

Michael Kraus, David Neville, and Kenneth Turner. *The Civil War in Pennsylvania: A Photographic History* (Pittsburgh: Senator John Heinz History Center, 2013). Pp. 312. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Paper, \$34.95.

Samuel W. Black. *The Civil War in Pennsylvania: The African American Experience* (Pittsburgh: Senator John Heinz History Center, 2013). Pp. 239. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Paper, \$29.95.

The battles of the Civil War are never finished. This is especially true as the United States finds itself in the midst of innumerable sesquicentennial commemorations. These commemorations have produced an explosion of print exploring the legacy of a war that claimed more American lives than any other conflict in the nation's history. Two prime examples of this output have been published by the John Heinz History Center in cooperation with Pennsylvania Civil War 150, an agency that serves as the commonwealth's official planning committee for the sesquicentennial (see <http://pacivilwar150.com>). The purpose of Pennsylvania Civil War 150 is to reach a broad audience, and both publications have much to offer general and academic readers alike.

The relatively new technology of photography was just coming of age at the beginning of the 1860s. After the war began, a heavy demand was created by the public for information about the fighting and those who participated, and photographic images helped satisfy this demand. In addition, soldiers going off to war sought to create keepsakes for loved ones and photographic studios sprang up to fill the need. Focusing on the visual, *The Civil War in Pennsylvania: A Photographic History* closely resembles an exhibit catalog, and draws heavily from the private collection of author Ken Turner, but also utilizes resources found in various repositories. Some images are well known, but many have not enjoyed wide circulation. The five sections are arranged chronologically by year (1862–1865), with preliminary and aftermath chapters. Each chapter is divided into subchapters arranged thematically. These themes include the usual subjects—campaigns, politics, generals, and soldiers—but also devote considerable space to immigrants, uniforms, music, technology, the homefront, women, and African Americans. The chapter introductions and captions are well written and succinct, and nicely complement the images. The graphics are well organized and the size of the volume (23 cm) allows for clear and striking reproductions in color, sepia tone, and black and white. Readers will find many interesting images, such as the group captured by a photographer in front of the office of the

Christian Commission (224–25), which portrays the diversity of Civil War Washington in a fascinating display that draws one into the picture—who are these people—what drew them to this spot on this particular day—how would their stories play out? This image is a good example of the power of photography, whose immediacy and detail stimulate further questions. Civil War enthusiasts and general readers owe a debt to the authors who chose such compelling images.

The Civil War in Pennsylvania: The African American Experience offers a different approach. The purpose of “this work goes beyond the battlefield, however. It treats the war with circumspection to understand it from an African American point of view” (12). Divided into three sections (“Early Impact of Race, Politics, and Freedom”; “In Search of Freedom: Migration, Emigration, or Just Stay Put”; “The War to End Slavery: On the Road to Freedom”) eight essays written by members of the academic and legal communities trace the development of race relations, emigration debates, abolition, and military experience among Pennsylvania African Americans. Though the book is generously illustrated, the emphasis of the essays is not visual, with the exception of a chapter by Kraus, Turner, and Neville on the photographic history of Pennsylvania’s African Americans. Instead, there is prominent attention devoted to the leaders of the Keystone State’s African American community, such as Martin R. Delany, William Parker, and George Boyer Vashon, and how their views, careers, and activities transmuted into actions that affected the history of the era.

A common theme running through these essays is the transformative effect of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law on Pennsylvania’s African American community. Sitting astride the slave states of Maryland and Virginia, the tenuous freedom of Pennsylvania’s African Americans were put at greater risk from the effects of this legislation, which among other provisions allowed slaveholders to pursue fugitives across state lines and called for fines and/or imprisonment for anyone who did not fail to aid in the capture of runaways. The African American community faced difficult decisions on how to formulate responses to the law, and several essays discuss the range of options that were considered and debated, including emigration to Canada, Haiti, or Africa, civil disobedience, political engagement within the existing system, and violent resistance. As with any other community under stress, Pennsylvania’s African Americans did not always speak with one voice, but the cumulative effect of the volume reveals the remarkable determination of a people who would shape their own fate, even within the confines of an overtly racist society. All the essays are well written and documented, and stand on their own as works of scholarship,

and educators will find it a useful introduction to the subject for students. There is some repetition of events and incidents across chapters, but this is to be expected in a volume featuring separate authors working in the same subject area and limited time period.

Both books are thoughtful and welcome additions to the burgeoning literature of the Civil War and do much to illuminate our understanding of Pennsylvanians' participation and legacy.

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Library of Congress Manuscript Division

Blake A. Watson. *Buying America from the Indians: Johnson v. McIntosh and the History of Native Land Rights* (Tulsa: University of Oklahoma Press, 2012). Pp. xvi, 456. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Cloth, \$45.00.

Bartosz Hlebowicz with Adam Piekarski, editors. *The Trail of Broken Treaties: Diplomacy in Indian Country from Colonial Times to Present* (Wyższa Szkoła Gospodarki, 2011). Pp. 237, illustrations, notes, index. Polish, with English translations. Pricing unavailable.

Did Native Americans truly own the land they inhabited? As law professor Blake A. Watson demonstrates in *Buying America from the Indians*, this question vexed generations of early American legal theorists. Ultimately, most agreed that Native Americans did not hold absolute title to their lands, which instead belonged to the European powers that had “discovered” those lands. While the book is primarily a history of the landmark 1823 Supreme Court case of Johnson and Graham’s *Lessee v. McIntosh*, Watson also explains how early American legal doctrines continue to affect the land rights of indigenous groups in the United States and abroad. His book will interest scholars of property law, Native American rights, and early American land speculation, as well as laypeople who enjoy narrative history.

The case of *Johnson v. McIntosh* stemmed from two separate land deals that speculators conducted in 1773 and 1775 with the Illinois and the Piankeshaws, who lived in present-day Illinois and Indiana. While the British Proclamation of 1763 had banned white expansion beyond the Appalachian Mountains, a variety of speculators conducted direct purchases of Indian lands around this time. Some were buoyed by the Camden-Yorke