania is part of the American agricultural empire, the book has no bearing on Pennsylvania history.

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Everett E. Edwards

_Simon Cameron's Adventure in Iron, 1837-1846._ By James B. McNair.

(Los Angeles 5, California: The Author, 818 South Ardmore Avenue, 1949. Pp. xii, 160. $3.85.)

Only about half of this book has any reference to the iron industry. Instead of an Adventure in Iron, it might more accurately be called "Additional Biographical Notes Respecting Simon Cameron," written by a descendant of his partner in the iron business, in an effort to vindicate that partner's reputation and to publicize Cameron's dishonesty. This purpose is not apparent at the beginning of the book, for there the author admits Cameron's diligence, ambition, and ability to attract influential sponsors.

Cameron early learned the printing business and was able to obtain state contracts, but his financial activities were concerned chiefly with canals, railroads, and banking. S. F. Headley persuaded him to form a partnership in the iron business which included McNair, an ironmaster. The firm acquired the Nescopeck Forge and Columbia Furnace. Headley left the firm and Cameron became its financial adviser, selling its products to railroads and sharing the losses and profits equally with McNair, who managed the ironworks, for which he received an annual salary of five hundred dollars.

McNair produced first-class iron, much of which was sold to various rail-
roads. When the iron business suffered financial reverses, Cameron told McNair that it was the latter's sole responsibility to raise money. Thereupon McNair sold his half interest in a general merchandise store and later sold his farm, putting all the proceeds into the firm. He finally became bankrupt. Cameron, although powerful and wealthy, gave no aid to McNair or to their joint business.

The evidence presented in this publication is insufficient to determine whether McNair lacked financial judgment or whether he was swindled by a ruthless cheat. It is the firm belief of his descendant, however, that his ancestor's financial downfall was due solely to Simon Cameron.

The references in the book to some of Cameron's practices, such as his taking credit for the accomplishments of others and his nepotism while Secretary of War, rise to a climax of direct, forcible condemnations. Among the latter the author mentions the Winnebago Affair, in which Cameron swindled the Indians, and President Lincoln's and Thaddeus Stevens' reflections upon Cameron's integrity, none of which, however, has any bearing on the iron industry.

In its account of McNair the book clearly portrays the trials of a skillful ironmaster, due in part to hard times when even good iron could not be sold at a profit, in part to dishonest partners, and in part to badly drawn legal contracts.


Rosebud Teschner Solis-Cohen


We have here a survey which begins with the Committee of Secret Correspondence of the Continental Congress in 1775 and which ends with the appointment of Acheson as Secretary of State in 1949. In the intervening space the reader is provided with thumbnail sketches of the Secretaries and their subordinates, as well as with accounts of the numerous reorganizations, discussions of the problems met during each presidential administration, and explanations of the policies decided upon. The footnotes indicate that only printed sources were used.

The division of space is interesting. Emphasis is definitely on the more recent period, especially since 1933. Many users of the volume will no doubt wish that more attention had been devoted to some of the pre-1933 events. Most of the pages dealing with events after 1933 are filled with minutiae about reorganizations and the everchanging personnel of this office and that division. If it be granted that the work is supposed to be a rapid summary of the history of the Department, this reader is constrained to say that the part dealing with events before 1933 is much more successful than the part dealing with events after that year. The latter bogs down into the kind of material to be found in a telephone book or a departmental directory. This is perhaps the worst fault in the book, although one also finds fuzziness in idea and
statement here and there; as, for instance, on pages 19 and 24, where the author is not clear whether the declaration of 1793 was a neutrality proclamation or not. These few citations of weak places in the armor of the volume do not detract from the general worth of the work as a whole. On the contrary, it is a valuable piece of writing and deserves a wide reading. The reviewer is glad to recommend it to the historian, to the political scientist, and to the general reader.

Inasmuch as this notice is appearing in a Pennsylvania journal, it is meet that something be said about the relationship of the topic to the Keystone State. The Secretaries hailing from Pennsylvania—Pickering, Buchanan, Black, Knox, and Marshall—are given the following estimates by the author. Pickering "still enjoys the dubious distinction of being the only Secretary of State who was dismissed from office," says Stuart on page 33, although he seems to assert the same thing about Robert Smith of Maryland on page 47. Buchanan did a good enough job as Secretary to be able to use his record as a stepping-stone to the Presidency (p. 108). Black was hardly in office long enough to make much of a mark, but he stood loyally for the Union (pp. 127-128). Knox does not rate very high from the standpoint of policy; his influence on departmental organization, however, places him in the top half dozen Secretaries (p. 223). "Secretary [George C.] Marshall's outstanding services . . . unquestionably assured him a position among America's great Secretaries of State" (p. 464). Thus, despite several able men, Pennsylvania's contribution cannot compare with that of New York, which includes Jay, Van Buren, Marcy, Seward, Fish, Evarts, Root, Bacon, Lansing, Colby, Hughes, and Stimson—many of whom were giants; and hardly with that of Massachusetts, which includes John Quincy Adams (called in chapter five the Department's greatest Secretary), Webster who served twice, Everett, and Olney. On the other hand, Pennsylvania produced no one as bad as the above-mentioned Smith—"one of the Secretaries of State whose name is practically forgotten" (p. 47).

The book makes certain definite impressions upon a reader. In the first place, the Department has grown enormously—from a Secretary and two clerks in 1789 to 3,767 employees, 7,000 in the Foreign Service, and a budget of about fifty million dollars in 1945 (p. 414). In the second place, one cannot escape the impact of the author's reiterations about the dire results that followed whenever politics entered the Department. Grant's stupid selections, Bryan's housecleaning for the benefit of deserving Democrats, and the political appointments of 1933 did our foreign service no good. It is quite obvious that Stuart favors the career type of official. Had it not been for the long-serving, poorly paid career men, the Department in times past would often have been in a sorry plight. Such a low-paid but loyal workhorse was Alvey A. Adee, who not only became an institution but acted as a buffer to cushion the evil results arising from political appointments. Adee died in 1924 after serving fifty-four years and under twenty-two Secretaries. What a man! He was one of those bureaucrats we hear so much about.

Susquehanna University

William A. Russ, Jr.

This volume, edited by Melville J. Boyer, contains a variety of articles. Mr. Britain Roth, in “Diary of a Voyage in the Clipper Hesperus,” presents an account of the colorful experiences of his father, William Roth, in a voyage from Boston to Honolulu, 1858-59. William J. Wilcox discusses “First Treasurer’s Books of Lehigh County,” incorporating in his article an assessment list of Allentown for 1813, which will please genealogists. As one would expect from Lehigh, there are three pieces in Pennsylvania German dialect. To historians the significant article is Alfred Gemmell’s “Manuscripts Shed New Light on Lehigh County’s First Furnace,” a study of production and of labor relations at Hampton Furnace, chiefly in the years 1838-44.

The volume is indexed, though not exhaustively. In addition there is a supplement of eighty-six pages prepared by Reuben C. Pretz which indexes volumes I-XV. The format is excellent.


“This revised edition,” the author writes, “has been modified in the light of classroom use. Particular attention has been placed upon the collateral readings with the intention of making them more functional. The section entitled “Valuable Sources of Information” will prove especially useful to teachers and prospective teachers of American History. Specific map information has been added. The text has been brought up to the date of publication.

To readers of Pennsylvania History the “Pennsylvania Supplement” no doubt will be the most interesting part of this generally useful outline. This supplement, an outline of the history of Pennsylvania in four units, fills some twelve pages of the Guide. At the end of each unit there is a list of collateral readings. Here the author has specifically listed, as he should have done, A. C. Bining et al., Writings on Pennsylvania History, but neither here nor in his generalized list of “valuable sources of information” has he so much as mentioned Pennsylvania History. Can it be possible that Pennsylvania History, a magazine now beginning its seventeenth volume, has published nothing of value either to teachers or to students of the history of Pennsylvania? If so, then this notice will help to sell no copies of A Study Guide for American History (Revised) with Pennsylvania Supplement.

Presidents North Carolina Gave the Nation: Addresses and Papers in Connection with the Unveiling of a Monument to the Three Presidents North Carolina Gave the Nation. (Raleigh: Commission for a Memorial to the Three North Carolina Presidents, 1949. Pp. 61.)

A rather precise Harvard professor once remarked that Pennsylvania has
produced two great men, namely, Benjamin Franklin of Massachusetts and Albert Gallatin of Switzerland. He might also have said that Tennessee has given three Presidents to the nation: Andrew Jackson of North Carolina, James K. Polk of North Carolina, and Andrew Johnson of North Carolina. To these three men North Carolina can lay a double claim. Not only were they born in North Carolina, but they rose to distinction in a state which, until 1796, was a part of North Carolina.

The booklet now under review is a copiously illustrated and beautifully printed souvenir of a meeting held in Raleigh on October 19, 1948, for the purpose of unveiling a monument to Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, and Andrew Johnson. The principal address was made by President Truman. Governor Jim McCord brought appropriate greetings from Tennessee, and Governor R. Gregg Cherry formally accepted the monument in the name of North Carolina. An introduction for the booklet was written by Christopher Crittenden, secretary to the Commission for a Memorial to the Three North Carolina Presidents.


Here is the latest pamphlet in the series called Home Craft Course. It is elaborately illustrated.

"Of all painted tin," the author writes, "the tray is the most sought after for designs and its general usefulness. Their decorations were vividly different. . . ."

"In Pennsylvania we find distinction in design even in counties. Collections bought in and around Lancaster County are very different from the early pieces found in York County. This comparison is made by tracing pieces known to have been purchased in each locality and are now in possession of fourth and fifth generations."


Here is a list of documents that should greatly aid the study of the relations of the United States Government with the Indian tribes that came under its jurisdiction. "The list," the compiler writes, "includes all documentary materials in the records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (Record Group 75) and the Office of the Secretary of the Interior (Record Group 48) that are easily identifiable as throwing light on the authority, intent, and understanding of the men who negotiated these treaties. . . . Some three hundred and seventy treaties with Indian tribes had been formally ratified or perfected and proclaimed as part of the law of the land before the making of treaties with Indians was discontinued in 1871."

National Archives Accessions, No. 38, April 1-June 30, 1949. (Washington: The National Archives, Publication No. 50-2, pp. 19.)
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