

## BOOK REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTES

EDITED BY NORMAN B. WILKINSON

*The Papers of Henry Bouquet, Volume I: December 11, 1755-May 31, 1758.*

Edited by S. K. Stevens, Donald H. Kent, and Autumn L. Leonard.  
(Harrisburg: The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission,  
1972. Pp. 421. \$12.00.)

The appearance of this volume will delight the colonial historian as well as the librarian. The student of the French and Indian War, of military affairs, and of Pennsylvania and South Carolina history will welcome this collection dealing with Colonel Henry Bouquet in North America. Librarians, bewildered since the 1951 publication of Volume II, will be pleased at last to add Volume I to their collections.

This volume is based primarily on material in the British Museum which the editors have richly supplemented with important documents from American repositories such as the Huntington Library. The researcher should heed the prefatory remarks of the editors that this volume does not contain all the material in their collections. Some papers have been omitted "because they seemed of slight interest," with all the pitfalls which the process of selection might hold for the scholar.

This book continues the accurate research, excellent cross referencing, and sound scholarship which have become the hallmarks of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission publications. The nit-picker will find some minor faults, such as the rare instance when a secondary figure is not identified the first time mentioned, and some might quarrel with the editors locating Fort Loudoun on the Tennessee rather than the Little Tennessee River. The orthography, analysis, and editing are clear and consistent with the canons of scholarship. The editors reference many diverse sources, but this reviewer suggests that citation of recent monographs is preferable to their reliance upon encyclopedic reference works.

The subject matter falls into three chronological periods. The first involves the arrival of Bouquet in Philadelphia in 1756 and the problems concerned with recruiting among the Germans and other ethnic groups in Pennsylvania for the Royal American Regiment. His majesty's forces required recruits to be not "under five feet four inches high, or above the Age of thirty-five years, or a Papist or a French Deserter" and that they should be "broad-shoulderd, well-limb'd, and without Infirmities, Ruptures, Scal'd

heads or sore legs, but every Way fit for Service." Nevertheless, Bouquet found that those who enlisted "desert very soon" and were the "worste." The Swiss colonel despaired that "all these new recruits are getting debauched in the taverns." The excuse offered by Bouquet for the misconduct of one of his officers could apply to any generation when he explained: "The Crime was great, but the Devil is So strong, the woman So pretty, and we are So Weak." Many of the problems encountered by Bouquet have been of concern to the military in all ages such as discipline, retention, promotion, training, logistics, weapons, and lack of support and gratitude from those they are committed to defend. Although he worked diligently to secure better conditions, his frustrations often got the best of him as he confided: "I am heartily tired of America if I can once get rid of it, no consideration in the world, would make me come again."

The second section of the book deals with Bouquet's tour in South Carolina when in May, 1757, half of the Royal American Regiment along with provincial troops from Pennsylvania and other colonies were dispatched to the southern frontier. In their ten-month stay little fighting ensued against the Spanish and Cherokees although Bouquet had many bouts with the parsimonious South Carolina Assembly and incompetent provincial commanders. He quickly concluded that "there is no Danger that we shall fall in love with South Carolina."

It is regrettable that the documents do not reveal more of the personal characteristics of this engaging soldier. They do reflect a dedicated, professional officer who was blessed with a sense of humor. His prescience is notable when he wrote about Pennsylvania in 1756: "[I]f order is not established there, the authority of the King and of his Parliament will soon be no longer recognized."

The final portion of the volume deals with Bouquet's preparations in the spring of 1758 for the expedition against Fort Duquesne. He acknowledged the factors which had contributed to Braddock's tragic defeat in western Pennsylvania and affirmed his determination not to repeat Braddock's errors. As planning for the Forbes expedition continued, Bouquet's frustrations with the Pennsylvania government mounted, and he concurred with John St. Clair's lament of 1758 that "it is the greatest curse which Our Lord could pronounce against the greatest sinners, to have to do business with Indian friends, and with the Commissioners of the Province."

The student who has difficulty in the wilderness of colonial finance will have trouble coping with the myriad of currencies in these documents, and an explanatory note by the editors might have been a valuable signpost. This reviewer regrets that the editors did not choose to print the remaining portion extant of Joseph Shippen's "Orderly Book." Part of it was printed in Volume II, and since the remainder is virtually unknown other than by the footnote in Volume II of Freeman's *Washington*, it would have aided students of Pennsylvania history.

Although possessing some minor faults, this volume is marked by scholarship, accurate research, and careful editing. The taxpayers of the Keystone State are fortunate to get such an excellent return from the minuscule portion of their tax dollar which goes for historical research and publication in Pennsylvania.

*Archeology in the Upper Delaware Valley: A Study of the Cultural Chronology of the Tocks Island Reservoir.* Edited by W. Fred Kinsey III. (Harrisburg: The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1972. Pp. 499. \$10.00.)

*Archeology in the Upper Delaware Valley* is the second publication to appear in the current *Anthropological Series* issued by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The editor and primary contributor is W. Fred Kinsey III, director of the North Museum of Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster. In several respects this volume is a refined improvement over the first of the series, *Foundations of Pennsylvania Prehistory* (1971). The latter was largely the reprinting of numerous anthropological papers, some of which were originally published in the 1950s and surveyed site work conducted in the 1940s. The editors neglected to add either a glossary or an appendix, both of which are beneficial to the interested but untrained reader. Furthermore, the papers presented in the first volume lacked a coherent theme and obviously assumed an attentive but small reading public.

Kinsey, with the support of Herbert Kraft, Patricia Marchiando, and David J. Werner, carried out intensive and "salvage" archeological excavations in the designated Tocks Island Reservoir area in the upper Delaware Valley prior to the anticipated flooding of the project. The study includes fourteen site surveys and inventories conducted in the thirty-seven miles between the Delaware Water Gap and the southern boundary of the state of New York. The surveys vary in quality, methodology, scope, and intensity. Patricia Marchiando's paper on the Bell-Browning site near Milford, Pennsylvania, is a model of site technique and inventory writing. Some of the excavations, such as the Camp Miller site, were conducted under hurried conditions with limited, or even disappointing, results. Kinsey includes two excellent appendices, one on lithic projectile points and the other on pervasive stone and pottery types for the upper Delaware Valley. There is also a glossary of current anthropological terms for those unfamiliar with the technical nomenclature, and there are over one hundred illustrations and tables.

What makes this study so interesting, however, is that Kinsey is clearly an archeologist with a driving passion. He is determined to seek evidence that will support the contention that migration and habitation in the Delaware Valley took place at least as early as 3,500 B.C., or even earlier in the case of the Paleo-Indian migrations (11,000 to 4,000 B.C.). The purpose of the site surveys in this region was to establish a more accurate chronology of cultural development before the river system was altered by the Tocks Island flooding. Kinsey argues, on the basis of an inadequate data sampling perhaps, that the Delaware Valley early archaic occupation extended from 8,000 to 4,000 B.C. The river valley was sparsely populated during this period for the boreal forests supported only a small animal population. Based on the accumulation of subsequent lithic and ceramic data, this phase of Pennsylvania history formed part of a cultural and technical tradition which reached from the piedmont to New England, or perhaps even Canada. The system of "river roads" used by the Indian peoples stretched from the Sa-

vannah River in North Carolina, to the valleys of the Delaware and the Hudson, to New England. Northern movement along this route facilitated the development of riverine economies, and, clinging to the interior waterways, eastern Indians followed the spawning cycle of migratory fish or collected freshwater mollusks to supplement their hunting and gathering subsistence.

The work conducted by Kinsey and his associates certainly helps to illuminate the Delaware Valley archaic complex, although "The culture complexes representing these traditions are acculturated and blurred." While the major focus of the work is prehistorical, that is before 1650 A.D., several of the conclusions are directly related to one of the interesting problems of initial Indian-white contacts in the seventeenth century: the cultural identity of the Munsee Indians.

The upper Delaware Valley was an area of competing cultural traditions. This "contact sphere," as Kinsey describes it, reflected both Iroquois and Algonquian-related cultural and technical patterns. Because of the generally high acidity of the soil, or limiting surface factors, housing patterns were difficult to discern, and it was impossible to trace suggested long-house construction on the excavation sites. The Munsee Indians were Algonquians and a tribal division of the Delawares. Yet, Munsee pottery techniques are "believed to be part of a stylistic continuum of Mohawk-Iroquois." There remains, Kinsey concludes, "the ambiguity of Iroquoian-speaking and Algonquian-speaking Indians possessing an identical ceramic tradition. This is not what we would expect, and it is regarded as an important and unresolved Late Woodland problem." The exact identity of Munsee language and culture remains an intriguing and perplexing question.

Since Pennsylvania history begins with the Paleo-Indians, those interested in the history of the state will want to read this and subsequent volumes in the *Anthropological Series*. Kinsey's work is a sound, well-illustrated introduction to field work and site techniques for historians who may be unfamiliar with the provenance of the dusty and begrimed archeologist, and for this reason, if no other, it is a study to recommend.

*Millersville State College*

RONALD M. BENSON

*The Kentucky Rifle.* By Merrill Lindsay. (York, Pa.: The Arma Press, The Historical Society of York County, 1972. n.p. \$15.00.)

From May 24 through September 7, 1971, there was assembled in The Historical Society of York County's main building in York, Pennsylvania, the finest exhibit of Kentucky rifles and pistols ever assembled in one place at one time. This book is not a catalog of that exhibit but a photographic examination of seventy-seven of the weapons exhibited. The Kentucky rifle is a unique art form, and this book succeeds in depicting the beauty and craftsmanship of the rifle. A gunsmith had to master many crafts. He had to be a blacksmith to make the iron work, a skilled woodworker to shape and intricately carve the stocks, a skilled brass worker and/or silversmith to manufacture the weapon's furniture, and a skilled engraver to carve the

precise designs into the lock, patchbox inlays, and other parts required in embellishment. These rifles represent one of the highest levels of artistic achievement found in colonial and post-colonial America.

*The Kentucky Rifle* is a concise full-color picture book with a brief and cogent text. With only three exceptions the eighty-one photographs are of fine quality. Great care has been taken to select photographs which beautifully illustrate distinguishing features of the various schools of rifle makers. The pieces are grouped by school of maker, generally designated geographically, and there is an index of gunsmiths.

The purpose of *The Kentucky Rifle* was "to bring together a very selective number of Kentucky rifles representative of the work of the more creative gunsmiths of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in order that the artistic originality of these rurally isolated artists may be recognized and appreciated as a major contribution to America's cultural heritage." Although the book represents an exercise in connoisseurship both in the selection of pieces (credit going to the Kentucky Rifle Association) and the portrayal of them, the statement made is important and not only applicable to the finest of the pieces but even to lesser examples such as the humble piece hanging in my kitchen. The Kentucky rifle is a medium for artistic expression, and this book successfully communicates this concept in visual terms equally comprehensible to the aficionado of weapons, the lover of art, and the casually interested viewer. There is enough text to aid the reader but not to distract from the visual theme.

Even though there are a number of books on the Kentucky rifle, this volume fills a void in the bibliography and is not redundant. Although similar in purpose, it has virtually no overlap in pieces depicted in George Shumway's *Long Rifles of Note, Pennsylvania*. It does not cover the wide range of topics that the early work, *The Kentucky Rifle*, by John G. W. Dillon explores. There is no attempt to be encyclopedic either in researching makers as Henry J. Kauffman's *Pennsylvania Kentucky Rifle*, nor in presenting details as found in Roy Chandler's *Kentucky Rifle Patchbox and Barrel Markings*. The Kentucky Rifle Association's picture book, *The Kentucky Rifle*, does not conceptually overlap with Lindsay's work. There is also a series of books on long rifles of particular regions which search out regional makers and catalog their stylistic features. Joseph Kindig's *Thoughts on the Kentucky Rifle in its Golden Age* will always stand as a singular monumental tome depicting over two hundred rifles with perceptive judgments on each.

This book is especially relevant to the Pennsylvania reader as most of the firearms in the book are of Pennsylvania origin. Although also made in Maryland, Ohio, the Carolinas, Virginia, and in a few other states, the Kentucky rifle was originally a product of Pennsylvania craftsmen, derived from the combination of German craftsmen and their Yeager rifle with the new world needs and enthusiasm. Regional variants appeared in Bethlehem, York, Emmitsburg, Bedford County, Philadelphia, Bucks County, Lebanon, Pittsburgh, Lancaster, Littlestown, etc. Although the basic form of a long, graceful weapon with a patchbox was generally followed by all makers, the style of decoration and details of construction were unique to the various

areas. A knowledgeable collector or student can usually take an unsigned rifle and tell within a few miles of where it was made.

Mr. Lindsay's book is the best work currently in print to introduce the reader to the beauty of the Kentucky rifle and should be of special interest to those interested in Pennsylvania culture, history, and art. The advanced student of the rifle will probably find this book disappointing for there is neither new information nor a series of large format pictures by which the minutest detail can be studied. It is most fitting that the Historical Society of York County should sponsor the publication of this volume.

*Hagley Museum*

ROBERT A. HOWARD

*The British-Americans: The Loyalist Exiles in England, 1774-1789.* By Mary Beth Norton. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1972. Pp. 333. \$12.50.)

Miss Norton has written what is easily one of the most valuable studies of the Loyalists that has ever appeared. Its geographical and temporal limits constitute an inspired choice, much more central to the whole study of loyalism than the title immediately suggests. Involved are thorough analyses of the exiles' attitudes and the way they changed, campaign by campaign; of Loyalist impact upon Britain's conduct of the war; of British methods of dealing with refugees and British provision for the exiles. Interstitially the study conveys, of course, a great deal about patriot attitudes toward Loyalists as well. It seems to me that this book offers more information toward an appraisal of loyalism than any that has hitherto appeared.

The author's purpose is "to illuminate both the loyalist experience and the Revolution as a whole," to write a history as a "counterpoint to the traditional 'patriot' view of the Revolution." The essay is analytical, however, and offers a viewpoint rather than a central thesis. Recognizing that loyalty was normal before the crisis, and that it is really revolution rather than loyalty that cries out for explanation, Miss Norton is nevertheless satisfied to attribute the steadfastness of the Loyalist to a defect of temperament, rather than, for example, to a complex interplay of social forces. She finds that Loyalists perceived events in a "rigid and unrealistic manner," suffering from an essential "inability to understand the dynamics of the Revolution," in that they failed to comprehend the extent to which the patriots were impressed with the twin principles of human equality and consent of the governed. Since personal experience ran somewhat to the contrary, the Loyalists' failure may be understandable. Moreover it should be noted that here an undocumented impression, that those specific principles had "so completely seized the imagination of a large proportion of the American people," is set in contrast to a scholarly digest of Loyalist thinking. This whole study is in fact too carefully focused upon the Loyalist to warrant confident comparisons of Loyalist with patriot. "The refugees' refusal to face the reality that the Revolution had wide support" seems to me no more striking than the chronic anxiety of Washington and Congress and many

state officials about the extent of that support. After all, it took seven years and the aid of France, Spain, and Holland; unless it was a desperate gamble, revolution must have been, like loyalty, an act of faith.

But the acceptance or rejection of such criticism can in the end make little difference in one's appreciation of this excellent book. The research is impeccable. The author found her manuscript sources scattered in eleven American states and seven British cities, requiring an amount of travel evidently unequaled in similar studies. She surveys the cases of 1,440 families (7,000 persons) who arrived in England in the years 1775 to 1784, loosely representative of 70,000 overt Loyalists in America, and she demonstrates that the connection between the size of Loyalist migration from a state and the size of its Loyalist community was not nearly as close as hitherto imagined. She studies the pattern of life in the exile communities, each homogeneous internally yet strongly distinguished by place of American origin. Not least valuable are chapters 5 and 6, which convey the exiles' own interpretation of the revolution, their criticism of the conduct of the war, and the impact of that criticism. She considers the whole mass of compensation claims, not just those of the exiles in Britain, though curiously omitting mention of the enormous claims of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania and Maryland. She describes the financial problems of the refugees and provides a valuable history of the thinking of the officials who determined the allotments for relief and compensation; no doubt this war provided, on the British side, some of the earliest examples of large-scale disaster relief.

It is safe to say that henceforth *The British-Americans* will be indispensable for the serious student of the revolutionary period.

*Dickinson College*

HENRY J. YOUNG

*Political Parties Before the Constitution.* By Jackson Turner Main. (Chapel Hill: Published for the Institute of Early American History and Culture by the University of North Carolina Press, 1973. Pp. 481. \$15.95.)

Histories of American political parties usually begin with the struggle for ratification of the Federal Constitution or with the differences between Hamilton and Jefferson in the early 1790s. Jackson Turner Main's study of state politics during the confederation period seriously challenges earlier interpretations by showing rather conclusively that the origins of political parties go back to the early 1780s.

Using a computerized roll call analysis of seven states (Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina) and a brief survey of the other six, Main finds that legislators in every state sooner or later divided into two distinct groups which were quite similar to corresponding groups in every other state. These blocs or parties—sometimes formal as in Pennsylvania, but usually informal and unorganized—developed over the same issues and contained the same types of people.

The issues included treatment of Loyalists, financing the war, payment of

the war debt, paper money, method of taxation, conflicts between debtors and creditors, salaries for public officials, slavery, support for education and religion, location of the state capital, revising state constitutions, and, finally, the debate over the Federal Constitution. The response to these issues, which came up in nearly every state, produced two major opposing political blocs, which Main calls cosmopolitans and localists. Economic questions were most important in bringing about legislative division, but social, political, and cultural issues were also influential.

A biographical analysis of over 1,500 legislators reveals the basic characteristics of the two parties in every state. The cosmopolitans drew most of their support from a narrow strip along the coast or from settlements along rivers and streams. They lived in populated areas where society was "aristocratic rather than democratic" and represented the business and financial elements of society. They saw almost everything governments did as beneficial as long as they exercised power. They approved paying the war debt, both because it would be paid to them and because they believed that governments should maintain credit and solvency. They were inclined to be lenient to Loyalists and harsh on debtors.

The localists, by contrast, lived primarily in the inland regions of the country, in villages and farms without adequate access to markets. Their region was recently settled, contained few prominent families and few slaves, and had a "relatively democratic" social structure. They pushed to reduce taxes and governmental costs, shift the tax burden from land to non-farm and luxury items, favored debtors over creditors, pushed for low land prices, opposed public education, were inclined to be harsh on Loyalists, and opposed the Federal Constitution.

In Pennsylvania these two groups organized into actual political parties (Republicans and Constitutionlists) because of the additional issue of the Constitution of 1776. Main's statement that these were the first real parties in the United States may be open to modification in light of recent studies by James H. Hutson and Benjamin H. Newcomb, but his point is valid nonetheless: political division in Pennsylvania, often considered an anomaly for the period, differed from the other states only in degree. The issues and attitudes were quite similar.

The most important single factor causing division among legislators over these issues was their residence. This was modified by occupation, wealth, and "world view" (localist or cosmopolitan). Once these factors are understood, says Main, legislative voting becomes "natural, if not inevitable."

Main has produced a significant new interpretation of the origins of political parties. He sees a direct correlation between cosmopolitans and localists in the early 1780s, Federalists and Antifederalists in the late 1780s, and Federalists and Jeffersonian Republicans in the 1790s. Political parties did not become nationally organized until the 1790s, but the issues and attitudes necessary for their formation were present in each state right after the revolution. Indeed, the revolution is the key to political parties. By legitimizing opposition and by relaxing authority, the revolution, a democratizing movement for Main, permitted opponents to challenge the old power structures. The challenge was almost immediate and universal. Later



political struggles over ratification and Hamilton's financial program were simply continuations of local political battles of the confederation period.

While some scholars will be disturbed by the implications of Main's book (legislators never seem to think, they just react "inevitably"), this pioneering study cannot be ignored. In addition to his interpretation of American politics, Main has also shown how to present massive statistical data in an easily understandable manner. The book is well written. At the same time the many charts and graphs supplement the text for those who prefer hard statistics.

There are some areas which might have received more emphasis, though perhaps they will be the subject of another book. There is no mention of the relationship, if any, between state politics and divisions in the Confederation Congress. And, even though he suggests a strong correlation, Main does not carry his study into the 1790s to show conclusively and statistically the relationship between politics in the 1780s and the 1790s. But these are minor criticisms of an excellent book.

*The University of Texas at Arlington*

ROBERT F. OAKS

*Securing the Revolution: Ideology in American Politics, 1789-1815.* By Richard Buel, Jr. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1972. Pp. 391. \$14.50.)

This important volume on political thought in the early national period is yet another effort to explain the development of American Republicanism. Professor Buel advances the thesis that the "first party system" arose because national leaders disagreed on the best means of implementing the promises of the American Revolution. The ideological controversy, which originated in the differing opinions about the stability of republican governments, ultimately raised questions about the future shape of American society. Regarding the young nation's survival, the Federalists did not believe that popular institutions were adequate to the task, and the Republicans believed that they were better than the Federalist alternative. Thus, although the founding fathers looked askance on parties, Buel argues that the ideological "strains" present in the culture forced the nation's leaders to resort to "party politics" as the "only way to ensure that the nation would remain independent and the promise of the Revolution would be fulfilled."

The book is divided into six parts. The first analyzes how Alexander Hamilton's fiscal policies divided the former revolutionary allies. The Federalists, Buel concludes, supported funding assumption, a national bank, indirect taxes, and even legislative malapportionment in order to make national authority less susceptible to public opinion. The construction of independent sources of power and influence, however, touched off latent fears of consolidation and rekindled anti-Tory feelings. James Madison and Thomas Jefferson became Republicans, we are informed, because they perceived Hamilton's economic program as "self-defeating" in that it favored the few at the expense of the many. By implication, Madisonian funding, nonassumption, state banks, direct taxes, and economic retaliation

against Great Britain were the "strategic choices" of the Republicans to secure the fruits of the revolution.

In Part Two, entitled "Contagion," Buel examines how foreign policy issues precipitated by the French Revolution forced an even larger group of persons to make "strategic choices" for ideological reasons. Seeing foreign policy as a primary agent of party formation, Buel asserts that party alignments crystallized in the years 1793 to 1795 and remained largely "constant throughout the life of the first party system." Special attention is given to Jay's Treaty for it compelled leaders to take a stand on the dangers of foreign influence on the republic and contributed to the decline of the Federalist party. Finally, Buel tries to connect ideology with social structure. He argues that "anomalous ideological preferences," which were based on southern confidence and northern doubt regarding the relative success of "deferential politics" at the local and state levels, explains the sectional character of the national parties. This explanation is not one that all historians will accept.

The third section focuses on public opinion, "the single most important ingredient of the first party system." According to Buel, political leaders were super-rational men, controlled by ideas, and he believes that the public saw them as such. He also demonstrates how the beliefs of the Federalists and the Republicans gave rise to distinctive political styles. For instance, because public opinion favored the Republicans, the Federalists adopted a "manipulative style." By contrast, the Republicans assumed that "they could achieve their objectives by exposing the implications of Federalism and letting the people respond." But Republican party techniques failed to stir an apathetic public; in fact, it took the controversy over Jay's Treaty to expose Federalist "elitism," which resulted in the abandonment of political manipulation.

Parts Four, Five, and Six, respectively entitled "Crisis," "Defeat," and "Resolution," treat in detail the gradual decline of the Federalist party. Professor Buel shows how the style of "executive pre-emption" used by President John Adams not only failed to preserve Federalist power but also led to party "paralysis" and to congressional deadlock. Eventually, during the height of the Franco-American crisis the Federalists released the XYZ dispatches (a "Republican-style" exposure) and resorted to punitive measures, such as the Alien and Sedition laws, to control the nation's destiny. In response, the Republicans issued the Virginia and Kentucky Resolves (a "Federalist-style" manipulation). By 1800 the Republicans won the struggle for control of public opinion because they possessed a "popular" ideology.

The Federalists were not able to regain national political power after 1800, Buel concludes, because the ideological issues that dominated American politics in the 1790s were not resolved until after 1815. Thus, the results of the War of 1812 both vindicated the Republicans and forever discredited the Federalists. In the aftermath the "first party system" gradually disintegrated because older ideological disagreements became less meaningful and because the Republicans fell victim to internal divisions. The new state of affairs, however, produced a "modern" party system—

stable and legitimate—in which “ideology could be subordinated to the exigencies of electoral machinery.”

Buel corrects as well as supports several long standing interpretations. He shows, for example, that the Federalists were really not backward in the arts of party battle, but that they were more prone than the Republicans to sacrifice liberty for order. He refutes the generational thesis advanced by David H. Fischer and accepts in part the theses on Federalist thought advanced by Shaw Livermore, Linda K. Kerber, and James M. Banner. Although I find Buel's study full of insights, one cannot help but believe that he assumes that the “ideological interpretation” of the origins of the “first party system” is not only the correct one but also free of problems. Yet, the author underestimates the degree to which the environment affects ideas and the extent to which non-ideological factors shape events. The views, hopes, and actions of the average voter are completely ignored as are the local and state roots of parties. Using evidence that comes exclusively from the educated elite, such as newspapers, reports of congressional debates, diplomatic correspondence, and presidential addresses, he has obviously limited the book's scope. Coverage of the Jefferson-Madison years is unfortunately thin, and thus Buel's account lacks proper balance. Notwithstanding, he has written an immensely valuable book, based on a prodigious amount of research, which no thoughtful student of the Federalist Era can ignore.

*Bowling Green State University*

ROLAND M. BAUMANN

*Farming in the New Nation: Interpreting American Agriculture, 1790-1840.*

Edited by Darwin P. Kelsey. (Washington: The Agricultural History Society, 1972. Pp. 239. \$5.00.)

This volume contains disappointments and pleasant surprises. The selections by Wayne Rasmussen and John Hebron Moore, eulogies, respectively, to the work of Percy Wells Bidwell and John I. Falconer (*History of Agriculture in the Northern United States, 1620-1860*) and Lewis Cecil Gray (*History of Agriculture in the Southern United States to 1860*), lie in the former category. Rasmussen attempts a “review of the present usefulness and meaning” of the work, but the effort is hamstrung by its brevity. Moore's essay is less a review of Gray's contributions than a lamentful historical survey of scholarly ignorance of “the basic work in the field.” Among the pleasant surprises is the series of essays on agricultural museums. Darwin P. Kelsey's piece is a kind of revisionist view of museum work, revealing the complexities of operating an outdoor agricultural museum and of the opportunities for scholars. “The museum researcher can range far beyond his own museum's collections to subjects whose relationship to the museum's artifacts is not immediately obvious.” The possibility that outdoor museums may be presenting a mythic view of the past, evoking images of individualism and independence and feelings of nostalgia, is raised in a philosophical comment by James T. Short. He also notes the danger in “overstriving for reality,” describing experiments in animal back-breeding as exercises in “peripheral curiosity.”

Graduate students in search of work will find Kelsey's essay eye opening; those seeking dissertation topics might look at the selection by Paul Gates, a treasury of things we don't know enough about, including farmers' income from fuelwood, potash, and other ancillary activities ("cutting wood absorbed as much if not more time than any other single task of the early farm family"), local internal improvements, credit agencies in developing areas, and success and failure rates for those who went West. But surely not all subjects are equally deserving of scholarly attention, and Gates makes no attempt to rank order his suggestions.

These essays also illustrate the lack of scholarly agreement on basic questions. Several of the authors emphasize the far-reaching nature of change in the fifty-year period. Clarence Danhof concentrates on changes in tools and implements and the substitution of animal for human power, resulting in "significant effects on productivity prior to 1840." For Carroll Pursell, Jr., 1850 would be a better cutoff date, with innovation quickening toward the end of the period. Stuart Bruchey's examination of distribution mechanisms reveals significant increases in efficiency in the foreign sector and in the cotton trade in the domestic sector. On the other hand, Bruchey finds few signs of increased efficiency in the wheat trade, and the resident expert in geography, Andrew H. Clark, suggests that except for cotton culture and merino sheep, "we are not for the most part dealing with new crops or kinds of livestock, with the impact of new implements, or with new forms of organization for the producing units." Economic theory is expected to settle such disputes. Using what he terms "chancy" data, Robert Gallman concludes that average rates of change in agricultural productivity were higher before 1840 than after, with productivity growth especially rapid between 1820 and 1840.

There is also considerable disagreement over the sources of agricultural change and practice. As one might expect, economist William Parker emphasizes the market mechanism; regional differences in the corn harvest followed "the dictates of rational economy." Clark suggests that latitudinal biases in the pattern of westward migration may have transcended market forces, and Kelsey, too, calls for more attention to cultural and less to market influences. Chester McArthur Destler illuminates the process of information diffusion in the context of biography with his study of Connecticut reformer Jeremiah Wadsworth. In light of the volume's opening tribute, it is ironic that this chorus of divergent opinion is interrupted only by scholarly agreement (including Gates, Kelsey, Clark, and Roger Parks), that Percy Bidwell greatly exaggerated the extent of self-sufficiency in early nineteenth-century agriculture. Clark perceptively suggests that the problem resides in the assumption of a frontier stage model of development and calls for more precise measurement of subsistence through ratios.

Barring considerable effort, one comes away from this varied and interesting collection of nineteen essays with bits and pieces of agricultural history rather than a framework, an approach, or a feeling for the subject matter. If, as the editor suggests, this is the "state of the art," we can loudly applaud the individual artists but wish that their works had been com-

missioned more precisely. Symposia should be guided not by papers in search of topics, but by questions in search of answers.

*State University College  
Fredonia, N.Y.*

WILLIAM GRAEBNER

*Copper for America: The Hendricks Family and a National Industry, 1755-1939.* By Maxwell Whiteman. (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1971. Pp. 353. \$12.50.)

In 1938, when the Belleville Copper Rolling Mills ceased operation, the event marked the end of the longest period of time that a single family was connected with the American metal industry. For 175 years the descendants of Uriah Hendricks had been associated with the development of one of the most significant metals in the Industrial Revolution in America. This book provides a record of the connection between the Hendricks family and copper. It is detailed until 1869, but due to an absence of source materials the remaining years are dealt with in an epilogue.

Certainly the early Hendricks were outstanding men. The nineteen-year-old Uriah, who left his native England to gain a small fortune in America as a merchant, and his son, Harmon, who extended the family's involvement with the sale of copper into the risky area of manufacturing, were in the tradition of those vigorous individuals who created the Industrial Revolution. The author wisely focuses upon the early years in the history of this family. The turning point of his narrative was the purchase of the Soho Company in Belleville, New Jersey, by Harmon Hendricks in 1813. This step, made at a time when normal shipments of copper from England were all but cutoff by war, led to the development of the American copper industry, which until then had been dependent upon England. It is a story of ability and courage.

The author brings out something of the quality of the men with whom he deals, but he lacks the detailed knowledge of economic history against which their achievement should be studied. A miscellaneous writer who has contributed to an understanding of Jewish affairs, he is clearly most at ease when describing the devotion of the earlier Hendricks to their Hebrew religion in a predominantly Christian or secular environment. There are no footnotes in the book, and many of the extensive notes which appear at its end should have been worked into the narrative.

Whiteman frequently tells us of the reaction of one of the Hendricks family to some event of national or local importance but does not provide evidence for his interpretation. For example, he claims that Harmon Hendricks, "like so many merchants," looked forward to an American naval victory in the War of 1812. Perhaps he did. But as a class, these men were profoundly interested in peace. Hendricks, with his extensive business contacts in England, deplored the war, as Whiteman acknowledges. Documentation on this and other points would have been helpful. This reviewer is willing to agree that the Hendricks family was as public spirited and patriotic as the author claims, but surely the War of 1812 was a greater

shock to them than is allowed here. And with what energy and resource did Harmon Hendricks recover from the blow! The flatness of Whiteman's style is never more in evidence than when he is describing the background to the development of a native American copper industry.

In spite of defects of style and a thin background analysis of political and economic developments, this is a worthwhile book that adds to our knowledge of an important period in American economic history.

*Rutgers University*

JOHN W. OSBORNE

*E.I. du Pont, Botaniste: The Beginning of a Tradition.* By Norman B. Wilkinson. (Charlottesville: Published by the University Press of Virginia for the Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation, 1972. Pp. 139. Cloth, \$7.50. Paper, \$3.95.)

Eleuthère Irénée du Pont's commitment to the "powder venture" barely overcame his temptation to abandon it to follow a career in botany and horticulture. This is the book's thesis and meaning of its enigmatic title. As we have known, the du Pont enterprise met with thundering success selling black powder and, as its crown, three gardens bloom today; two: Henry du Pont's Winterthur and cousin Pierre's Longwood acclaimed among the world's great gardens.

How this du Pont avocation was seeded by botany lectures at the Jardin des Plantes at Paris shortly after the Revolution and was nurtured by correspondents in France and America is outlined in Wilkinson's beautifully printed commentary to a florilegium of illustrative matter and fine color plates.

Varied items of Americana are imbedded in the story, such as when the "splendid old poplar tree" nearly eighteen feet in circumference had to be cut down for a railroad right-of-way. Henry du Pont said such trees were already in 1867, "getting rare in this part of the country." In Machinery Hall of the Centennial of '76 Pierre was unforgettably excited by the fountains "spurting like mad and without cease." Today Longwood sports a galaxy of fountains. The conservatory on Philadelphia's Chestnut Street with continual blossoms to entrance the passers-by belonged to the locomotive monarch, Matthias W. Baldwin. He was the seventh president of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society from 1859-1862 and advocated a botanic garden for the city.

That the author foreswore documentation, presumably considering it a reader's annoyance, is unfortunate, but major sources are noted in the preface. Even more to be regretted is the want of an index which could have lead the unsuspecting browser to passing notices on such elusive figures of American natural history as Pierre Paul Saulnier, Mathias Kin, Palisot de Beauvois, Theodore Leschenault, August Plée or Charles Alexandre Lesueur, among many. Naturally many of the *dramatis personae* were Frenchmen, dating from Eleuthère Irénée du Pont's instruction in the class of René Desfontaines in Paris and sustained in America by his close association with François André Michaux. Indeed, one of the fruits of this story is the need for a full-blown biography of Michaux and his father, and their multifarious involvements in the young Republic.

Persons indicative of stories unravelled here will be noticed: Joseph Lakanal, who was a promoter of the Vine and Olive Colony founded at Demopolis, Alabama, by exiles from the Napoleonic regime in France; and Peter Regnier, a du Pont house guest of 1806, who took back to Louisiana "nuts and seeds" and thereby introduced novelties to her horticulture. Rafinesque's visit to the Brandywine woods, harboring, he believed, at least one hundred undescribed species, was the fillip to his compiling a "Florula Delawarica." Evidently it was accepted for publication in the *Philadelphia Medical and Physical Journal* by Benjamin Smith Barton who announced this "catalogue" in vol. 2, pt. 1, p. 177, 1805, of the *Journal*, but according to Rafinesque it was subsequently suppressed by Barton. It appears as item 4 in T.J. Fitzpatrick's bibliography of Rafinesque (1911).

Gardeners today will search long to identify "cape orchides" or the fascinating *Hedysarum vespertilio*, three kinds of aniseed, or "African poppies." "Mimosa julibrissin" which Jefferson delighted to call the Silk Tree is in vernacular the "Mimosa" of Louisiana today; no longer is it deemed necessary as far north as Philadelphia to bring it in for the winter. The David Landreth of Bloomsdale Farm, at Bristol, Pennsylvania, of 1872 is, of course, the son of the pioneer horticulturist of that name whose seed house opened in Philadelphia in 1784.

"The brothers Joshua and Samuel Peirce, of East Marlborough, began to adorn their premises by tasteful culture and planting" wrote William Darlington of West Chester in 1849. "They have produced an *Arboretum* of evergreens, and other elegant forest trees, [which is certainly unrivalled in Pennsylvania, and probably] not surpassed in these United States." The phrase in square brackets was omitted from the quotation by Wilkinson.

In discussing books on natural history in the du Pont family library the author lists some he states were "recognized classics." In truth only three of eight titles may be so distinguished. More significant would have been to note the presence conceivably of works by Adanson, Jussieu, or de Candolle, or the *opus* of Palisot de Beauvois who visited du Pont. Let these asides be but stimulants to your reading about "the beginning of a tradition" and the pleasures of botanizing on the Brandywine.

*Tulane University*

JOSEPH EWAN

*The Reminiscences of John B. Jervis, Engineer of the Old Croton.* Edited by Neal FitzSimons. (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1971. Pp. 196. \$7.75.)

In his introduction to this sensitively-edited volume, Neal FitzSimons aptly states that the life of John Bloomfield Jervis (1795-1885) was "an outstanding example of the American Dream." Possessing little formal schooling, Jervis "graduated" from that greatest of all early "institutes" of American engineering education, the Erie Canal, and went on to become one of the outstanding civil and mechanical engineers of his day, renowned particularly for his role in planning and building the Croton water supply system of New York City and the majestic high bridge that carried the

Croton Aqueduct over the Harlem River. In addition, he played an important role in developing the distinctive American style of locomotive, being primarily responsible for the so-called "bogie truck" which, connected by a swivel to the front end of the engine, allowed it to negotiate curves at high speed.

For students of Pennsylvania history, Jervis is also significant for having been chief engineer of the Delaware and Hudson canal and railroad system from 1827 to 1830 and designer of the gravity railway that ran over Moosic Mountain between the anthracite mines at Carbondale and the canal's western terminus at Honesdale. It was in the latter capacity that he ordered the famous "Stourbridge Lion" from the English firm of John V. Rastrick, this being the first steam locomotive to operate in the United States. Test driven on the Delaware and Hudson tracks at Honesdale in August, 1829, it proved unsuitable for regular service because it had been built much heavier than Jervis's specifications had stipulated and was retired ignominiously to storage for twenty years. Its boiler, however, was eventually used for a time at Carbondale before being sent to the Smithsonian Institution in 1889.

This collection of reminiscences is based upon autobiographical materials in the Jervis Library at Rome, N.Y., copies of which FitzSimons encountered while preparing a life of the great American civil engineer Benjamin Wright, under whom Jervis began working as an axe man on the Erie Canal in 1817. Many of the selections are mildly polemic in nature, having been written by Jervis to defend his role in the case of the ill-fated Stourbridge Lion, to justify his priority over Horatio Allen in the development of the bogie truck, or to counter statements exaggerating the contribution made to the Croton system by David Douglass, who had preceded Jervis as engineer in charge of that project. FitzSimons has supplied an informative introduction, fourteen pages of well-chosen illustrations, and numerous footnotes which are useful in clarifying technical details and providing biographical data on engineers and other persons mentioned in the text. The result is a serviceable volume that will be of considerable interest to students of the subjects with which it deals. It is doubtful, however, whether the book will find a much wider readership, not through any fault of the editor but because of the prose style of its main protagonist. In 1850, while on a European tour, Jervis noted with surprise how far a group of English engineers with whom he was dining excelled him in verbal fluency. Those who persevere in following his plodding narrative to the end will be well prepared to appreciate the force of this statement.

Auburn University

W. DAVID LEWIS

*Delaware Canal Journal: A Definitive History.* By C.P. "Bill" Yoder. (Bethlehem, Pa.: Canal Press, Inc., 1972. Pp. 287. \$7.95.)

The Delaware Canal was constructed in the late 1820s and early 1830s as one of the branches of the Pennsylvania canal system. Extending from Easton to Bristol along the Delaware River, it functioned for almost a



hundred years after its opening in 1834. It passed from state to private ownership in 1858 and back again in 1939. Since then the canal has been maintained as Roosevelt State Park.

The *Delaware Canal Journal*, by C.P. "Bill" Yoder, is a lively testimony to a continued interest in this canal, and others as well. The author's foreword, as well as the book jacket, indicate the influence of the Pennsylvania Canal Society in this work's preparation. It is encouraging to note that this is the first offering of the Canal Press, recently founded to publish a variety of material on canal history. Yoder's contribution is a well-written, fully-illustrated book which will provide pleasure to readers for years to come. It has an exhaustive index and an interesting and useful appendices. Perhaps its only structural fault is the lack of dates on the photographs, a troubling omission considering the canal's longevity.

The general tone of the *Journal* is local, specific, colorful, and anecdotal. The reader finds a delightful section concerning the canal mule, which includes the interesting information that tobacco chewing was a favorite pastime of the beast as well as the man. Excerpts from interviews with people who lived and worked on the canal spice the narrative. The author has obviously made a significant effort to preserve the information which this last generation of mule drivers and lock keepers possessed. Robert J. McClelland's book, *The Delaware Canal* (1967) also contains much oral history, but not to the extent of this work.

Chapter three is an admirable "Tour Guide to the Canal," which directs the reader to the major features of the canal and its vicinity which remain today. Members of canal societies in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and other states will no doubt find it valuable on their personal excursions of discovery along the canal. However, Yoder has written for the automobile adventurer; the more hardy souls who take to the towpath should turn to Willis M. Rivinus's *A Wayfarer's Guide to the Delaware Canal* (2nd ed., 1967) which is not mentioned in the *Journal's* bibliography.

The major difficulty with Yoder's work lies in the lack of an attempt to relate the Delaware Canal to broader themes of American, specifically American economic history. An important question in this case is the relation of the state to private enterprise. The author states that "The major purpose of the Delaware Canal was to serve as an extension of the Lehigh Canal," but he does not begin to suggest how it was that Pennsylvania undertook to support the private enterprise of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. Another topic which study of the Delaware Canal could illuminate is the economic impact of a transport innovation. What was the effect of lower freight rates? Was the effect felt only in the markets of Philadelphia and New York, or was there also a significant impact on the area through which it passed? Yoder only hints at the answers to these questions.

In fact, only the first two chapters of this book are really concerned with the canal's year-to-year history, or its relation to Pennsylvania or United States history. The reader is left at the end of chapter two in the mid-1830s; chapter three is the "Tour Guide." *Delaware Canal Journal* is not the "Definitive History" claimed for it in the subtitle.

Whatever its inadequacies in some areas, however, the *Journal* projects and demonstrates a love and appreciation for the canal both as a historical and as a recreational area. Yoder points out that, in spite of minimal upkeep by the state, Roosevelt State Park had 361,000 visitors in 1968. Its location in the New York—Philadelphia area will ensure that, or a greater, level of usage for years to come. This book's existence is a significant appeal for the canal's preservation.

University of Delaware

DARWIN H. STAPLETON

*Correspondence of James K. Polk: Volume II, 1833-1834.* Ed. by Herbert Weaver and Paul H. Bergeron. (Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1972. Pp. 645. \$15.00.)

Although the letterpress editions of the papers of major political figures may represent the most enduring monument to the scholarship of the present generation, their proliferation has come under criticism and the tremendous amounts of time and money expended in their production called into question. Clearly this, the second volume of the *Correspondence of James K. Polk*, gives rise to such doubts.

While Polk was certainly not an intellectually interesting man on the order of Franklin, Jefferson, Hamilton, or Madison, his crucial role in Jacksonian politics as well as the importance of his presidency supply sufficient reason why his letters might merit publication. The years covered in this volume were among those when Polk was at the very center of the political storm as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and floor leader of the Jacksonian assault on the Second Bank of the United States. Yet the letters covering both the bank war and the political maneuvering that accompanied it are thin and disappointing. The most interesting are Polk's own which make it clear that he and Jackson opposed not only Biddle's bank, but a national bank in any form. As Polk wrote Jackson August 23, 1834: "The people every where are becoming satisfied that an *incorporated National Bank* under any modifications or restrictions which can be imposed, can afford to the public no security against its corruptions and abuses . . . . For myself I think there is no substantial difference between the two propositions—a *Bank* or *the Bank*, and for one I am ready to meet the question in either form."

Those letters addressed to Polk are generally devoid of technical detail or economic comment and reinforce the view of Marvin Meyers that the bank war took on all the elements of a moral crusade in which the economic aspects of the question received relatively little emphasis. Clay, Calhoun, Webster, Biddle, and Adams are all damned as "the most corrupt and basely unprincipled men on *Earth* . . . [who] would rather see their country *Sunk*, into the lowest abyss of anarchy & confusion, internal war & bloodshed, & even fall again under a foreign Yoke than that General Jackson should succeed in his glorious triumphs over their base machinations." The "beloved Patriarch" must sally forth to slay the Hydra of corruption and re-establish the true "Virginia principles."

Aside from the letters on the bank war, the only others with political content of much interest are those concerning the candidacy of Hugh Lawson White for the presidency in 1836. As such, they come at the end of this volume, and the matter is far from resolved at the close of 1834. These letters do suggest two things: 1) the commonly accepted view that Whig strategy dictated running several sectional candidates in order to throw the election into the House originated with Jacksonians like Polk and constituted their interpretation of what was happening in that seemingly odd election; 2) the origins of the White movement revealed here and the low level of party organization also implicit in these letters make it doubtful that this Jacksonian view represented an accurate view of the situation. These letters, when taken with those in the first volume, indicate, in a wide variety of ways, the low level of partisan development during Jackson's first administration and seem to call for a complete re-evaluation of the role of party at this time and the importance of the election of 1836.

Strangely, given Polk's importance as a politician, the most interesting letters in the collection have nothing to do with politics at all. They are those from Ephraim Beanland, Polk's overseer. Both in tone and content they reveal much about the social order of the ante-bellum South and the nature of plantation life. Given the present interest in the status of the family under slavery, some of the comments are fascinating and reinforce the views recently expressed by John Blassingame in *The Slave Community*. However, the importance of these letters is to a degree vitiated by the fact that they have been available to scholars in published form since the 1920s when John Spencer Bassett collected them in *The Southern Plantation Overseer as Revealed in His Letters*.

Thus, we have a somewhat disappointing volume. This is not to say that it is devoid of worthwhile material or that the editors are somehow to be faulted. But the general thinness of the political commentary and the fact that many of the most interesting letters have already been published elsewhere raise questions about the project. Do we need a complete publication of this correspondence? Might not a selection of previously unpublished or difficult-to-get materials be as useful for scholars and far less time consuming for the editors? The matter is complicated by the fact that this is *not* a publication of Polk's complete correspondence. According to the editors, 186 letters from this period are excluded altogether, and of the 664 letters which do appear, 152 are in summarized form. The criteria for these choices are not made clear by the editors, and at least half a dozen of the summarized letters seem to contain material which would make them worth publication in full. Obviously the editors have answered these questions to their own satisfaction, and the remaining volumes will follow the pattern set in the first two. Let us hope that these years represent a dead spot in an otherwise interesting collection meriting the effort and money being expended.

*Conococheague: A History of the Greencastle-Antrim Community, 1736-1971.* By W.P. Conrad. (Greencastle, Pa.: Greencastle-Antrim School District, 1971. Pp. 233. \$7.00.)

This book was written about a community by a native who taught history in its high school and then became superintendent of its public school system. Mr. Conrad prepared the volume in order to assist students in his social studies classes to understand the background of their community. The book assists almost anyone, in and beyond Greencastle and Antrim Township, Franklin County, to understand that historic area, originally known as the East Conococheague Settlement, Conococheague being a word from the Delaware Indians, meaning "long way, indeed." The first ten chapters of Part I outline the development of the community from Indian days immediately before arrival of white settlers to 1960. Chapter XI, the final chapter in Part I, deals with twelve years of industrial development, 1960-1971.

Most of the eleven chapters of Part II are each devoted to a single subject, including local government, education, medical-health care, recreation, transportation, and news media. Chapter XVI, "Cultural Interests," and chapter XIX, "Transportation," indicate the breadth of chapters throughout the book. Chapter XVI focuses on music (choral and instrumental, and on a famous solist, Philip E. Baer), architecture, sculpturing, painting, literary interest, and the Lilian S. Besore Memorial Library in Greencastle. Chapter XIX deals with primitive roads, turnpikes, and the development of highways and bridges. This chapter also mentions railroads and the trolley line which operated from December 17, 1903, to January 16, 1932.

The concluding chapter, "A Final Report," is of unusual interest. It brings together in concise fashion a quantity of information about villages, people, and the sequence of events that one can usually find only after a great deal of searching. The chapter indicates the origin of each of the twelve villages in the Greencastle Antrim community, provides thirty-four thumbnail sketches of persons from the community who had "a notable impact on state or national affairs," and includes a chronology, 1734-1971. One wishes for a greater amount of detail than is given about the origins of most of the villages.

References at the end of each of the twenty-two chapters lead the reader to additional published material, to the daybook of the Lazarus Wingerd family of Greencastle in the 1840s, to a ledger of 1870-1877, to dedication and other printed programs, to catalogs of local industrial firms, and to collections of photographs and memorabilia concerning the community. The listing and identifying of one or more consultants at the end of each of the twelve chapters is a gracious gesture to those who supplied Mr. Conrad with relevant information. Many of the pictures are valuable iconographically. The book is readable and is a good example of the writing of local history.

*Rose Hill, Waynesboro, Pa.*

HOMER T. ROSENBERGER

*Racism in the United States: An American Dilemma?* Edited by David M. Reimers. (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972. Pp. 121. Paper, n.p.)

Professor Reimers's addition to the *American Problem Series* is, as others in the series have been, a collection of articles representing recent work on a particular topic in American history especially focusing on revisions of traditional interpretations of the subject. The volume is designed for the use of undergraduate and graduate students particularly as a supplementary text of readings. As is almost always the case in such compilations, the essays included are uneven in quality.

The editor has divided his materials into four sections: "Origins and Development of White Racism"; "The High Tide of Racist Thought: The Civil War to 1920"; "White Racism and Black America"; and "The Attack on Racism: 1920 to the Present." Louis Ruchames's essay on the sources of racism in colonial America in the first section is an effort to advance the claim that English attitudes towards blacks as slaves were formed mainly through their contact with the slave trade and that as these contacts persisted they gradually gave rise to the view of blacks as inferior beings. Ruchames's argument runs contrary to that tentatively advanced by W.D. Jordan and others that the English encountered the blacks with predilections against blackness already incorporated in their culture.

A section of William S. Jenkins's classic study of proslavery attitudes in the ante-bellum South is included, discussing the ethnological arguments for black slavery, arguments that Jenkins feels were in the long run the most important in bolstering the proslavery cause. Two excerpts, one by Eric Foner and the other by James M. McPherson, are part of longer works by these scholars endeavoring to revise interpretations of the ante-bellum Republican party and the white abolitionists as being racist in their attitudes towards blacks. Foner does admit the racist inclinations of most Republicans, but he points out in at least partial extenuation that the Republicans did develop a policy recognizing the essential humanity of blacks and that the party went further in demanding of American society that certain basic rights for this group be protected. McPherson does not absolve abolitionists of white supremacy attitudes, but he suggests that many of them recognized their own prejudices and those incorporated in American society and worked mightily to overcome them. They countered proslavery arguments with attacks on the institution drawn from history and the Bible and through the development of an environmental explanation for any presumably inferior traits that blacks displayed. In so doing, McPherson argues, the abolitionists were considerably ahead of the thinking of the times.

The second section of Reimers's collection deals with racist attitudes from the Civil War down to the 1920s when gradually anti-racist quasi-scientific attacks on racism were developed by anthropologists like Franz Boas. The excerpt included from Claude Nolen's book on the image of the Negro in the South after the Civil War makes it clear that anti-black attitudes prevalent in the region before the conflict continued to persist. Presumably scientific investigations into the physical make-up of the black revealed to

the already convinced that the black was by nature inherently inferior to the white and that therefore it would be the greatest folly to allow him his full rights as an American citizen. Historians got into the act, as an article included by I.A. Newby indicates, through demonstrating, to at least their satisfaction, that human progress was virtually a Nordic monopoly and that the other "races," especially the blacks, had little or nothing to contribute to the advancement of civilization. Even Progressive reformers of the pre-World War I period, as Dewey W. Grantham delineates in his contribution, regarded blacks as inferiors and did little to ameliorate their condition through reform in the south.

Kenneth Clark's study of the psychology of the ghetto occupies the third section of Reimers's compilation. A selection from his book *Dark Ghetto* stresses the psychological effects of discrimination and segregation resulting in a debilitating self-image held by the black.

Reimers concludes his presentation of racism in the United States by including three articles concerning attitudes towards race held by Americans since the 1920s. Thomas F. Gosset discusses the impact of the Boas school of anthropologists in their attack on the theory of the inherent inferiority of the black, while Paul B. Sheatsley of the National Opinion Research Center indicates that public opinion polls demonstrate a greater flexibility in white attitudes towards blacks and a growing acceptance of the fact of desegregation. Lee Edson's article on Arthur R. Jensen, which originally appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, is a succinct summary of the controversy surrounding the California educator who has indicated that a scientific investigation of racial differences as revealed through testing should be carried out.

Reimers's collection would certainly have gained strength through an effort to balance his insertions by presenting pro and con arguments on the various issues raised in the book. The work as a whole should have been made up of selections more closely related to a single theme instead of the rather scatter shot approach used by the editor.

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NORMAN LEDERER