

BOOK REVIEWS

Valley Forge: The Making of an Army. By ALFRED HOYT BILL. (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1952. xii, 259 p. Bibliography, index. \$3.50.)

Legends of the American Revolution die hard, and there is no more enduring perennial than the tradition of Valley Forge as a period and place of unmitigated misery. Alfred Hoyt Bill has made a needed contribution by telling the other side of the story—the hopeful and constructive winter of reorganization which created the first American army with its own drill and discipline.

Mr. Bill has summed up his theme neatly in the preface. Washington's ragged troops, he says, "were veterans when von Steuben took them in hand: all they needed was professional training. Their continuing presence at Valley Forge as an army in being—weak and on the verge of disintegration as it often was—had an effect on the outcome of the war that is almost unique in military history."

In his first section, "The Testing of the Ore," Mr. Bill reviews dramatically the military events leading up to Valley Forge: Washington's forlorn retreat across New Jersey during the last weeks of 1776; the dramatic riposte at Trenton and Princeton; the first winter at Morristown; and the fall of Philadelphia to the British army which defeated the Continentals at the Brandywine, Paoli, Germantown and Fort Mifflin.

These reverses were the prelude to the winter at Valley Forge. But without glossing over the hardships of the battered little army, Mr. Bill develops his theme in the section entitled "The Tempering of the Steel." Steel it was, for the troops proceeded to erect a military city of log huts built according to exact specifications—a thousand cabins went up literally almost overnight. This project has some claim to being known as the first American assembly line.

Never was shelter more sorely needed. One of the diarists, Surgeon Albigeance Waldo, has left this description: "There comes a soldier. His bare feet are seen through his worn out shoes—his legs nearly naked from the tattered remains of an only pair of stockings—his Breeches are not sufficient to cover his nakedness—his Shirt hanging in Strings—his hair disheveled—his face meagre."

The turning point came with the arrival of Frederick von Steuben as drillmaster. This Prussian veteran of the Seven Years' War is said to have coined the word *sansculottes* to honor Continental rags at a time when the French Revolution was still in the womb of history. However that may be, the genial Steuben encouraged his American pupils to take pride even in their hardships.

The last half of Mr. Bill's work is devoted to a detailed account of the improved methods of drill and discipline introduced by an alien with the aid of American interpreters. But even though he could not speak the language, the newcomer showed an amazing understanding of the American temperament. And he tempered the steel of Valley Forge accordingly.

This is Mr. Bill's story, and he ends it with a chapter on the first test of the rebuilt Continental Army at the battle of Monmouth. Unfortunately, the results were disappointing for lack of unified command, but at least the troops did not fail their officers. It is a story told with sympathy and understanding, and the reader can never again think of Valley Forge as a place of unrelieved gloom and despair.

Arlington, Va.

LYNN MONTROSS

Rag, Tag, and Bobtail: The Story of the Continental Army, 1775-1783. By LYNN MONTROSS. (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1952. [viii], 519 p. Illustrations, maps, appendix, bibliography, index. \$5.00.)

The almost insatiable demand of the reading public for accounts of the American Revolutionary War has been cossetted again with Mr. Montross' new book, *Rag, Tag, and Bobtail*. It is the armies' story written from and with the help of firsthand accounts by participants and observers. Usually, the American Revolutionary War has been reported in the words of the big brass, but this time the story has been told mainly from the diaries and letters of the nearly anonymous common soldiers. Mr. Montross uses little new, unpublished material. He succeeds in his attempt to tell the story of a great fight by selecting the reports of the fighters themselves, or abstracting them skillfully. The accounts used are not of American soldiers only, for the opponents of the Americans are adequately represented through their own reporters.

The central feature of the book is the fighting force, particularly of the Continental Army. Mr. Montross has succeeded in giving a better picture of what the fighters were and what they did than many writers about the American Revolutionary War. He has shown the character and temper of the men. He has seen them in victory and defeat; he finds them petty and noble; he views them with pride and with shame. With remarkable clarity, he has recreated an army on paper, so that it rises from the pages and displays form, substance, and life. Cruelty and nobility are there, pettiness, tragedy, and rude humor, dirt and disease and tenderness, and behind them all, sobering glimpses of an American republic taking shape in town meetings, legislative halls, and corner stores.

Mr. Montross tells a good story. He knows that the American Revolutionary War consists largely of action, motion, excitement. His book is pervaded with the sense that war is motion under tension. The war was fought on many fields; many events took place simultaneously. It has

always been difficult for historians to tell a story of war years without losing the chronological progression. Mr. Montross is quite successful in moving his story constantly, at the same time keeping his readers conscious of when and where events took place.

In a book about battles and the rapid movements of men from place to place, maps and illustrations are essential. The twenty-nine maps drawn by Miss Alice Wesche are exceptionally fine. They are clearly drawn, accurate, and lettered in such fashion that locations are easily read. There ought to be more maps of this sort available for historical purposes. It can be done, as Miss Wesche has proved. The idea of the panoramas—eight bird's-eye views of the most important areas of fighting during the war—is excellent. The execution, however, leaves a good deal to be wished for. I think the reason for their failure is that they are too small. The original drawings were probably larger and more easily understood. As reproduced in page size, they are of little help.

Rag, Tag, and Bobtail should attract a large circle of readers. It is easily read, moves rapidly from event to event, and never fails in interest. It should, as well, please historians and teachers, for Mr. Montross has indicated his sources clearly. It is very much the sort of supplementary reading that will attract students. The appendix, containing a list of the Revolutionary War generals and the dates of their commissions is especially usable.

A few years ago, historian Samuel E. Morison urged young historians to learn how to write well. *Rag, Tag, and Bobtail* is a good example of how to write readable history. It is a book hard to put down, for one is beguiled so easily from one event to the next. Mr. Montross knows how to write and he has written an excellent book.

The Clements Library

COLTON STORM

Correspondence of Governor Samuel Ward, May, 1775–March, 1776. With a Biographical Introduction Based Chiefly on the Ward Papers Covering the Period 1725–1776. Edited with an Introduction by BERNHARD KNOLLENBERG; Genealogy of the Ward Family compiled by CLIFFORD P. MONAHON. (Providence, R. I.: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1952. x, 254 p. Bibliography, indices. \$7.50.)

Samuel Ward was governor of Rhode Island for three terms of one year each and had been eight years out of that office when he attended the First Continental Congress as one of the colony's two delegates. Some of his contemporaries, notably John Adams, continued to call him "Governor Ward," and Mr. Knollenberg has seen fit to preserve the title in editing his correspondence during the sessions of 1775–1776. It seems inappropriate and somewhat misleading. The volume appears designed to please many—perhaps too many—with a biographical introduction of thirty-three pages for those who are not interested in documentary detail; the correspondence,

embracing one hundred and sixty-six pages, for the scholars who prefer verbatim transcriptions and annotation; and a Ward family genealogy for the benefit of his posterity. It is questionable if anyone will be quite happy with the result. Those wishing a condensed biography will find too many unimportant letters printed in full, a few of them merely to get a chuckle out of phonetic spelling. Such readers likely will applaud Mr. Knollenberg's restraint in resisting "the temptation to prolong this introductory essay by almost endless passages from the Ward letters." The actual correspondence is exceedingly well edited, but suffers from the fact that little new is added. The seven letters from Nathanael Greene found in the William L. Clements Library seem to be a rediscovery, since the indefatigable Peter Force printed all seven in his *American Archives* a hundred years ago. Ward's own letters to his brother, or pertinent excerpts therefrom, were printed in the first volume of E. C. Burnett's *Letters of Members of the Continental Congress*. The letters to and from Governor Cooke may, of course, be found in the second volume of G. S. Kimball's *The Correspondence of the Colonial Governors of Rhode Island*, and in volume six of the Rhode Island Historical Society *Collections*. Samuel Ward's untimely death in March, 1776, ended a career which had given promise of being a brilliant one, and Mr. Knollenberg concludes that he was a leader of the Continental Congress in the first critical year of the war. John Adams, viewing the demise as a contemporary, lamented it exceedingly, "because he had many correspondents in Rhode Island whose Letters were of service to Us, an Advantage which is now entirely lost." One of these letters, from Henry Ward, dated November 27, 1775, was found in the *Pennsylvania Journal* for December 13, 1775, and inserted in its chronological place. The present volume has the great advantage of bringing all this correspondence together within a single binding, along with some other family letters of minor importance. Mr. Knollenberg points out that many letters are missing and hopes that those which have survived may be called to his attention. Mr. Monahan's admirable genealogy of the Ward family will disappoint the distaff side, the female descendants being carried only through one generation. By a wise editorial decision, there are two excellent indices, one of the biographical introduction and correspondence; the other of the genealogy.

Brevard, N. C.

WILLIAM BELL CLARK

The Extraordinary Mr. Morris. By HOWARD SWIGGETT. (Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1952. xx, 483 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$5.00.)

Howard Swiggett has already demonstrated his competence as a historian in *War Out of Niagara* and *The Rebel Raider*. Historians of the American Revolution have long been conscious of the need for a first-class life of Gouverneur Morris. There was reason to hope for much from the combina-

tion of Mr. Swiggett's gifts and the character of Mr. Morris. Very few critics with respect for either of the principals in this enterprise will be satisfied with the result.

Certainly, Mr. Swiggett's book has virtues that might have seemed greater had our expectations been less. He reveals, with real deftness and warmth, the attractive personal qualities of his mercurial subject—his true urbaneness, his magnanimity of spirit, his integrity, kindness, and patriotism. Indeed, it is perhaps these appealing characteristics of Morris that have seduced Mr. Swiggett from a more thoughtful consideration of the New York aristocrat's relation to the men and ideas of his age.

One of the biggest disappointments of Mr. Swiggett's book is the style in which it is written. Apparently, Mr. Swiggett has labored long here, but style is not, as he seems to think, a matter of trick effects, of facile juxtapositions, or even of skillful metaphors. *The Extraordinary Mr. Morris* is littered with disconcerting irrelevancies, apparently designed to enliven a subject which the author constantly and quite rightly insists is vibrant with life of its own.

In recent years the attacks on dry-as-dust history have unnerved many historians who are inclined to be overly differential in the face of a book with literary pretensions. But Mr. Swiggett's biography can be taken as an example of the dangers of a too self-conscious striving for effect. "Style," in Whitehead's words, "is the ultimate morality of the mind." It is not a bag of literary tricks.

This matter is, to be sure, a somewhat peripheral one, but it is related to another, much more important. Having essayed a style apparently designed for broad appeal, Mr. Swiggett then concentrates on the dramatic and sensational aspects of his hero's career and gives scant attention to the others.

For example, at one point he states that of all Gouverneur Morris's writings the one document his biographers would most like to quote in full, "for its wisdom and its wit," is his speech to the Pennsylvania Assembly in defense of the Bank of North America. Mr. Swiggett then devotes a few paragraphs to the briefest of résumés and adds, "Between his [Morris's] brilliant shots is a patient and penetrating explanation of the use of money and credit in building the industry of a new country." Apparently, however, this explanation is too recondite or obtuse for Mr. Swiggett's reader. He is left to speculate on what Mr. Morris's financial ideas may have been.

Perhaps Gouverneur Morris's greatest claim to the esteem of his countrymen lies in his work in the Federal Convention where he spoke more often than any other delegate, and left the stamp of his mind imprinted indelibly on the Constitution itself. To this story Mr. Swiggett allots a bare fifteen pages.

Yet his account of Morris's love affairs and his attendance at fashionable salons in Paris and London runs to many more than fifty pages of which a large number are devoted to rather excessively detailed accounts of Morris's celebration of the "Cyprian rites" with the charming Adélaïde de Flahaut.

It is hard to understand how, in a presumably serious biography of a man of first-rate importance, such an extraordinary disproportion is justified.

Mr. Swiggett has deliberately chosen to skate over the surface of his subject, sometimes gracefully, almost always superficially. But at least, if there is, on his part, a disappointing failure to come to grips with his subject, Mr. Swiggett succeeds in making us feel that the master of Morrisania was a truly extraordinary gentleman.

Institute of Early American History and Culture

C. PAGE SMITH

John Adams and the Prophets of Progress. By ZOLTÁN HARASZTI. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1952. 362 p. Illustrations, index. \$5.00.)

From time to time in the publications of the Boston Public Library and in other journals, Mr. Haraszti has published articles based on the comments John Adams wrote in the books he read. He has now brought them all together, and other material as well, in a book that is an illuminating commentary both on eighteenth-century thought and on one of the most independent-minded men of the eighteenth century. The volume opens with three chapters on John Adams and his books and on his political philosophy. The remainder of the volume is taken up with Adams' comments on the great writers and thinkers of the eighteenth century: Bolingbroke, Rousseau, Turgot, Condorcet, Priestley, and others. These comments are linked together with invaluable biographical accounts of the writers and with analyses of their writings. Important, too, is the account of the composition of Adams' *Defense of the Constitutions*. Like many another busy eighteenth-century man, Adams copied liberally from others. Adams himself put twelve pages of the first volume in quotes. Charles Francis Adams, in his edition, put about twenty-five per cent in quotes. But Haraszti, after examining Adams' own library, says that nearly seventy-five per cent of the first volume was copied from other works. Plainly a new edition of the *Defense* is called for, with Adams' own remarks clearly indicated.

John Adams' own comments are, of course, the heart of this volume. Readers of his diary and letters know what to expect of him. He is opinionated, vigorous, and fearless. He carries over these same qualities into the comments he writes in the books in his own library. He sniffs, snorts, and at times engages in full-scale attack. He will agree with one statement of a writer and then go at the next one as if the writer were at best weak-minded, and at worst, the personification of the forces of evil. One can't help but feel that if Adams were alive today he would be the nation's most terrifying book reviewer.

One learns much of John Adams from this book. If he had one fixed idea, it was the idea of a balanced government. Unicameral legislatures were anathema to him and had been ever since the First Continental Congress.

He seldom missed an opportunity to denounce them. He was skeptical of the whole idea of progress, at least as conceived by the philosophers. Yet he was not a pessimist, despite his lack of faith in the motives of individuals and classes of society. Labels are perhaps useless, and certainly inadequate, but the word *realist* seems to me to come closest to describing John Adams.

University of Wisconsin

MERRILL JENSEN

Torchbearer of Freedom: The Influence of Richard Price on Eighteenth Century Thought. By CARL B. CONE. (Lexington, Ky.: University of Kentucky Press, 1952. [xii], 209 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$3.75.)

Richard Price, like his friends and associates James Burgh of Newington Green and Joseph Priestley, has been neglected since his death. In his own time he was well known and was honored on both sides of the Atlantic. He was consulted by the younger Pitt and by the Earl of Shelbourne, as well as by the Continental Congress in October, 1778. He was at once a very devout, if unorthodox, divine and an important writer on financial and actuarial matters. He thoroughly merits Professor Cone's description—"Torchbearer of Freedom." Price supported parliamentary and legal reform in England and the liberties of the colonies overseas. This study of his influence thus provides a very welcome addition to our material on a critical period. Professor Cone has used manuscripts unnoticed by William Morgan and Roland Thomas, earlier biographers of Price. He has added considerably to available information about the good man. His study of Price's influence on Pitt's sinking fund and of his place in the history of insurance methods, of annuities and statistics is important and almost the first of its kind. These chapters provide a real addition to an understanding of a difficult subject. Price's educational theory—teaching how to think, not what to think—is outlined, as is his part in the Hackney College experiment. In the chapter on "Clergyman and Moralist" the foundations of Price's whole philosophy are described. The book is brief for the importance of the subject, and this has imposed on the author limitations which may be regretted. It would be hard to find a better introduction to Price's life and work. On the other hand, without rather full treatment of the background, some parts of this excellent essay seem rather sketchy. For example, the relation of Price's Arianism to the beliefs of both his Unitarian and his deistical friends within and without the established church and on both sides of the Atlantic is hardly mentioned. In a different connection, the description of Price's ideas on the public debt and on population would have gained enormously from some account of the state of knowledge and opinion at the time in both fields. Again, the general development of dissenting educational theories in this century even briefly treated would have immensely clarified the importance of Price's own contribution. But this is

merely a demand for more from Professor Cone, who has already given us so much.

Throughout the book and in spite of the relative sparsity of material on the private life of his subject, Professor Cone is at his most felicitous when describing the personality of his hero and the characters of his friends. Price's life was uneventful. He left Wales for Stoke Newington, after a brief stay in Coward's Academy fairly early in life. Thereafter his time was divided between the Newington suburbs and Hackney, all in the London area. He was connected with meetinghouses and academies in both places. He married a wife whose ill health must have greatly complicated his life. He had no children, few financial worries, and almost no dramatic crises in his affairs. He preached only moderately well. He had the gift of friendship. He talked and wrote on freedom all his life. His last address, the *Discourse* on the French Revolution, provoked Burke's *Reflections* and a storm of controversy. Then, as now, readers of the two men were to realize, according to their bent, the necessity of resistance to tyranny and the dangers of a revolutionary break with the past. Price was a radical. He moved among radicals whose ideas often outdistanced those of their American friends, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Josiah Quincy. His associates like himself were loyal friends of the colonists in the sixties and of the Americans after they gained independence, and much could be forgiven for that, although Adams was quite horrified at Price's endorsement of the French Revolution. Professor Cone's description of the "Honest Whigs," with whom Quincy and Franklin consorted and whom Adams knew later when on his embassy, is far and away the best available. After mentioning some names familiar to Americans—James Burgh of the *Disquisitions*, John Fothergill, the Quaker doctor forever associated with the medical life of Philadelphia, John Lee, Priestley and others—Professor Cone suggests that this club may well bear comparison with that other more famous club over which Dr. Johnson presided. He adds that, in spite of all rival attractions, were time and space to be conquered, he might choose an evening amongst the friends of freedom at the "Honest Whigs" whom Franklin so affectionately remembered all his life.

Bryn Mawr College

CAROLINE ROBBINS

American Furniture, Queen Anne and Chippendale Periods, in the Henry Francis duPont Winterthur Museum. By JOSEPH DOWNS. Foreword by HENRY FRANCIS DUPONT. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1952. XL, [454] p. 10 color plates, 401 black and white plates, appendices, index. \$17.50.)

With this book we begin to have public knowledge of individual treasures of the Henry Francis duPont Winterthur Museum.

Of this fabulous assemblage of early American art, opened in October,

1951, we have previously had only a summary handbook, in the special number of the magazine *Antiques* then issued. Now here is an installment, only the first we trust, of a magnificent published catalogue.

The previous handbook, also compiled by Mr. Downs, gave ensemble photographs of nearly fifty rooms filled with most remarkable furnishings of all classes. The new volume, devoted entirely to furniture of the Queen Anne and Chippendale periods, has, besides ten such ensemble photographs in color of rooms of these times at Winterthur, illustrations of just under four hundred single pieces, most of them never before published. They represent the fullest and best collection of American furniture from all the colonies during the period included. The upholstered items are shown covered with their appropriate fabrics—an object lesson in itself.

Each piece has a notice, recording the material, and the history if known, with an attribution to place and time, and often with citation of some contemporary document that aids in establishing its historical position. In a dozen instances, where there are makers' labels or signatures, these are separately reproduced, and there are records of further inscriptions which identify other makers. There are references to previous specialized publications, especially those dealing with known individual makers. Of their work, all told, a quite astonishing array is assembled here. Thus the book worthily adds to our knowledge of makers, as well as of styles and types, previously embodied in Lockwood's *Colonial Furniture in America*, Hornor's *Blue Book of Philadelphia Furniture*, and elsewhere. It adds especially, through its sage attributions, to the knowledge of local varieties.

Here is American furniture of the periods at its best, and this best is very good. We can be proud that our ancestors approached so closely to the merit of corresponding English pieces, besides creating certain types, such as the Philadelphia Chippendale highboy and the Rhode Island block fronts, which were their own.

Mr. duPont himself contributes a most unassuming foreword on the beginnings and growth of the collection from 1923. One who, like the reviewer, has followed it from the first housewarming, can marvel at many successive stages which the founder does not mention. Mr. duPont pursued one aspect after another, bringing to each the same taste and devotion. At first there were mainly furniture and woodwork, with, to be sure, many remarkable items of silver and other accessories. Then antique fabrics were assembled on a scale unrivaled elsewhere, and with the closest attention to curtains, upholstery, and trimmings. Paintings of the period, hitherto few in number, began to appear in admirable examples, headed by West's *American Commissioners to Make Peace*. On another visit to Winterthur one noticed that relevant old books, manuscripts, and broadsides had come to rest on tables and desks. Then closets and bathrooms were transformed into specialized cabinets of pottery, porcelain, and glass, each group of exceptional quality and completeness. These were extended in the Shop Lane, surely the most ingenious of "study collections." Recently, it was the rugs

which had attention, so that they too constitute an assemblage worthy by itself of very great praise.

Last came the curators, headed by Joseph Downs. We see from his new book that he was one of the most brilliant of all Mr. duPont's acquisitions. Let us hope for many more volumes to follow.

Philadelphia Museum of Art

FISKE KIMBALL

Early American Architecture From the First Colonial Settlements to the National Period. By HUGH MORRISON. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1952. xiv, 619 p. Illustrations, indices. \$12.50.)

Notwithstanding the fact that architects of today are almost exclusively turning to nontraditional forms with which to express their creations, there is, perhaps, more interest in our colonial and early Federal architecture, crafts, and furniture than ever before.

Starting with the advent of the automobile, which was followed by good roads, every corner of our vast country became accessible. Those sections that had anything of a historic background were publicized, first through the activities of local committees, then state organizations, in which the Garden Clubs of America played a leading role. Before long a spotlight was thrown on all physical forms, both good and bad, that expressed the culture of past generations. Finally, the restoration of Williamsburg, through the munificence of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the opening to the public of Winterthur by Henry F. duPont, brought public interest in Americana to a fever pitch. It is fitting, at such a time, that there should be offered to the public an authoritative book dealing with all phases of our architectural backgrounds.

After having thoroughly digested a vast amount of isolated material pertaining to the various sections of our country, and having investigated the part that foreign influences had played in our early creations, the author of this volume has given us an authoritative, comprehensive, and highly readable book.

Starting with a discourse on colonial styles, in which the author more or less establishes his own nomenclature, he proceeds with a chronological presentation of the subject as a whole. While this order of dates cannot be too strictly adhered to, generally speaking, they follow a reasonable pattern. For instance, the Spanish explorers had traversed much of what is now our great Southwest and of Florida many years before the landing of the Pilgrims, but most of their structures that have come down to us today were erected well after the founding of New England.

The author has consequently elected to start with the beginning of New England. He has followed with the Dutch settlement in and around New York and the early structures of the Carolinas and Virginia, before taking up the remains of the Spanish Main and the French colonists of the Missis-

sippi Valley. This brings the subject to the great Georgian Colonial Period to which he devotes nearly one half of the book. After a discourse on English prototypes that had a direct bearing on our Georgian development, he starts with the buildings of Virginia where this style first emerged. When he comes to Pennsylvania he makes mention of the Swedish settlements which antedated the coming of Penn, and he devotes some pages to the interesting developments in the counties to the west of Philadelphia where the early German settlers had much influence.

Finally he acquaints us with the Italian Classic of Thomas Jefferson, the French Renaissance of James Hoban, and the Greek Revival as introduced by Benjamin Latrobe.

Profusely illustrated with photographs and drawings, with well selected references as to foreign publications and buildings and with logical reasoning as to changes in architectural styles, the book is indeed complete. While it should find its way to the shelves of those architects who feel that their culture should be broader than the mere knowledge of contemporary forms, its real appeal should be to the touring public who might well regard it as a worthy supplement to an American guide book.

Philadelphia

SYDNEY E. MARTIN

Virginia Venturer: A Historical Biography of William Claiborne, 1600-1677. The Story of The Merchant Venturers Who Founded Virginia and The War in the Chesapeake. By NATHANIEL C. HALE. (Richmond, Va.: The Dietz Press, Inc., 1951. xvi, 315 p. Bibliography, index. \$5.00.)

Unless he is a Virginian or a Marylander, the nonprofessional student of colonial history, and perhaps even the professional one, is apt to have a hazy idea that William Claiborne was a trespasser who tried to oust Lord Baltimore from the possession of and title to Kent Island in the Chesapeake. While there have been a number of papers and several historical novels written on Claiborne, this book is the first full-length biography of him. It shows that for over fifty years Claiborne was one of the outstanding figures in early Virginia history and that his prolonged struggle with the Calverts for the ownership of Kent Island, to which he had the better claim, was only one phase of his active public career.

In 1606 James I chartered the London Company to colonize the southern part of Virginia. The name of the company was shortly changed to the Virginia Company, with territorial rights extending two hundred miles north and south of Old Point Comfort or between the 34th and 41st parallels. Claiborne's widowed mother had influential connections with the leaders of the Virginia Company in England, with the result that in June, 1621, Claiborne was appointed surveyor of the colony. He arrived in Virginia in October, 1621.

Claiborne's official duties as surveyor, and later as Secretary of State, which office he held off and on for many years, did not prevent him from

acquiring additional land and engaging in trading, for he shortly acquired a plantation in Elizabeth City Hundred near the mouth of the James and collected shallops, arms, and supplies to further his trading activities.

In 1627 he was authorized to explore Chesapeake Bay and to trade with the Indians. In carrying out this commission he explored the bay up to a large island to which he gave the name of Kent, no doubt in commemoration of his native county in England, and on a later voyage he reached the mouth of the Susquehanna. In May, 1631, Claiborne and others received a trading commission under the Privy Seal of Scotland, licensing them to trade in those parts of America "for which there is not already a patent granted to others," and in May of that year he took possession of Kent Island, built cabins and warehouses, started a palisade, and mounted four small cannon.

In the meantime Sir George Calvert, Baron Baltimore, obtained from King Charles I, on June 30, 1632, a charter for a territory to be called Maryland, running from the Potomac River on the south to the 40th parallel on the north, which line runs through Philadelphia. Obviously, this overlapped the boundaries of Virginia, but the Stuart kings had a careless habit of doing this. The result was years of conflict, not only of proclamations and edicts, but also of open war between Claiborne and Calvert and between Virginia and Maryland, the details of which are set forth at length. In the end Calvert won out and Claiborne was ousted from Kent Island. Curiously enough, the provision in Calvert's charter of 1632 that it covered title only to lands "hitherto uncultivated" did not avail Claiborne despite the fact that he had established a colony on Kent Island prior to Calvert's charter, whereas years later William Penn successfully used this limitation in Calvert's charter by showing that the Dutch had been established along the Delaware in 1623, prior to the grant to Calvert.

A third claimant to Kent Island was Sir Edmund Plowden who obtained a palatinate from King Charles I for a region called "New Albion," which included all of New Jersey and parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware. Plowden established himself on the Eastern Shore where he led a litigious career for several years, as was chronicled by Clifford Lewis, 3d, in the *William and Mary Quarterly* of January, 1940.

During the regime of the Parliament and of Cromwell, both the Virginians and the Marylanders steered cautious courses, veering back and forth among the Puritan, Parliamentarian, and Royalist parties, as occasion seemed to require. Like the others, Claiborne managed to keep his political head above water, being re-elected as Secretary of State of Virginia in April, 1652, and also as Deputy Governor. Claiborne continued as Secretary of State until Charles II commissioned Sir William Berkeley, a former royal governor, as Governor of Virginia and Claiborne was directed to deliver up the Secretary's office to a new appointee. He was now sixty-one years of age and apparently was glad to retire to his plantation where he lived for over a decade and a half without engaging in politics except to endeavor to regain possession of Kent Island.

The book is well documented and well indexed. The author has not permitted the fact that he is a lineal descendant to influence unfairly his comprehensive research and detailed presentation of what he accurately states in the subtitle to be a historical biography.

Philadelphia

BOYD LEE SPAHR

The Prodigal Brother. By MCCREADY HUSTON. (Philadelphia and New York: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1951. 247 p. \$3.00.)

McCready Huston's well-written novel deals with three interrelated themes: the marital relations of Roger and Lawrence Kinlock, their kin, friends, and acquaintances; the composite Philadelphia myth of property, capital, good address, family, set, and occupation—if any; and, everyone's reaction to "organized altruism."

The central theme of *The Prodigal Brother* is the errant behavior of Roger Kinlock, scion of an old Philadelphia family, who violated all of the traditional Philadelphia sanctities by both spending and losing his capital in an unprofitable business venture; by moving to Pittsburgh and Chicago; by marrying properly but in haste and being divorced with similar alacrity for violation of the well-known marital commandment. Roger returned to Philadelphia to be socially reconstructed by his respectable, responsible, and successful older brother.

The reconstruction is not simple, for Roger has to meet the challenges of "the women": Becky, his brother's wife, who gives him "the word"; Sara, his former wife, who wants to reconsider the hasty divorce; Leora, the "saint," whose marriage, though "a spiritual contract, made in the church, before the altar," is about to break, and in whom Roger finds all that he seems to want in woman; and Trudi, the refugee *femme fatale*, to whom Roger proposes marriage and life in Texas in order to save the marriage of the woman he loves.

The cultural setting for this marital confusion is Philadelphia provincialism. There is the "counterfeit currency" of good address and property—Chestnut Hill, the Main Line, Rittenhouse Square, DeLancey Street; the hollow life of women without men and their family relations; the continuing flow of the blood-that-is-thicker-than-water myth; the sacred vacations in traditional places. For Philadelphia is a place where "people attend town meetings all winter to listen to harangues on the world state . . . where you can't get past the high school auditorium for the limousines with chauffeurs." Philadelphians "are the most advanced people in the United States when there is snow on the ground. But let summer come and we'd as soon be dead as seen at home after the approved date for disappearing."

Despite their social advancement, the set described in *The Prodigal Brother* has a great dislike for "organized altruism." All movements for social reform and amelioration, particularly those concerned with "brother-

hood," "refugees," and "DPs" are loudly and viciously decried. Although two of the novel's characters are polite social reformers who advocate the practice of tolerance and patience, their social crowd continues to say to them that it doesn't know "which has done the country more harm, the thing you call tolerance, which isn't tolerance at all, or the thing you call liberalism." Lawrence, the "unofficial board chairman of Philadelphia's organized altruism" was "a lot more satisfactory when he was just a plain irreconcilable Republican."

The social situations portrayed in the novel illustrate the complexity of human relationships. The author found a relatively simple solution to the marital problems of Roger, Leora, and Trudi. They were saved by "grace, the undeserved favor from God," which Leora found in the teachings of the Catholic Church, and which she was able to transmit to the man who loved her but could not marry her, and to the woman her husband wished to marry. Yes, they all were "saved," even if Leora had to move from the Main Line to an appropriate apartment "cell" in Suffolk Mansions; even if Roger had to forgo marriage to Leora or Trudi and a position of power, influence, and money in Texas in favor of musing on a park bench in Rittenhouse Square; even if Trudi had to give up her career in Philadelphia and two chances for marrying into the "upper class." The only other "saved" persons were Bernard, Roger's refugee butler, who was saved by the Quakers ("they provide us with an opportunity to escape from our dependency"), and Sara, Roger's former wife, who solved her problems by seeking employment in one of the dress shops where she had been a favored patron, and by refusing to accompany her parents on their annual vacation pilgrimage.

The prodigal brother did not return to the haven of brotherly love he might have expected, but to a curiously spun web of human relationships that have found earlier literary expression in works as Ilka Chase's "The Women," Sinclair Lewis' *Gideon Planish*, and T. S. Eliot's "The Cocktail Party." The grace Roger found taught him "not to hurry," "not to push things around." He was beginning to feel at home in Philadelphia.

Haverford College

IRA DE A. REID

Refugees of Revolution: The German Forty-Eighters in America. By CARL F. WITTKÉ. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1952. x, 384 p. Index. \$6.00.)

This notable treatise marks the second and more comprehensive of recent efforts to fill a gap in American history. Two years ago A. E. Zucker assembled a number of essays by various authors on the Revolution of 1848 and the impact of its refugees on America. Professor Wittké approached his task with splendid qualifications. In a sense, this book represents a broadening and deepening of certain phases in his excellent chapter on the post-

colonial Germans in his history of immigration, *We Who Built America* (1939). He has also prepared himself for this work by his full-length biographies of Karl Heinzen, the uncompromising radical democrat, and Wilhelm Weitling, the tailor-philosopher and Utopian communist. One senses that the author, himself an American of the second generation, feels a deep kinship with these emigrés, which is never permitted, however, to warp the objectivity and keenness of his judgment as a historian.

In twenty-three chapters, carefully documented by extensive footnotes at the end of each chapter which take the place of a bibliography, the author carries us along from a brief survey of "The Germans before 1848," through the revolution itself and its response in America, to "The Great Migration" and the vicissitudes of the outstanding emigrés before, during, and after the Civil War, thence finally to the curious paradox of the Bismarckian era, when the erstwhile fighters for a democratic Germany joined for the most part the great majority of German-Americans in hailing a united fatherland under Prussia and the Hohenzollerns. The main concern of the author is, of course, with that tiny but potentially vociferous minority among the estimated quarter-million Germans who entered the United States from 1845 to 1854, and with their contributions to the political as well as to the cultural life of the country. The genuine Forty-eighters were the leaven in the somewhat sodden German-American dough. They brought about the only "Hellenic Age" the German element in the United States has experienced. One must admire the tremendous dynamism of many of those idealists who were born leaders: Kinkel, Kapp, Hecker, Schurz, Heinzen, Weitling, Struve, to name but a few. They reveled in the freedom of the press which had been denied them in their homeland. They swept along their more passive fellow Germans by countless speeches on manifold occasions, to the inevitable accompaniment of parades, torchlight processions, cannonades, serenades, and torrents of beer. Theirs was nonetheless a genuine though highly critical appreciation of the values of a republican form of government, and they enunciated its principles with an amazing display of intelligence, imagination, and courage. On the other hand, a certain Teutonic bluntness, coupled with varying degrees of political radicalism, anticlericalism, opposition to the Puritan Sabbath, and exhortation to intervention abroad offended not only the older German settlers, but also the old-stock Americans, and stirred the ire of the nativists.

The author lives up to his reputation of modifying long-held conclusions by pointing out, for example, that not all Germans were originally Democrats who became Republicans in 1856 and under Lincoln. In fact, there was strong opposition among them to the renomination of Lincoln in 1864, and Frémont was favored by many in that critical election year. Carl Schurz is not accepted as the typical Forty-eighter: younger than most of the others, his ability to identify himself quickly with his new American countrymen was crudely interpreted by some of his fellow Germans as an indication that he was seeking the rewards of a politician.

The book is written in an admirable and fluent style, but by its very nature is not as readable as the author's fascinating biographies of Heinzen and Weitling. Myriads of facts are drawn from an infinite number of sources. Significant, now almost forgotten German-language periodicals furnish underlying data of considerable historical interest. One wonders whether an occasional lengthy excerpt from some of the better writers—every other German seems to have been an editor—and especially from letters might not have increased the atmosphere of "immediacy" without detracting from the authority of this work as a definitive treatment of a spirited phase of nineteenth-century American life.

Haverford College

HARRY W. PFUND

Ploughshares Into Swords: Josiah Gorgas and Confederate Ordnance. By FRANK E. VANDIVER. (Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 1952. xiv, 349 p. Bibliography, index. \$5.00.)

Dr. Vandiver has made a major contribution to the history of the War between the States. The twenty-two chapters contain such interesting headings as "War and Pettiness," "The Last Years in the Old Army," "The Confederate States of America," "Blockade-Running," "Treachery in the Ordnance Department," "This Inevitable Business," "Deficiencies and Substitutes," "Success beyond Expectation," and "Experiment in Education."

The first four chapters deal with Gorgas' early life and the twenty years he served as a commissioned officer in the United States Army prior to 1861. The next fifteen chapters are devoted to the amazing achievements of Gorgas in supplying the Confederate armies with guns and ammunition. The southern soldiers were frequently without food, shoes, and proper clothing, but seldom were they without rifles, pistols, and cannons until the very end of the war. This was due primarily to the wise planning and to the organizing genius of General Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance of the Confederate Army. As the South was chiefly agricultural, he was handicapped by the lack of skilled technicians; nevertheless, munition plants were established and operated in Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Arkansas, and in the Gulf states. In addition, large quantities of supplies were smuggled into the Confederacy from abroad. Other military supplies were frequently acquired from the North through occasional reverses on the battlefields.

The last three chapters deal with General Gorgas' activities after the termination of the war. Robert E. Lee was not the only southern general to head an institution of higher learning. Josiah Gorgas not only taught at Sewanee (or the University of the South), but he was vice-chancellor of that institution for six years and president of the University of Alabama for more than a year.

This study constitutes a complete biography of General Josiah Gorgas, based on a careful examination of all pertinent source materials. The literary style is excellent, the bibliography is adequate, the index is satisfactory, and the format is good.

Lehigh University

GEORGE D. HARMON

Glory Road: The Bloody Route from Fredericksburg to Gettysburg. By BRUCE CATTON. (Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1952. 416 p. Maps, bibliography, index. \$4.50.)

Bruce Catton's volume, *Glory Road: The Bloody Route from Fredericksburg to Gettysburg*, is an account of the inglorious struggles of the Army of the Potomac from the autumn of 1862 to midsummer of 1863. In fact, the work might well have been called *The Gory Road from Fredericksburg to Gettysburg*. The author reveals the ambition, the connivings and the inadequacies of the commanding generals; he recounts the humiliating defeats and disasters at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville and the near defeat at Gettysburg; and he portrays vividly, and with emphasis, the hardships of the private soldiers in battle, on the march, and in camp. The "glory" and heroism of individuals are pictured all the more strikingly against a background of political dissension in Lincoln's official family, among civilians in the North, and within the area of their own general officers.

General Ambrose E. Burnside is presented as an incompetent officer entrusted with a command utterly beyond his capacity, frustrated by the inefficient co-ordination of logistics on the part of General H. W. Halleck and hampered by the almost insubordinate criticism and conniving of General Joseph Hooker. In addition, inclement weather and impossible roads so delayed Burnside's advance toward the Rappahannock and Fredericksburg that his thrust was doomed to failure. Even these unfavorable conditions could not excuse Burnside's poor strategy in the battle of Fredericksburg.

"Fighting Joe" Hooker, who relieved Burnside, is portrayed as a "soldier's soldier," handsome, able, brave and dashing in battle. Halleck did not trust him unreservedly and was justified, because Hooker was inclined to criticize his superiors and to cultivate politicians such as S. P. Chase, Hannibal Hamlin, and others. Catton's opinion, however, is that the battle of Chancellorsville might well have been a Union victory except that Hooker "lost confidence in Joe Hooker" at the crucial moment.

The cautious General George Meade who commanded at Gettysburg is pictured as a good, but not great general, conscious of his own limitations. That battle was fought on an unanticipated field and without preplanned strategy. The tenacity of Meade, the steadfastness of the Union officers and privates, and the control of strategic points by Meade's men required

General Lee to order General Pickett to make his desperate charge which marked the "high tide of the Confederacy," only to fail.

Catton's work as a military history dealing with strategy and tactics adds nothing to that already contained in numerous scholarly studies. The three maps of the battlefields are inadequate and improperly placed. The documentation is adequate, although the reader is tempted to ignore footnotes placed at the close of the book.

The author gives his reader an intimate view of the fighting men. Their rising and waning morals, their lack of food and comforts, their hardships and frustration caused by mud, blood, and half-hearted support on the part of the home folk are vividly revealed in a journalistic literary style. In fact, this intimate picture of the life of the soldiers as seen through their letters to their families, through histories of individual regiments, reminiscences, and diaries is the most significant contribution of the book.

University of Pittsburgh

R. J. FERGUSON

Slavery and "The Woman Question." Lucretia Mott's Diary of Her Visit to Great Britain to Attend the World's Anti-Slavery Convention of 1840. Edited by FREDERICK B. TOLLES. (Haverford, Pa.: Friends' Historical Association, 1952. 86 p. Introduction, appendix, index. \$1.00.)

When Lucretia Mott discovered that women were not admitted as delegates to the World Anti-Slavery Convention of 1840 and that even women themselves had "little confidence in women's activity [to advance the anti-slavery cause] either separately or conjointly with men except as drudges," she was inspired to turn her attention to the emancipation of women. While this diary, now published in full, is a record of Mrs. Mott's trip to the World Anti-Slavery Convention, it really takes the reader behind the scenes and helps explain some of the motivation for her activity in the women's rights movement. The diary is more valuable for revealing her personality, opinions of those she met, and for sidelights on the times than for actual information on the convention. She frequently merely notes the main idea of a speaker in connection with a laconic criticism.

From the diary—frugal of words, but vivid in its terseness—Lucretia Mott emerges as a definite human personality. She had the courage to express her convictions. As a guest she noted a "sumptuous dinner—too much wine—talked on the subject"; at another party when the young people were invited to drink wine she "gently reproved for it." One Georgia planter begged off discussion on slavery so that his pleasure in the ride would not be destroyed, but "we didn't spare him." Mrs. Mott reveals personal resentment, pique, and sarcasm when an attempt was made to prevent her speaking at a later meeting. She confides some penetrating and shrewd observations regarding well-known crusaders of her day—one new

acquaintance of this summer was Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Mrs. Mott minced no words in confiding her impressions of those she met. Robert Owen's system is "altogether visionary" and "his head a poor development."

The diary reveals her impressions of life around her, including nature, customs, foods, and ideas. Comments on temperance, education, peace, prison reform and factory reform reveal the many facets of her interest in the reforms of the time. Interesting side notes on conditions in the cotton factories appear—numbers employed, wages, homes, and education. Her comment, "used our time," is very appropriate, for the Motts visited a number of factories including cotton, brass-plating, silver and button factories. Lucretia Mott visited many British schools. She was disturbed at the emphasis in girls' education on "girls' sampler work—stitching and other nonsense" at one school and criticized a Lancastrian school because "girls too much confined to sewing." Mrs. Mott is much more interested in the many conversations she engaged in than the tourist activities which at times bored her with the "monotonous explanation of common curiosities" or were so "tiresome" that she "slept while others were looking."

The brief but able introduction by Dr. Tolles provides the necessary background to clarify and explain the importance of the diary and the comments of Mrs. Mott. Without becoming involved in the technicalities of the Quaker split, the editor simplifies the issues involved sufficiently to show how the Hicksite views of the Motts affected their work and attitudes, and notes the opinions of those who with Lucretia Mott feel religious differences help explain her exclusion from the convention. Dr. Tolles also presents succinctly the Motts' position in the cross currents of abolitionist thought and notes Garrison's injection of the woman question into the abolitionist agitation, a factor precipitating a break in abolitionist ranks prior to this convention. The careful notes identify clearly many people mentioned in the diary and add material that helps illuminate the text.

Philadelphia

FRANCES MAY MANGES

Guide to the Illinois Central Archives in the Newberry Library, 1851-1906.

Compiled by CAROLYN CURTIS MOHR. (Chicago: The Newberry Library, 1951. xvi, 210 p. Appendices, indices.)

The Newberry Library is continuing its service to scholars by providing detailed catalogues or guides to its holdings of railroad papers. The guide to the Burlington Railroad archives was published in 1949, and now, appropriately in the railroad's centennial year, the catalogue of the papers of the Illinois Central is available. Letters, reports, and financial data are listed for the Illinois Central and its branch roads, and appendices include a list of officers and directors, maps, and a useful decade index of the material in the collection.

John Brown, Pennsylvania Citizen. The story of John Brown's ten years in northwestern Pennsylvania. By ERNEST C. MILLER. (Warren, Pa.: The Penn State Press, 1952. 27 p. Notes and sources. \$1.00.)

In 1825 John Brown moved his family from Ohio to Tract 1432, near Meadville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, where he established a successful tannery. Mr. Miller discusses in his pamphlet numerous aspects of Brown's career in Pennsylvania, the most significant of which is Brown's brief affiliation and subsequent trouble with Masonry. For the first time, the story of this ten-year period of John Brown's life, which the author characterizes as one of "strong dignity and simplicity," has been told in detail.

Lafayette, Guest of the Nation. A Contemporary Account of the Triumphal Tour of General Lafayette through the United States in 1824-1825 as Reported by the Local Newspapers. Volume I. Compiled and Edited by EDGAR EWING BRANDON. (Oxford, Ohio: The Oxford Historical Press, 1950. 275 p. Bibliography. \$3.00.)

The title above pretty well summarizes the contents of Dean Brandon's compilation of newspaper accounts describing Lafayette's triumphal American tour. Volume I reports the Frenchman's arrival in New York, and includes two of his visits to that city and his trip to New England. Volume II, published in 1944, contains the accounts of Lafayette's travels after his departure from New York for Philadelphia in September, 1824.

The newspaper articles gathered together in these two volumes give as complete a press report as possible of Lafayette's visit and should prove useful to students of that famous man.

NOTICES

Grants-in-Aid

The Institute of Early American History and Culture announces that it is prepared to provide a limited number of Grants-in-Aid of Research, for the year 1953-1954, to individual writers and scholars who are carrying on studies in the field of American History prior to the year 1815. Applications must be filed not later than March 15, 1953.

Particular information regarding these Grants may be had by writing to the Director, Institute of Early American History and Culture, Goodwin Building, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Early American History Prize

The Institute of Early American History and Culture announces an annual prize of \$500 for a published book in the field of early American history and culture. This field embraces all phases of American history to about 1815, and there is no limitation on the type of work eligible or on its place of publication, but it must be in English. The first award will be made in May, 1953, for a book published during 1952. Books to be considered for the prize may be submitted to the Director, Institute of Early American History and Culture, Box 1298, Williamsburg, Virginia, before January 15, 1953.

Carte de la Nouvelle France

The romance of New France has long had both popular and scholarly appeal. Implementing this interest is Donald G. Bouma's *Carte Partie Occidentale de la Nouvelle France ou Canada* as it was in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Drawn on a modern map, the *Carte de la Nouvelle France* maintains the character and flavor of the old French maps, including the pictures and cartouche. Forts and missions are all indicated. The map, 17½" x 22½", is printed in soft colors on simulated handmade paper, and may be purchased for \$1.00 (add fifteen cents for mailing) from Donald G. Bouma, R. F. D. 5, Goshen, Indiana.