John McMillan, the Apostle of Presbyterianism in the West, 1752–1833. By Dwight Raymond Guthrie. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, c. 1952. Pp. x, 296. $3.00.)

Dr. Guthrie's life of the Reverend John McMillan is something more than a biography of the "father" of Presbyterianism in western Pennsylvania. His book contains much that is valuable not only for the history of the Presbyterian Church in the United States but also for the history of education in our country. It is, moreover, a small storehouse of information about the pioneer Presbyterian ministers who labored near the headwaters of the Ohio. The book is undoubtedly a contribution to the history of the rise of civilization in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Nevertheless, the Reverend Mr. McMillan is rightly the central figure in this study. Born of Scotch-Irish immigrant parents in eastern Pennsylvania in 1752, McMillan received his college training at Princeton. He was graduated in 1772, in the class of which Philip Fithian was a member. Thereafter he studied theology with the Reverend Robert Smith, and on October 26, 1774, he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of New Castle. In 1775 and in the early part of 1776 he made two preaching tours into the western country, one result of which was his decision to devote his life to this region. On June 19, 1776, he was ordained by the Presbytery of Donegal and thus was prepared to accept a call that had come from the congregations of Chartiers and Pigeon Creek. It was not until the autumn of 1778, however, that he found it practicable to remove his family to the western country. Arriving at his new home late in that year, he began a ministry that ended with his death in 1833. He was the first settled Presbyterian minister in western Pennsylvania, and for more than a half-century he was a leading citizen of the region to the service of which he devoted his mature life.

Not only was McMillan a vigorous and a tireless minister, an organizer of many western churches, and one of the founders of the presbyteries of Redstone and Ohio; he also was a founder of educational institutions in southwestern Pennsylvania. As early as 1780 he began a Latin school in a log-house on his farm, thus continuing in the west the tradition started by William Tennent at Neshaminy in 1726. This school was the forerunner of the Western Theological Seminary. McMillan was one of the founders of the academies established at Washington and Canonsburg, from which presently emerged Washington College and Jefferson College. For thirty
years he was professor of divinity in Jefferson College. In a sense, his labors in behalf of collegiate education reached their fulfillment, a generation after his death, when the colleges of Washington and Jefferson were merged in 1865, although it is doubtful whether McMillan would have approved such a merger.

The value of this book is greatly enhanced by the appendices. From the journal of McMillan we can learn much of the ministerial labors of the man; from an autobiographical letter that he wrote in 1832 we may read his own sketchy summary of his career; and from his expense account we can learn not a little economic and social history. Many persons will be interested in the prices he paid for various and sundry things, and more than one person will read with interest his record of his contributions to charity and his listing of the periodicals for which he subscribed. The evidence shows, interestingly enough, that during the decade of the 1820's he was a consistent reader of Niles' Weekly Register.

The documentation of the text is satisfactory, and the bibliography is adequate. The index is useful though not exhaustive. The end-maps are helpful to the reader who is not well acquainted with southwestern Pennsylvania.

On the whole, the volume is attractive. Critical readers, however, will regret the fact that the word "West," "as of 1752-1833," is restricted in its application to "the country lying immediately on the west side of the Allegheny Mountains" (p. vii). Surely this is not the meaning that the author wished to convey. Furthermore, sensitive readers will regret that the work of proofreading has left something to be desired. These faults, however, are minor; the merits are such that the book should attract the notice of every serious student of Pennsylvania history.

Bucknell University

J. ORIN OLIPHANT


This book is, at one and the same time, delightful, descriptive, disarming, and deadly-serious-in-a-cheerful-vein. Hence it is meat for the historian, yet fun to masticate. The casual reader is bound to enjoy it. Thirty-two broad-page, beautifully-colored illustrations are interspersed among 146 pages of narrative, the latter limited to less than half a page, about 170 words on each. This is an easy book to thumb through, and Mr. Johnson evidently hoped the pictures would entice the readers, which they should.

Actually, these pictures and this narrative were born of hopes that that non-existent person, the average reader, would be activated by references to his nation's history: in the one case activated to buy distilled liquors; in the other to emulate the faith, courage, cheerfulness, and good sense of the founding fathers who set up the government in Philadelphia. Unfortunately, the first hope already seems to have been disappointed, and there are some senatorially-inspired indications that the second may suffer the same fate, with far from cheerful consequences.


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Business executives concerned with automobiles, banking, insurance, railroads, "aged" liquors, a few foodstuffs, and some other products have from time to time experimented with the sales effectiveness of pictures of yesterday, designed to impart an aura of age or dignity, public confidence or stability to the product advertised. The hope that historical illustrations of famous persons associated with notable events or locales of national significance would expand whiskey sales led the board of the Continental Distilling Corporation of Philadelphia to spend considerable money.

They determined to make an outstanding effort in this field. They hired four research workers who labored at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, gathering accurate data to portray scenes indigenous to Philadelphia between 1775 and 1800. They engaged four artists—James Bingham, Simon Greco, Everett Henry (whose name by mischance was omitted from the formal listing in the book) and Frank Reilly—to paint the scenes, numbering fifty-four in all. These scenes through about five years dominated the firm's nationwide advertising in approximately a dozen popular magazines. These handsome advertisements won awards and much favorable comment from educators who asked for, and received, paper copies of the paintings to use in schoolrooms. But, alas! Continental Distilling executives reached the unhappy conclusion that historical pictures do not, in fact, stimulate sales; the series was therefore terminated. This reviewer does not know of an equal outlay in this field of disappointment.

Fortunately, another field of usefulness now is occupied by some of the fifty-four paintings and, it is to be hoped, may be occupied by more of them: possession of various paintings has been requested, and granted, to various groups, in the public interest. "The First American Air Flight" now hangs in the Atwater Kent Museum; "Old London Coffee House" (locale of the pre-Revolutionary stock exchange), in the Philadelphia Stock Exchange; "Washington Calls on Betsy Ross," in the Betsy Ross house; "Caesar Rodney Arrives with the Deciding Vote," in the Wilmington Public Library; "The Electric Picnic," in the Poor Richard Club; "Washington's Headquarters," in the U.S.S. Valley Forge; "Final Drafting of the Declaration," in Independence Hall; "Presenting Captured Yorktown Battle Flags at the State House," in Independence Hall; "Congress and the Bill of Rights," in the Art Student's League of New York; "Stephen Girard Sighting One of His Inbound Vessels from His Home," in Girard College; "Tun Tavern, First Recruiting Office for the Continental Marines," in the Washington office of the United States Marine Corps.

Recently McGraw Hill and Gerald W. Johnson became interested in making further use of the pictures in an interesting combination of profit-earning and patriotism. They selected thirty-two for book reproductions, to accompany a chatty essay by Johnson on the work done by the founding fathers in Philadelphia and on the atmosphere in which they did it, told in terms of personal experience. Although Johnson, being a free lance publicist himself, is dubious about historians, whom he describes as "many of them solemn fellows unable to distinguish between good humor and levity, and nearly all of them in thrall to documentation" (p. 24), most his-
torians would find his book accurate in the main and so right in appeal that they would wish for it a very wide circulation.

Johnson wants Americans to realize the role of the nation’s builders in erecting a resilient political system capable of withstanding all manner of assault, but he avoids preaching in trying to send the point home. Philadelphia, he points out, was then the ideal locale for nation-building because she was cosmopolitan, forward-looking, stimulating to constructive ideas, and not above enjoying life. There flourished a spirit of youthfulness, courage, confidence, and cheerfulness without which the bold experiment in new government could not have been launched. Nor were leaders then weak yielders to popular furores; President John Adams refused to let an angry populace drive him into an ill-advised war, for example.

The same spirit of strong faith in the principles of individual liberty, freedom of thought, and tolerance, as bulwarks of the future of America will, if allowed to do so, carry us wisely and successfully through our present time of trial. This is the kind of America, says Johnson, in which Americans must continue to believe. Surely Johnson’s message merits a wider audience than the buyers of this book. Perhaps a publicist of his skill and good cheer can devise ways of impressing his thought into a wider functioning.


JEANNETTE P. NICHOLS


Early in 1802, Jeffery Scalfé, an English-born “Tin Plate Worker,” opened with two other partners a shop in Pittsburgh. Ever since, the Scalfés of five generations and their employees have been shaping metal into a bewildering variety of forms. To the making of lamps, stoves, and ventilators they added in the steamboat age the outfitting of vessels with metalware from funnels to galley and the ownership, in whole or in part, of the vessels themselves. From a low point in their early enterprise a patented lifeboat of metal temporarily rescued them. In the post Civil War years they provided tanks, barrels, well tubing, and distillery apparatus for the oil industry; built metal roofs and framing for factories and business buildings; devised an improved range boiler which would not leak under pressure and heat; and manufactured wheel trucks for the railroads. Eventually Scalfés fashioned the ubiquitous cylinders for bottled gas and the fatal casings for bombs and shells in World War II. I have mentioned but a sample of the industrial vicissitudes and virtuosities of a concern which calls itself “the oldest manufacturing company west of the Alleghenies.” In traversing this technological path, a closely-held family corporation superseded earlier partnerships, and one Scalfé, marrying into the Mellon dynasty, became as a consequence a minor “tycoon.”

Though the tone of this volume, handsomely celebrating one hundred and
fifty years of the Scaife enterprises, is sometimes critical, the narrative, as business history, is disappointing. So much is begun; so much is left unfinished. It is impossible from the treatment to learn what kind of a boat builder William B. Scaife really was; the chance to describe clearly subcontracting and other relationships between builders is lost. In this and other examples I detect no intent to suppress but simply the failure of the amateur investigator and writer to realize the significant detail and communicate it to the reader.

In the end it is the sidelights on the Scaife family that are more illuminating. Here is one sort of American business man. Successive generations were devout Methodists. One generation or another fretted over the incapacities of Cleveland and Wilson and the "humbug" of Labor Day, a means for encouraging drunks; and rejoiced, after viewing the centennial of 1876, that America "is the best, greatest, grandest nation of the most talented people under the sun & the most generous, truthful & cleanest, most honest & most religious most Christianized—furthest advanced in everything good, noble & elevated in the world & have the finest display of the finest goods." The present generation apparently believes that it is lucky to have lived through the New Deal, ranked with "fires, floods and business panics," and apologizes in an epilogue for the length, the trivial detail, and the distracting aspects of the book.

All this is so disarming it is impossible to be angry over the deficiencies I have mentioned. Regretfully it is equally impossible to be impressed by what has been done.

Bowdoin College

EDWARD C. KIRKLAND


Christopher Ward's *The War of the Revolution* is a first-rate account of the military operations whereby our country won political independence. Relying basically upon secondary authorities and printed source materials, the author has covered the subject with great thoroughness. There are forty maps which help the reader visualize the campaigns, battles, sieges, marches, encampments, and bivouacs. A glossary of military terms is of great usefulness and is neither too simple nor too complex. Six appendices deal with such topics as Ethan Allen's captivity, General Howe and Mrs. Murray, and the treachery of William Demont.

It is doubtful that Ward's military account will be superseded for a long time to come. The author is extraordinarily successful at describing a geographical area as the scene of an impending battle. The reader is led to see very clearly just what Bunker Hill, the Delaware district, the Monmouth area, or the rivers of the South were like as seats of military collision. The author is exceedingly effective in penning word portraits of the leading military figures on both sides. Howe, Clinton, Burgoyne, Arnold, Allen, Marion, Gates, deKalb, and Montgomery come to life in their strengths
and their weaknesses, in their victories and their defeats. Ward has a disciplined approach to his subject. He never makes sweeping generalizations, nor does he handle controversial issues without taking into account both sides. This quality is especially evident in his treatment of the tea question, the murder of Jane McCrae, his appraisal of the value of the Minute Men's stand at Lexington, and his evaluation of Benedict Arnold. The writing at times is exceedingly good. Notably effective are the descriptions of Gage's reception in Boston in 1774 and of the retreat of the American forces up the St. Lawrence after the disastrous failure to take Quebec. The drama of battle is clearly penned on numerous pages, one of the best being the description of the advance of the British soldiers against the Americans at the battle of Guilford Court House. The author portrays the suffering, hardship, and waste of war in such fashion as to intensify and interpret with great effect the experiences of the soldiers on both sides.

This reviewer found but few defects in Ward's two volumes. The few that do exist are not of a serious nature. More maps are needed, for Howe's general approach to Philadelphia, for Cornwallis' pursuit of Morgan in the Carolinas, and for the over-all campaign that culminated in the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. It is not made clear why Cornwallis could not have withdrawn his troops from the Yorktown Peninsula to the Gloucester side of the York River. There is a minor error in referring to the English, Irish, and French as belonging to diverse races. More important than any of the foregoing is the failure of the author to perceive that, although Montgomery and Arnold failed against Canada, their attempt, nevertheless, was of utmost value to the American cause, for throughout the remainder of the war the British could never be sure that the Americans would not renew the attempt. Hence the British, frightened by the narrow margin of their defensive victory in 1776, kept troops in Canada which were needed to the south to defeat the ever-illusory American army.

There is not much that is new in Ward's treatment of the Revolution. This writer, however, found his perspective sharpened on the military history of the Revolution. The British and American soldiers emerge as having much in common in terms of common bravery or cowardice, and of humanity or cruelty on differing occasions. The growth of effectiveness in American intelligence services and military skill is made abundantly clear. One senses the gallantry that was evident on both sides, and one experiences vicariously the cruel sufferings from cold, flood, hunger, and disease that the Americans in particular underwent. So absorbing is the account that the reader has a feeling of anxiety and frustration over the blunders that were committed, such as at the Battle of Long Island when the Jamaica Road on the left wing was left virtually unguarded, thereby enabling the British to strike a crippling blow to the American army. Ward has succeeded in illuminating a significant phase of history and has enabled his readers to participate vicariously in the great issues at stake in the unfolding of the American Revolution.

Carnegie Institute of Technology

Norman H. Dawes

Charlemagne Tower (1809-1889), father of the diplomat of the same name (1848-1923), though only one of the smaller millionaires of the nineteenth century "left a voluminous collection of manuscript letters, letter-books, ledgers, contracts, and other business documents" (p. vii), and therefore rated a biography. A well-rounded history of business needs the stories of the lesser as well as of the more powerful leaders, and Dr. Bridges has done a good job in the present instance.

Tower, after graduating from Harvard and studying law for a time, at the age of 23 began managing the distillery, brewery, and other small businesses left by his father. Ten years later he was bankrupt and returned to the law, subsequently speculating in Pennsylvania coal land where he made his first million dollars when he was 62. Then for a few years he interested himself in western railroads and their land grants, remaining active in the Northern Pacific during the rest of his life. In the last fourteen of his eighty years, Tower financed the opening up of the Vermilion iron range in Minnesota and boosted his fortune to $6,000,000 when, under pressure, he sold out to more powerful operators. George C. Stone, of Duluth, was the guide to this final venture, interesting Tower in the fabulous richness of the Mesabi range. But the scouts of the company missed the main prize, leaving Mesabi for others to exploit later, and Tower developed the more flinty ores of Vermilion instead.

In these different enterprises Tower utilized his deep legal lore to steer clear of the criminal law, but he cut so many corners in some of his land acquisitions from the public domain that he lost various large portions because of fraudulent entries. He does not loom as one of the larger robber barons, but more as a lesser retainer. The personality of the man does not thoroughly emerge from the accounts of bargaining and legal skirmishes, but I got the impression of Charlemagne the boy, as a sort of male Elsie Dinsmore, and of the mature man as another John Podsnap with more than a trace of Pecksniffery. Dr. Bridges lets Tower and his papers tell their own story, with no effort to argue matters or point morals, the result being much more effective than the old-fashioned muckraking jobs. Allan Nevins did himself credit by stimulating the author to undertake the study and by writing the introduction.

As a whole the book makes good reading, though I, for one, could easily forego one rather purple passage of historical present, one sentence ending in a string of dots (like those in the cheaper fiction and the comic strips) signifying nothing (pp. 180-183). This irregular punctuation occurs also in other spots where a period or a dash would put the idea over with greater clarity. Sometimes it is difficult to associate pronouns with their antecedents, but typographical errors are few. Among questionable statements is one about the Republicans winning the election of 1858 (p. 71). In a House of Representatives of 237 members, 109 Republicans were a mere plurality, and the party did not carry the Senate. As to other little matters, how can
anyone call Chippewa place names "exotic" when used in Minnesota (p. 219)?
And it would require a scientific miracle to "siphon" water from a stream
or pond into the tender of a locomotive when the surface of the water is
lower than the track (p. 222). I just cannot help noticing things like these,
annoying as the mention of them may be to other people.

University of Illinois

FRED A. SHANNON

Veterans in Politics: The Story of the G.A.R. By Mary R. Dearing. (Baton
Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1952. Pp. x, 523. $6.00.)

Following the demobilization of the Union army there was widespread
unemployment among veterans. Their plight brought forth a number of
volunteer veterans' organizations, the most powerful of which came to be
the Grand Army of the Republic. The legendary founder, Benjamin F.
Stephenson, was in reality a tool of the Illinois governor, Richard J. Oglesby,
who used the ostensibly charitable organization to promote Radical Repub-
lican policies. Almost immediately other Radical governors and politicians
sensed the possibilities, and the organization spread over the nation, includ-
ing even the South. In the 1868 presidential campaign was set the pattern
followed quadrennially thereafter: GAR National headquarters was officially
neutral, but it did not pry too closely into political activities of departments
and posts organized generally at State and local levels. Until the '90's,
Republican campaigners vigorously waved the bloody shirt; not until 1880
were the Democrats astute enough to nominate a Union veteran as presi-
dential candidate. As time passed the GAR grew more sure of its power
and pressed more vigorously its program of veterans preference in the
Federal civil service and generous pensions for Union veterans. Grover
Cleveland's reform administration, including vetoes of pension bills by the
score, was anathema to the GAR, which undoubtedly played a powerful role
in placing Benjamin Harrison in the White House. For a time the veterans
were "in clover"; a very liberal pension law was enacted in 1890, and the
Pension Bureau adjudicators were directed to resolve doubts in favor of
pension claimants. Then came the depression and the capture of the Demo-
cratic Party by the Populists and free silverites, shoving the bloody-shirt
and pension issues off the political stage. By 1900 the GAR had run its
course as an important element in national politics.

Mrs. Dearing's publication is the outgrowth of a doctoral dissertation
presented at the University of Wisconsin in 1938. Its primary purpose, she
remarks in the preface (p. viii), is "to discover what factors gave rise to
the veteran pressure group and whether it actually did have impact upon
developments outside as well as within the political sphere." In this purpose
she has been generally successful. Considerable attention, perhaps too much
in view of the title, has been devoted to such veterans crusades as en-
hancement of patriotism and purging of textbooks in history. The chief merit
of the volume is that it makes available for the first time a documented
and objective account of the GAR on the national political scene from 1866
to 1900.
The style is unobtrusive. The illustrations, comprised of photographs and cartoons, are good selections. The proof-reading was excellent. Only two misstatements of fact, both trivial, were noted. A few omissions are not so trivial. The use of Woodward's *Reunion and Reaction* (1951) would have brought up-to-date the author's treatment of the Hayes-Tilden controversy of early 1877. Geographically, activities of departments and posts in the Mountain and Pacific States are slighted in comparison with those in other areas. Among Federal benefits available to veterans no mention is made of artificial limbs and other prosthetic appliances, although the basic legislation was enacted before the Civil War came to an end. The narrative rests chiefly upon a careful examination of GAR headquarters files, encampment reports, semi-official and other newspapers, congressional documents, and selected manuscript collections. Untouched, however, were the manuscript files, now in the National Archives and totaling many cubic feet, of the Bureau of Pensions and Office of the Secretary of the Interior (to which the Commissioner of Pensions was responsible). Examination of these files would doubtless not have affected the author's conclusions, but they probably would have rounded out certain episodes in her history.

It is to be hoped that Mrs. Dearing's contribution will inspire similar ones concerning the United Confederate Veterans and the American Legion.

*The National Archives*  
W. Neil Franklin


More than a century has passed since the controversy first raged over the merits of rechartering the Second Bank of the United States. Yet time has not completely resolved the many differences of opinion that were then expressed. Even at this late date, it is difficult not to be strongly influenced by the personalities of the chief protagonists, Nicholas Biddle and Andrew Jackson, and their supporting casts. It is still debatable whether the failure to recharter was a triumph of democracy over the aristocratic principles espoused by Alexander Hamilton or whether the failure was an act of public policy with serious, if not tragic, results for our subsequent history.

In addressing himself primarily to the economic aspects of the Second Bank, Walter B. Smith has written a volume that promises to be the final word on this phase of the Bank's activities. His analysis of the operations of the Bank and the extent to which it fulfilled the major functions of a fully developed central banking institution is of particular interest and reveals the competence of the author as an expert in the field of money and banking. The author is also well qualified as a general historian, however, and has given careful attention to the personalities that were involved in the controversy over recharter as well as the political and economic setting within which the Bank operated.

The over-all result is a balanced, well documented treatment of the entire subject that enables the reader to appreciate the complexity of the forces.
involved. The "heroes" and the "villains" emerge neither with halos nor horns, but as individuals possessing qualities that were in some instances admirable and in others reprehensible but in all cases human. This does not conceal the fact, however, that from the standpoint of a more effective operation of the American economy the failure to extend the life of the Second Bank had serious effects. As the author states in the concluding sentence of the book, "From being one of the most financially inventive countries of the world, the United States was transformed into one of the most backward in the years following the demise of the Second Bank of the United States." How convincing this argument will be to those who still view the Second Bank as a symbol of the aristocratic forces arrayed against the interests of the common man remains to be seen. The evidence brought out in this book strongly suggests, however, that the Bank was not operating in a way that was detrimental to the country as a whole. Indeed, it indicates that the "democratization" of our banking system resulted in costs that were disproportionate to any benefits which were achieved.

*Northwestern University*  

**HAROLD F. WILLIAMSON**


*Divided We Fought* is a remarkably successful collaboration in popular history. Its 429 photographs and sketches, selected with discrimination from both northern and southern sources, are handsomely reproduced by the publishers; and its text, composed of captions selected from contemporary letters, diaries, and news dispatches, is a skillfully connected and balanced military account of the War. The most welcome feature of the work, other than this ambitious text, is its dependence on the battle sketches of Alfred R. Waud and Edwin Forbes, whose work, along with that of lesser known artists, is adequately reproduced here for the first time. Matthew Brady's photographs properly dominate the volume, but to Brady's record of the War the battle artists added an additional dimension. The men and groups who turned so solemnly and self-consciously to pose for Brady's camera were surprised by the artists in a breadth of scene, in moments of movement and excitement, which measurably heighten the intensity of the report.

The book's limitations are those of its sources: the War was best photographed in the North and East, so the southern effort and the western campaigns are unduly subordinated. Editor David Donald manipulates his text with precision to cover this deficiency, however. General Sherman's poorly photographed march to the sea, for instance, rushes even faster than Southerners remember, but Donald's analysis of method and strategy gives proper and accurate emphasis to the campaign. The ingenious notion of seeking for each photograph a caption written by a witness of the action has resulted in a narrative comparable to the pictures in freshness and vitality. The text rarely wanders from the picture which is the central
feature of each page. Yet the book reads smoothly enough to constitute acceptable military history.

The need for this first-rate photographic history of the Civil War becomes apparent in its fulfillment. Pages of narrative would be a poor substitute for so graphic an account of the mechanics of the War—the processes of bridging a southern creek, of placing a heavy field piece, of maintaining the movement of lumbering supply trains. People emerge just as sharply: the stern familiar faces of general officers, the incredible childishness of the powder monkey on the U.S.S. New Hampshire, the sprawled dead.

The professional historian will be somewhat distressed that no index guides easy return to these faces, and he may recoil from the space limitations which require, for instance, disposition of War causes in a page. But Divided We Fought, constructed according to exacting artistic and scholarly standards, is designed for household as well as institutional libraries. Scholars can use the book with profit; but it may be that children, poring over its pages on rainy afternoons, will be its more important readers. So general an audience justifies the care with which the volume was organized.

University of Wisconsin

Robert A. Lively


This is a volume of value primarily to those concerned with the history of the conservation movement in the United States. David T. Mason is one of the leading figures in this movement and associated closely with many of its major developments since 1907. The volume is based on the personal diaries of Mason, which were kept as a day-to-day record for personal use with no thought of publication. These diaries have been edited with great care by Dr. Rodney C. Loehr, an economic historian. Under ordinary circumstances the diaries would not have been very appealing or even useful. However, Doctor Loehr has succeeded in extracting from them a maximum of their value. The book is divided into twelve chapters covering the years from 1907 to 1944. Each chapter has been provided with a careful introduction which serves to give fuller meaning to the extracts from the diaries. Within this framework the extracts for each year are preceded with another brief introductory and explanatory statement. This clever editorial practice succeeds in making the diaries serve a purpose which might otherwise not have been achieved.

David Mason graduated from Yale University Forestry School in 1907 and served for some years in the U. S. Forest Service. He later taught at the University of California and finally entered private business as member of a firm organized to provide expert consulting service to the lumber industry. Timber valuations, planned logging programs, and intelligent forest management for private timber lands were his specialties. He came to be the lead-
BOOK REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTES

...ing authority in the country on the major problem of sustained yields from our dwindling timber resources. The last chapters of the book are concerned mainly with Mr. Mason's services in the development in NRA days of the code for the lumber industry. Interesting sidelights on relations of government and business in that trying period are to be found in the diary entries. For example, under the date of May 4, 1933, we find the comment, "Some of the most important industrialists fear revolution in U. S."

This volume of personal comment on nearly forty years of the history of the conservation movement and forest management has been well prepared and serves a useful, if somewhat limited, purpose. It certainly is the type of book an organization such as the Forest Products History Foundation could well sponsor. It is likewise a credit to the Minnesota Historical Society.

Harrisburg, Pa.

S. K. STEVENS


Richard Cobden's American Diaries, the manuscript of which has long lain in the British Museum and is now published for the first time, makes as completely satisfactory a volume as this reviewer has encountered for some time. The text was well worth printing, the editorial supervision has been done with skill and intelligence, and the publishers have provided a format of unusual distinction.

Richard Cobden, the noted English manufacturer, philanthropist, and statesman, visited the United States twice, in 1835 and 1859. Naturally the diaries are important for an understanding of Cobden's own life, but for most readers interest centers in what Cobden reveals about life in America. On this subject the volume provides a wealth of fresh material. Of the two diaries, that of 1859 is the more significant. It is longer and more detailed. It covers a larger portion of the nation—as far as the Mississippi actually—and the observations are more mature. Cobden visited an amazing number of prominent Americans. Unfortunately many are mentioned only by name; yet his impressions of them are of a length sufficient to give valuable information. Buchanan, he found, "looking much older, & apparently out of spirits. . . Having attained the highest object of his worldly ambition he is disappointed with the results"; Salmon P. Chase was "an intelligent man but not very profound"; and Henry Ward Beecher he dismissed as "affectedly unaffected . . . loud, denunciatory & arrogant in his style . . . an actor."

Cobden indulged in general observations as well as in personalities. He discussed railways, for he had come to America largely to study the Illinois Central; immigrants—he noted that in New York the "Irish & Germans furnish the greater proportion of prostitutes"; education—hoping England "would be blessed with a system" similar to America; servants—"native American Citizens will not . . . undertake the duties of a menial servant. . . . They will attend upon horses, or even pigs, but will not wait on the person
of their fellow man”; and women, whom he found deficient both in “hust & bustle” and in “preface & postscript.”

Elizabeth Cawley’s editorial work is as excellent as her text. An introduction, nearly as long as the diaries themselves, compactly, but sufficiently, analyzes the text, adds a wealth of material from Cobden’s unpublished letters, and appends pertinent biographical details. The text itself is presented with scholarly competence and elucidated with generous and informative footnotes. There are three excellent maps, a brief but adequate bibliography, and a fair index. In brief, one could not reasonably ask for a better presentation than that which Mrs. Cawley has provided.

Boston University


This number contains an article by Eugene T. Adams entitled “Final Examination”; an article by Russell W. Gilbert entitled “The Unpublished Autobiography of Ernst Max Adam, M.D., Settler in Dunker Blooming Grove”; and an article by Arthur Herman Wilson entitled “The Great Theme in Conrad.”


This publication is the first of a series sponsored and prepared under the direction of The Institute of Delaware History and Culture.


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Julia Comstock Smith drew the sketch on the cover from an early study made by Charles Willson Peale for his 1772 portrait of George Washington—the earliest known portrait of Washington.