

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Origins of the American Revolution.* By JOHN C. MILLER. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, Atlantic Monthly Press Book, 1943. xiv, 519 p. \$3.50.)

From time to time one hears it contended that a barrier has been raised between the world of scholarship and the general reading public. Fortunately, recent years have witnessed the appearance in the field of history of a number of works which have demonstrated beyond cavil that scholarly exposition is not necessarily ponderous and that readability is no certain earmark of superficiality. There seems to be a growing disposition to recognize the propriety of a scholarly exposition which depicts the past as the fascinating, vital thing which it truly is for those for whom history has any significance.

This happy tendency is well sustained by the present volume. It clearly represents years of fruitful research, yet its exposition is such as to commend it to the layman who wants to know about one of the most critical periods in the history of this country. One finds here a clear story of the course of events, which is all the better narrative because of the attention paid to causation. Brief sketches characterize the principal *dramatis personae*. But to a considerable extent the author lets the sources speak for themselves. Zeal in searching the controversial literature of the pre-revolutionary period has been matched by discrimination in making selections from it, and by skill in weaving these into a balanced picture. Yet one is disposed at times to wonder how true this picture is of contemporary opinion as a whole. Voluminous though the surviving literature is, those contemporaries who have left any expression of their attitude are a small minority. It is true that those who did include the leaders of thought and of action, yet a good deal of the material here used comes from the pens of partisans, who may not always even themselves have believed everything which they wrote. The plausible arguments of advocates may not be a very accurate clue to the contemporary state of mind.

This being the case, there are places where one wishes the author had remained less unobtrusively in the background, but had come forth and pronounced the judgment which his investigations so well qualify him to make. When he does so, and for the most part he does, there is little room for exception to what he says. At times such words as liberty, oppression, and imperialist seem to be employed rather uncritically. And one may well doubt that "the colonists would not have been content—as were Canadians,

Australians, New Zealanders, and South Africans until 1931—with a theoretical but unexercised supremacy of the British Parliament.” If the evolution of Dominion status prior to the Statute of Westminster is rightly understood, the evidence which Professor Miller himself presents would seem to create a very strong probability that they would have been content with considerably less.

The reader may possibly receive an exaggerated impression of the newness of this book. In important respects it is new. There has never been another book quite like it. The author has gone to the sources, and has employed them with marked independence. The result is a volume as stimulating as a fresh breeze. Yet a writer is presumably influenced by those who have preceded him in the field. Certainly many of the ideas expressed by Professor Miller are to be found in the pages of earlier writers. But one would not gather as much from the work itself.

Every book is subject to criticism. The caliber of the work will determine the plane upon which it is criticised. Strictures upon the present volume fall within the zone which separates an excellent and highly valuable study from perfection. Professor Miller has produced a very sound book. He has handled a difficult and complex subject with weighty knowledge and a light touch. The result is a volume to gladden layman and professional alike.

*University of Pennsylvania*

LEONIDAS DODSON

*Album of American History. Colonial Period.* JAMES TRUSLOW ADAMS, Editor in Chief; R. V. COLEMAN, Managing Editor; ATKINSON DYMCK Art Director. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944. xiii, 411 p. Illustrated. \$7.50.)

“*The Album of American History* is designed to show what our history looked like,” writes James Truslow Adams in his foreword to this first of several contemplated volumes treating with a pictorial review the American experience. “The museum,” according to Arthur C. Parker, author of *A Manual For History Museums*, “appeals to direct experience.” In the *Album*, it may be said accurately enough, the historical museum is projected with success through the medium of illustrated pages. As such, the volume should have its greatest use among young students since it deals with the direct experience so effectively emphasized in the new and expanding sphere of visual education.

No one is better qualified to judge a handsaw than a carpenter. Consequently, this writer turned over the *Album of American History* to several school teachers. The report from social science and history classes, based on actual experience of its use, indicates that the *Album* is a valuable contribution to studies of American history in the primary and secondary educational fields.

The problem of presenting pictorial matter of all sizes and shapes is one of the reasons, perhaps, for its unusual paginal format. Type and illustration are distributed into a montage, a radical departure from the rectangular and formal presentation of these same elements as used, for example, by *Life Magazine*. The explanatory text with the pictures is keyed with journalese—an attempt to be breezy that often seems short-winded. Since this first volume covers the colonial period, the editors were confronted with the dilemma, either of arranging the historical subject-matter according to geographical customs, or following the chronological stream of history. This problem is resolved by devoting the first 251 pages to sectional cultures and the last 160 pages to the narrative of life in America as it developed in periods of time. Another factor which lends a potpourri aspect to the volume and may, therefore, bother some readers, is the lack of an index. Perhaps the latter will be provided upon publication of the entire series.

As to errors, one finds the garden variety of questionable points inherent in most works of popular history. There will be eyebrows raised at the discovery that "William Penn lived at the Letitia Street House," and questions asked of the unqualified statement that Benedict Arnold "enthroned" Peggy, his wife, at Mount Pleasant. More than mere eyebrows deserve to be raised at the assertion that the Quakers were a "persecuted sect founded by George Fox, an unlettered preacher." *Unlettered* is hardly the word to describe a man whose prolific writings include a book of grammar and prose style.

Picking on old wives' tales and other flaws, however, would appear to be caviling in the face of the general character of the volume. *The Album of American History* is an asset to teachers and an indispensable reference book for the well-equipped library.

*Atwater Kent Museum*

M. J. McCOSKER

*Richard Peters: Provincial Secretary and Cleric.* By HUBERTIS CUMMINGS.  
(Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1944. viii, 347 p.  
\$3.00.)

Richard Peters is one of those persons who by their very obscurity may do more to throw light upon an age and its institutions than any of its greater and more celebrated figures can. One reason for this remarkable fact is probably that the greater personages have concentrated their energies more fully in one field, while lesser men often have dissipated theirs into many fields. Certainly this was true of Richard Peters, who not only saw the government of Pennsylvania from the inside, as Secretary to the Land Office and as Secretary and Clerk of the Provincial Council, but who also, as sometime assistant rector of Christ Church and later rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's, was intimate with all the policies and politics

of the church in Philadelphia and, as president of the trustees of the College and Academy of Philadelphia, played his part in the education of youth in the province. Thus it is that the story of Richard Peters' life is important beyond Peters' own distinctly minor accomplishments.

This story Mr. Cummings has told fully. The Peters Papers, long a source of valuable information to workers in the field of early Pennsylvania history, have finally yielded a biography of Richard Peters himself. Mr. Cummings has, of course, also availed himself of a wide variety of other sources, both in manuscript and in print. These the reader will find listed in the Bibliographical Note; if one regrets the lack of documentation throughout the work, it must be borne in mind that Mr. Cummings is following the pattern set for him in the series in which he is writing.

On the whole Mr. Cummings' work is thorough and accurate. He has, however, unfortunately confused Francis Hopkinson with a younger brother, Thomas Hopkinson, Jr. This confusion causes Mr. Cummings' index to refer to "Hopkinson, Rev. Francis" and places that gentleman in England in 1770 and 1771 and has him ordained by the Bishop of Norwich on December 23, 1770. Whatever else he may have been, Francis Hopkinson was never a clergyman. But such an error is a minor irritation, easy to forgive in the wealth of material which Mr. Cummings has provided. It is perhaps this very wealth of material which occasionally tends to make this book somewhat disproportionate. Yet there are no really serious lacunae in Mr. Cummings' account. The reader may feel that, though he knows all about the maneuverings and devices by which Peters finally attained the rectorship of Christ Church, he knows little of the theology and the religious beliefs of this churchman. On the other hand, the reader will quickly come to the realization that Mr. Cummings has probably given to theology just about the same relative attention that Richard Peters gave to it in life. For, as Mr. Cummings makes clear, Peters was in every way a child of the century within which he lived.

All who are interested in the history of Pennsylvania or of Colonial America will find much to interest them in this book. Through Richard Peters' Land Office the growth of the province of Pennsylvania is clearly seen. Likewise, in his capacity as a conferee with the Indian groups, Peters helped secure the land for that growth. As secretary and clerk he attended meetings and made the minutes of the political deliberations that greatly influenced the affairs of the province. And as a faithful correspondent of the Penns, he recorded and reported what he saw, heard, and did. To Peters, to Mr. Cummings for his diligent research and lively account, and to the University of Pennsylvania Press for making possible such biographies through its Pennsylvania Lives series, all students of this period are greatly indebted.

*Camp Ellis, Illinois*

ALBERT FRANK GEGENHEIMER

*Alexander James Dallas, Lawyer, Politician, Financier, 1759-1817.* By RAYMOND WALTERS, JR. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1943. vi, 238 p. \$2.50.)

Law reporters have a curious immortality; for though their names live in the much-used libraries of bench and bar, their personalities have no enshrinement there. They are as anonymous as the cryptic *318 U.S.* Who remembers Cranch or Wheaton or Howard or Peters as men, as scholars, as anything but the index to Marshall, Story, Taney, and the decisions of the Court? Yet their labors were indispensable parts of the process which gave stability, coherence, and continuity to our national law. Alexander Dallas was the first of the craft. Perhaps he would be satisfied with the kind of fame his reports have brought him (they brought him, like Cranch, little else but fame) for they are living pages of living law, and the law was his life.

Dallas was much more than a compiler of other men's work, however. Here, as one of the latest additions to the *Pennsylvania Lives*, is a full account of his colorful, contentious, busy career. Dr. Walters encountered Dallas in his pursuit of Albert Gallatin. Constitutional historians encounter him as advocate in a dozen landmarks of public law. Students of Jeffersonian politics meet him in every political development of the turbulent years between 1790 and 1815. It would, perhaps, be possible to write intelligently of the national period without mentioning his name, but it would be difficult, and one's production would certainly lack the richness of a lively personality.

The "Jamaica creole," the "French hireling," the "wretched tool of Genêt" in Porcupine Cobbett's vocabulary of invective, came to Philadelphia from the British West Indies in 1783, when he was twenty-four years old. He became in rapid succession an editor, a lawyer, a champion of the theater and a democratic enthusiast, and so carefully fostered the acquaintances he made along his bewildering way that by the time of the Federal Convention he was a Person Who Counted in the city's affairs. Governor Mifflin made him Secretary of the Commonwealth, a position he held for eleven prosperous years, during which he discharged his own negligible and the careless, bibulous governor's considerable responsibilities with such efficiency as to carry the administration along in spite of His Excellency's almost continuous devotion to the bottle. His public career allowed him plenty of time to become a successful practicing lawyer, and a central figure in the organization of the Pennsylvania Anti-Federalists as well. The political history of the state Dr. Walters relates with skill and clarity, describing Dallas' collaboration with the Falstaffian Dr. James Hutchinson, his intercourse with Citizen Genêt, his part in suppressing the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, his vigorous pamphleteering against the Jay treaty, and his labors along with Gallatin in behalf of McKean and Jefferson in the critical election of 1800.

As the faithful are rewarded, so Dallas received the post of United States District Attorney for Eastern Pennsylvania, which he held from 1801 to

1814. This is an exacting office, from which few incumbents have emerged with political or private success. Dallas worked hard and did well, in a difficult period when the dockets were filled with cases on maritime prizes and captures. The famous Olmstead case was his to prosecute, as were many others of the causes which qualified American lawyers in international codes and which did so much to shape what Dean Pound has called "the golden age of American law." Special students will complain that Dr. Walters has not contributed new information or original judgments here; but the narrative is clearly sustained, and if no one has ever shown how these cases, so voluminous in number, fertilized the shoots of nationalism in our jurisprudence, the fault lies with the specialists rather than with the biographer of Dallas.

In September, 1814, Secretary Alexander Campbell, overwhelmed by disease, despair, and his own oppressive mediocrity, resigned from the Treasury, leaving it in what must be the worst state it ever reached in all its history. The disastrous attack on Washington had occurred the previous month. Government loans had all but failed. The financing of the war with Britain was in the hands of a few private bankers. When the president let it be known that he was considering Dallas as Campbell's successor, there were few who protested. "Tell Doctor Madison," growled Pennsylvania's Senator Abner Lacock, "that we are now willing to submit to his Philadelphia lawyer. . . . The public patient is so very sick that we must swallow anything the doctor prescribes however nauseous the bolus." Dallas served two years as Secretary of the Treasury. He applied himself diligently to the complicated tasks of wartime financing, and it is to his credit that, finding the government "actually, if not admittedly bankrupt, with a funded and floating debt of about \$125,000,000; he left it with a surplus of \$20,000,000 for the year, and a public debt of about \$110,000,000." Treasury statistics do not usually make good reading, but in his two chapters on Dallas' stewardship Dr. Walters is able to convey the excitement and seriousness of the moment. As Secretary, Dallas delivered an extensive and statesmanlike report in 1815, expounding a financial policy for the nation, which is a significant document in the history of the growth of a protectionist wing in the Democrat-Republican party.

Though these public services were by no means trivial, far more revealing of the man and his age were Dallas' activities as a lawyer. In lively chapters on "Skirmishes in the Courtroom," "A Philadelphia Lawyer," and "Lawyer and Lobbyist," Dr. Walters describes the great legal battles which occurred at a time when courts were the arenas of severe political antagonisms. Essentially the biography of a lawyer, this gives a convincing picture of how it was that Dallas could be a Jeffersonian prosecuting Judge Addison, yet still defend Chief Justice Shippen in the impeachment trials. Enough is given of Dallas' various arguments also to show the lawyer willing to plead now one way, now another, on the same issue. As a pleader he was superb, in a great age. "It was really a proud thing, at that time,"

Du Ponceau said, "to be a *Philadelphia lawyer*." Marshall, in decision, paid an oblique tribute to Dallas' pleading. "So exquisite was the skill of the artist," he wrote, "so dazzling the garb in which the figure was presented, that it required the exercise of that cold investigating faculty which ought always to belong to those who sit on the bench, to discover its only imperfection; its want of resemblance." For these essays on the practice of law at its best in a glittering generation, the reader will be grateful, as he will be charmed.

Dallas figured in the beginning of the party of Jefferson; he lived through those years which saw it supreme and almost unchallenged; and he participated in the movements that split it into two wings. The author's most effective analysis is given to the development of Dallas' political thinking as a conservative Jeffersonian, in which may be seen the beginnings of the national system of Clay and John Quincy Adams, a fruition of the conflicts of his time which he died too soon to witness.

Pennsylvania Lives are published without footnotes and with only a meager bibliography. Since this work is based almost entirely on unpublished material, the author has helpfully deposited manuscript copies with complete annotation and source lists in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Columbia University Library, and the Library of Congress. The reviewer has studied one of these annotated copies, with both gratification and profit. What the publishers offer reveals but a small part of the extensive labors that Dr. Walters has performed. The advantage of the book without *impedimenta* are many, but readers will have to take on faith what the manuscript copies prove abundantly, namely, the complete reliability of the author's information, and the ample qualification of his interpretive judgments.

*University of Delaware*

J. H. POWELL

C. S. Rafinesque. *A Life of Travels, Being a Verbatim and Literatim Reprint of the Original and only Edition (Philadelphia, 1836)*. Foreword by E. D. MERRILL; critical index by F. W. PENNELL. (Waltham, Mass.: Chronica Botanica Co.; New York City: G. E. Stechert & Co., 1944. 80 p. 3 Portraits. \$2.50.)

Constantine Samuel Rafinesque who once, while traveling in Italy, assumed the name of Rafinesque-Schmaltz and passed as an American for considerations of prudence, was born in Constantinople in 1783 and died in Philadelphia in 1840. He was a man of many talents, a strange genius who annoyed his contemporaries to such an extent that they made every effort to ignore him and to slight his work. They succeeded only in part but so much of his good work was buried with his bad that it has become necessary at last to disinter the whole. Now we must revalue his contributions to

science. Two of his books, *Sylva Telluria* (1838) and *Autikon Botanikon* (1840), have recently been issued in facsimile. The present work, *A Life of Travels*, his autobiography, is the third of his works to be made available to modern botanists and historians.

Perhaps the best short summary of Rafinesque's accomplishments is to be found in a letter he wrote in 1819 to Thomas Jefferson. He was, at the time, on the faculty of Transylvania University and was applying for a chair at the soon to be established University of Virginia. He stated, "I have discovered an immense number of new Plants, Fishes, Shells, fossils, etc. and even some new Quadrupeds! . . . I have published several Works and many tracts in the English, french, italian and latin languages. My flora of Louisiana was sent you by mail. . . . I might undertake to teach at the same time the following branches, (which I am fully competent to teach) provided a small additional compensation might be allowed: they are the french and italian languages, materia medica, Natural philosophy, Geometry, Map drawing, Natural History drawing, Political Economy &c.

I have an extensive & rich herbarium of American plants, a small library &c, which would be deposited in the University."<sup>1</sup> One might add that he also wrote poetry and drew portraits.

Rafinesque's autobiography is well named a *Life of Travels*. He first came to America in 1802 but after three years of travel returned to Europe. He spent ten years in Sicily traveling, collecting biological specimens and studying archaeology. He returned to America in 1815 and continued to explore and collect specimens, particularly plants. He named a great number of new species, often very carelessly, but so many of his descriptions are valid that modern taxonomists will have to accept his names if they are to follow the rules of botanical nomenclature. There is no choice at present, Rafinesque will have to be rehabilitated and installed into the respectable company of botanists.

Professor Merrill's foreword helps the non-professional reader to place Rafinesque as a scientist. Dr. Pennell's annotated index is a useful tool for anyone who is investigating the intellectual life of the early Republic.

*University of Pennsylvania*

CONWAY ZIRKLE

*Beloved Scientist: Elihu Thomson, A Guiding Spirit of the Electrical Age.* By DAVID O. WOODBURY. With a Foreword by OWEN D. YOUNG. (New York: Whittlesey House, 1944. xiii, 358 p. \$3.50.)

During the past seven decades, virtually the period since the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, there has been an epochal transformation in civilized life, brought about by such agencies as the telephone, the dynamo, electric

<sup>1</sup> Quote from E. M. Betts, *The Correspondence Between Samuel Constantine Rafinesque and Thomas Jefferson*, in Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, 87: (1944), 368-380.

light, the trolley car, the automobile, the airplane, the steam turbine, X-ray and wireless. Probably no other American scientist played so large a part in so many of these agencies as Elihu Thomson, son of an immigrant English machinist. Until the appearance of Woodbury's biography, however, Thomson was as little known to the general public as Michael Faraday, Joseph Henry, Michael Pupin and other scientific investigators who devoted their best energies to research and experimentation, leaving to others self-advertisement and the exploitation of commercially profitable inventions.

Born in Manchester, England, in 1853, Elihu Thomson was brought to Philadelphia at the age of five. He was educated in the public schools and in the Central High School. In recognition of his aptitude for science, he was invited to join the faculty of the latter school within a few months after his graduation at the age of seventeen. Ten years later he gave up teaching to devote himself completely to research and to the perfection of his numerous inventions. These will always associate his name with the history of electric lighting, the dynamo, wireless, electric welding, astronomical optics, electric transportation and various other fields of engineering. Although Thomson had no formal education beyond high school, he had the distinction of being offered a professorship of engineering at Harvard and the presidency of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. No other American investigator in the field of physical sciences had so impressive a list of citations and awards, yet the world had little opportunity to become familiar with his career before the appearance of *Beloved Scientist*.

Mr. Woodbury has done an excellent piece of work in his well-ordered and sympathetic biography of a man whose greatness was exceeded only by his modesty. Using the abundant material made available by "the Professor's" devoted associates and admirers, together with the rich sources of information in the possession of the American Philosophical Society, Woodbury has evolved an absorbing and at times dramatic narrative that will be appreciated by scientists as well as by the general public. The biography will be a particular source of inspiration to young readers of scientific inclination. In Woodbury's pages we follow the development of a benign personality, rich in personal charm, in zest for life, and with a sense of humor so often lacking in men of intense application. Elihu Thomson's wide range of interests made unusual demands on his biographer; these were more than adequately met by Mr. Woodbury.

A few errors may be noted that will undoubtedly be corrected in later printings. Elihu was the second of eleven, not ten, children (p. 4): "R. I. Riché" should be "G. I. Riché" (p. 45); conflicting statements about the length of the spark given by Thomson's high frequency transformer (pp. 210, 230) should be reconciled; the year 1900 should not be cited as the beginning of a new century (p. 242); the tributes to Lord Kelvin at the Waldorf-Astoria dinner should not be characterized as "fulsome" (p. 252). Moreover, although Mr. Woodbury gives the date of Thomson's birth in the first sentence of the biography, there is no record anywhere of the date

of his death. In fact, the reader will get the impression (pp. 346-348) that the beloved Professor died in 1936, shortly after his eighty-third birthday; the correct date is March 13, 1937, a few days before his eighty-fourth birthday. The impressive list of Thomson's seventeen medals and decorations at the end of the book would have been more useful if Mr. Woodbury had incorporated it in a chronology including from twelve to fifteen of the important dates in Thomson's career.

These few suggested changes should not detract from the fact that Mr. Woodbury has given us a memorable picture of a serene searcher after Truth, who has left mankind under great obligation for all time.

*Philadelphia*

JOHN L. HANEY

*Beloved Crusader—Lawrence F. Flick, Physician.* By ELLA MARIE FLICK. (Philadelphia: Dorrance and Company, 1944. 390 p. \$3.50.)

This life story of Dr. Lawrence F. Flick comes at an opportune moment. December, 1944, marks the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Health of Towns Association in England, the first attempt in Anglo-Saxon history to apply the principles of mass education to the problems of disease. Organized by Dr. Thomas Southwood Smith upon the basis of support from the nobility, the laboring classes and the medical profession, the main purpose of the movement was to muster enlightened popular opinion behind legislation designed to bring about improvements in environmental sanitation. The Association was a potent force in securing the passage of the act of 1848 establishing the General Board of Health in Great Britain.

While the evidence contained in the volume under review does not in any way indicate that Dr. Flick had knowledge of the Health of Towns Association yet we find history repeating itself in a measure when he organized The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis on April 22, 1892. The motive force in this instance was to combat the ignorance, indifference or active opposition of the medical profession of Philadelphia to the idea of the contagiousness of tuberculosis, a theory propounded by Dr. Flick as early as 1888—only six years after Dr. Koch announced the discovery of the tubercle bacillus as the causative organism in tuberculosis. As in the case of Dr. Smith, Flick turned for support to the people. The Pennsylvania Society was composed of both physicians and lay members who believed in the doctrine set forth by Flick. Popular mass education was the *modus operandi* of the Society. The movement becomes significant in the history of public health because it is the first instance recorded where this method of public education was applied to a specific disease.

With access to notebooks, diaries and more than one hundred bound volumes of letters, Miss Ella Marie Flick has compiled a most readable account of her father's life. The title *Beloved Crusader* is quite appropriate from a daughter's point of view. A more apt and objective title might have

been "A Valiant Crusader," since Dr. Flick had a host of friends but also many powerful enemies who made his entire life a succession of misunderstandings and controversies. That Dr. Flick was a difficult individual with whom to work is attested throughout the pages of this biography. This trait explains his resignation or elimination from Rush Hospital, Henry Phipps Institute, the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis and The National Tuberculosis Association, to mention only a few.

Between 1877 and 1885 Dr. Flick himself went through the mental and physical struggles attached to tuberculosis. Thus began his life-long interest in the disease. His rare ability to organize against the disease is revealed in an extensive list of organizations and institutions in which he was active, among them Rush Hospital for Consumptives and Allied Diseases, 1890; the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, 1892; Society for the Care of Poor Consumptives and White Haven Sanatorium Association, 1895; White Haven Sanatorium, 1901; Henry Phipps Institute for the Study, Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis, 1902; The National Tuberculosis Association, 1904; and the Sixth International Congress on Tuberculosis, Washington, D. C., 1908. In addition Dr. Flick was the author of three books on tuberculosis.

Miss Flick's judgment of Dr. Flick's work is expressed as follows: "The White Haven Sanatorium and The Henry Phipps Institute were the great achievements in his life." (p. 10). Great as these contributions were, it is the reviewer's opinion that the greatest of all Dr. Flick's work was in the creation of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis on April 22, 1892. Here he brought together medical and lay people to prosecute a popular educational crusade against a single disease. The social influence of this fact has been growing with each passing year until it has permeated the entire field of public health.

The fact that Flick did not or could not realize the full implications of his original contribution is implicit throughout his many letters on the subject. He never accommodated his ideas to the shift of the Pennsylvania Society from a voluntary organization to a professional basis. In essence he believed firmly that much of the money and effort contributed to the tuberculosis movement in philanthropic spirit was wasted because of conflicting ambitions, personal selfishness, and political scheming. He held that the funds should be used in the treatment of cases of tuberculosis and did not appreciate fully the role of education in the ultimate conquest of the disease. Nevertheless it was Flick who in 1892 gave the impetus to a social force which will mark the last eight years of the nineteenth and the first four years of the twentieth centuries as a period second only to that inaugurated by Pasteur—Koch—Lister in the fight against one of the major threats to man's existence on this earth—namely disease. His name will shed lustre upon Philadelphia and Pennsylvania throughout time.

*Columbus, Ohio*

ROBERT G. PATERSON

*They Also Ran.* By IRVING STONE. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday Doran and Co. Inc., 1943. xi, 389 p. \$3.50.)

The principal merit of this book is that it brings biographical sketches of defeated presidential candidates between two covers, excluding those who were both defeated and elected. To these are added the views of the author as to the kind of president the candidate would have made had he been elected.

The period covered is from 1824 (Henry Clay) to 1940 (Wendell Willkie) but the order of the book is not chronological. It is arranged in groups of the candidates' professions—the journalists (Greeley and Cox); the judges (Parker and Hughes); the generals (Scott, Frémont, McClellan and Hancock); and so on. The originality of this scheme does not offset the resulting lack of historical continuity and further there is little of similarity, other than professional, among most of them. Two editors more unlike than Horace Greeley and James M. Cox would be difficult to find. The same is true of the generals. Scott had a long and honorable career as an officer of great ability with a numerically weak "standing" army. Frémont as a general was a failure. McClellan was a great organizer but a faint-hearted fighter. Hancock was justly known as "the superb," one of the best of the Civil War generals.

Mr. Stone wields a trenchant pen but his penchant for striking sentences, and perhaps his prejudices, lead him into exaggerations and inaccuracies, with the result that some of the sketches seem like campaign propaganda, post mortem, pro or con, rather than impartial biography. In addition, factual errors are fairly numerous. In discussing General Scott, the author says of his successful rival: "No one outside of Maine had ever heard of Pierce"—presumably the author meant New Hampshire. Scott is referred to as Lincoln's "Chief of Staff," but there was no such rank in the army in Scott's time.

Mr. Stone has a pronounced prejudice in favor of Frémont. He says that Frémont was offered the nomination for the presidency by the Democratic party in 1856 but rejected it and was nominated by the new Republican party. According to Allan Nevins in *Frémont, the Pathmaker*, the general was approached by a few Democratic politicians, but that is far different from Mr. Stone's statement of an offer of the nomination by that party. It is difficult to follow both the author's adulation of Frémont and his extreme criticism of Buchanan. No one questions Frémont's work as an explorer in the West, but, as the author admits, he was "rash, impetuous, headstrong, self-willed"; and the idea that he could have scotched secession at its beginning is far-fetched. Buchanan, unfortunately for the country and for himself, was President at the wrong time. Had he been elected twelve, eight or even four years earlier, he would probably have been a better-than-average president but he was sixty-six in 1857 and almost seventy when the storm broke in the last six months of his administration. The compromises had lost their allure and secession turned from a threat into a fact.

The Sage of Wheatland was not Andrew Jackson. His age, his temporizing outlook, his disrupted party, every circumstance combined to make him ineffective. Granting all this does not prove Mr. Stone's thesis that Frémont would have nipped secession in the bud. On the contrary, it is more likely that had he been elected, the Civil War would have begun four years before it did.

As to McClellan, the statement that "few aside from scholars know that he ran against Lincoln for the presidency in 1864," if true, is a sad commentary upon the knowledge of American history of the average intelligent man. The statement that McClellan was removed by President Lincoln in March of 1862 is incorrect. Nothing happened to McClellan in March of 1862 and at the end of June, 1862, he was fighting the Seven Days battles around Richmond. He was in effect relieved of his command by Secretary Stanton on August 30, 1862 (OR, Vol. XII, Part 3, p. 706), but on September 2 was reinstated, commanded the Army of the Potomac at the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, and was finally removed from command November 5, 1862 (OR, Vol. XIX, Part 2, p. 545). The author speaks of "his [McClellan's] astonishing letter to Lincoln at Harper's Ferry, telling the President how to conduct the war, the government and the affairs of the Nation." Probably Mr. Stone means McClellan's letter to Lincoln of July 7, 1862, written from headquarters of the Army of the Potomac in camp near Harrison's Landing, Virginia, the text of which is given in full in Nicolay and Hay, Vol. V, page 447, and which was handed by McClellan to Lincoln at that camp (McClellan's *Own Story*, pp. 444-6) on July 8, 1862. If so, the author has carelessly written Harper's Ferry for Harrison's Landing.

In the sketch of John W. Davis, it is said that when he returned from the ambassadorship to Great Britain, he accepted an offer to join the New York law firm of Stetson, Jennings and Russell, the one to which Grover Cleveland had belonged when he was elected to the presidency in 1884. Any historical writer should know that Grover Cleveland was Governor of New York when he was elected to the presidency in 1884 and that his legal residence was Buffalo. He was connected with the New York law firm in question when he was reelected in 1892.

These and other inaccuracies in the book minimize its value for reference and while Mr. Stone is entitled to his opinion as to the merits and demerits of both the elected and defeated candidates, his views as to many of them run counter to those of many historians.

*Philadelphia*

BOYD LEE SPAHR

*This is Carlisle. A History of a Pennsylvania Town.* By MILTON EMBICK FLOWER and LENORE EMBICK FLOWER. (Harrisburg: J. H. McFarland Co., 1944. 72 p. Illustrated. Paper \$1.75. Cloth \$3.00.)

The Proprietary town of Carlisle, the disseminating point for the Scotch Irish in America, and county seat of Cumberland County, was laid out in

1751. Fort Louthier, built in 1753 to protect this part of the valley in the French and Indian War, extended westward from the Square on both sides of the Town's High street. Here General Forbes in 1758 recruited many men on his way to Fort Duquesne.

In the Revolution Carlisle became a very important collecting center for war materials, horses, cattle, leather, grain, flour and linen, in fact the Cumberland Valley was often called the Bread Basket of America. Carlisle also produced fine leaders, James Wilson one of the foremost lawyers in America; John Armstrong a trusted general of Washington; Ephraim Blaine Quartermaster General of the Continental Army.

By 1800 Carlisle was growing, with a population of 2491. The gateway to the West, Carlisle saw thousands of settlers pass through each year to find homes in the Ohio valley. Many distinguished Europeans also traveled westward through this town. During this period the small homes of the eighteenth century were rapidly replaced by fine stone dwellings, many now standing. The Flowers' book contains many interesting pictures, including early sketches of the town, of prominent old homes and of some of their famous mantel pieces. Means of transportation, too, were developing and in 1837 the Cumberland Valley Railroad ran its first train through the middle of the main street.

During the Civil War the Carlisle Barracks were burned and the town shelled at the time of Gettysburg. In this emergency the buildings of Dickinson College, founded in 1783, were used as a hospital. These Carlisle Barracks go back to the British fort of 1751, used in the Revolution by the Continental Army as a fort, as a place to keep Hessian prisoners, and as a collecting and supply depot for the army. They served as a Barracks until the Civil War, then as a cavalry school, and in the 1880's as an Indian School. In 1917 the Barracks became a hospital and later were turned over to its present use, as a U. S. Medical Field Service School.

At the end of each chapter is a short bibliography and a more complete one is given on the last page. There is no index. The book is interestingly written and adds much to the contribution Carlisle has made to American history.

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