The Seven Years' War had far-reaching effects for moderns as well as for its contemporaries both here and abroad; that part of it known as the French and Indian War has a special significance for the inhabitants of Quebec, Pennsylvania, and the Ohio areas generally. Consequently, all new publications bearing upon this phase of the activities will be eagerly read by students of the history of these regions, as well as by many of their modern citizens. In his *Papiers Contrecoeur*, Fernand Grenier, a member of the teaching staff of Le Petit Séminaire de Québec, has presented all these readers with documents which have long been known to exist, but which have hitherto not been readily accessible. The originals are in the Archives du Séminaire de Québec; microfilm copies are in the Bibliothèque général de l'Université Laval and in the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission at Harrisburg.

Grenier has obviously spent a great deal of time and effort working through the rich treasure of documentary material in the Seminary archives, a treasure about which the world in general and Canadians in particular seem to know all too little. Several important collections within these archives contain relevant material, such as the Casgrain; but the Viger-Verreau collection evidently contains all the Contrecoeur papers which have been utilized in this publication. Grenier has also used the resources of the Quebec Provincial Archives and the Dominion Public Archives, both of which contain copies of long series of documents from English and French archives. All of this is backed up by a scholarly array of printed sources of a wide variety, but there are certain conspicuous gaps in both this and the manuscript sources which the editor cites. One would have expected, for example, that in a work bearing this title all the Contrecoeur papers would have been included, but this cannot be the case, for, to name one example only, the letter of July 14, 1755, from Contrecoeur to Vaudreuil, which is cited in a footnote by Parkman in *Montcalm and Wolfe* (Vol. I, ch. VII), is not included. It is presumably in the Archives Nationales, and undoubtedly there are many more such letters in the same place. Grenier is aware of the incompleteness of his work and in a footnote of his own (p. vii) says that a second volume may be issued at a later date. We hope it will.
In spite of the range of the printed references mentioned in the bibliography, it is surprising to see that it omits any mention of the material in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, which is so widely known for its documentary collection bearing upon this very period. The volume of the Society's Memoirs for 1855, which contains Winthrop Sargent's *The History of An Expedition against Fort Du Quesne in 1755* is not cited; likewise, it is disconcerting to note the omission of *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, reference to which could have supplied the editor with such articles as the account of General Braddock's campaign (Vol. XI, 1887).

On the positive side, the *Papiers Contrecoeur* will make readily available for the first time a wealth of detail to students of the Ohio struggle and will cast many new side lights upon the wider strategy of the Seven Years' War. The documents are arranged in chronological order, with useful footnotes, and cover the period from September, 1752, to August, 1755, with three additional papers to bring the record up to 1764. Of the 218 items presented, twenty-two are letters from Contrecoeur himself; others include letters from such people as Joncaire, Pén, Bigot, Jumonville, Innis, Beaujeu, and de Léry. There are also records of councils with the Senecas, the reply of the Shawnees, Villier's journal of the campaign against Fort Necessity, and extracts from a journal of Colonel Washington, dated March 31 to June 27, 1754. This journal has not appeared before in this version; the editor presents it in a two-column arrangement alongside the already known copy, often referred to as the "Précis de Faits," for ready comparison. Much of the interest of the book will center around this item.

The volume is the result of a co-operative enterprise between Les Archives du Séminaire de Québec, L'Institut d'Histoire et de Geographie de l'Université Laval, and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The format is undistinguished, but the internal arrangement of the material is excellent, and except for the omissions and shortcomings mentioned above, leaves little to be desired. The transliteration of some of the documents must have been exceedingly difficult, if we may judge by the printed version of most of Contrecoeur's own letters, for his handwriting seems to have been highly individualistic. Not having seen the originals, however, this reviewer cannot vouch for the accuracy of this phase of the work, but it appears to be satisfactory. A few errors have crept in elsewhere—for example, Rouse, Irving et Goggin, John M., instead of Rouse, Irving et Coggin, John M. But these lapses are rare, and in no way lessen the great debt we owe to M. Grenier for his labors in giving us the *Papiers Contrecoeur*. We hope the sequel will appear at an early date.

*Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology*  
*Kenneth E. Kidd*

Professor Pares's aim is "to describe the ruling interests and motives of British politics in George III's reign; to explore the King's uncertain and undefined relations with the House of Commons; and to illustrate the conflicts which this uncertainty and want of definition produced from time to time," and, in conclusion, to revaluate the significance of those turbulent years in British political history. His achievement is not only a brilliant and much needed synthesis of recent scholarship in the field, but also, in its range and penetration, a study shot through with insight and originality.

The volume opens with an analysis of the governing class, its composition and its motives at mid-century. Professor Pares finds "that England had at that time, not one political class, but two—an active class within a passive one." The active members were the politicians, the men who sought place and favor "not only for party and profit, but most of all for the due exercise of the talents God gave them, and for fun."

Since government existed "not in order to legislate but in order to govern," the chief issue in politics was foreign policy, particularly the problem of Hanover. "When this controversy slept—as it often did—there was nothing to think about . . . but the control and composition of the executive government itself." The settlement of 1689 had not precisely defined the relationship between executive and legislative: how the executive was to be composed and how far it should be controlled by the legislative. The coexistence of these two facts produced "the main constitutional theme of George III's reign," which was in essence the struggle between the King and an aristocratic opposition for the control of the Cabinet.

After shrewdly delineating the character of the antagonists, Professor Pares reviews their conflict in his two longest chapters. George III stoutly maintained his constitutional right to appoint and dismiss ministries. He resisted, not always successfully, the efforts of politicians to extort his consent to a policy before taking office, and upon occasion he demanded their submission to his wishes before employing them. His attitude toward his numerous ministries varied, but after Bute he generally regarded them as his "tools." In these views the King was supported by a large segment of the governing class, but the aristocratic opposition, though denying none of his prerogatives in theory, contested his practices at many points. Ultimately the views of the opposition were to prevail: later kings came to accept their ministries from the House of Commons, "and the successors of Pitt, as much as the successors of Fox, habitually acted upon the principle that the king must do what his ministers wanted."

But, Professor Pares contends, George III did not "lose," nor did the aristocracy "win." The victor was the "British public," who, through the development of the two-party system, acquired the means to co-ordinate and control the legislative and executive.
Such a thesis requires much bold generalization, and Professor Pares does not quail before the task. The overpunctilious may complain that his usage of those difficult terms, Whig and Tory, seems occasionally to be somewhat loose. There appear to me to be grounds for disputing his interpretation of Pitt's conduct in 1803-1804. But if valid, these points are peripheral. The author draws his statements with remarkable care and felicity, and thereby, over and beyond his thesis, he gives us a fresh approach to many perplexing problems in Georgian politics.

He is scrupulous to point out that his work is based primarily upon printed documents. A crippling illness has prevented him from undertaking extensive new research into manuscript collections. He offers his thesis in the belief that it “is more likely to be superseded, soon or late, by a change in the outlook of historians than by the opening of new archives.” There is no reason to doubt it. Professor Pares has given us a book which will for many years be indispensable to the student of Britain and her Constitution.

Yale University

ARCHIBALD S. FOORD


By Roy Harvey Pearce. (Baltimore, Md.: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1953. xvi, 252 p. Frontispiece, index. $4.00.)

Although the title of the book is somewhat misleading (it describes certain fantasies about Indians held by our forefathers, but does not describe the Indians themselves), Professor Pearce's volume should be of considerable interest to any scholar who deals with Indian material, or indeed to anyone who professes an interest in Indians. The Savages of America is an important essay in the history of ideas. Its central thesis is that from the period of colonization and discovery to about 1851 (the date of publication of Lewis Henry Morgan's *League of the Hodenosaunee or Iroquois*, the first "scientific" ethnography), the Indian's significance in American thought lay in representing a "savage" stage of human progress. The savagery of the Indian was seen as both the cause of and the justification for his destruction. As a savage, the Indian was a practical obstacle to the plans of civilized men and had to be removed from their path; this removal, either by force of arms or by force of "civilizing" influence, was demanded by the supposed inevitability and moral necessity of progress itself, as revealed by religion and the social sciences.

The particular rationalizations of this ethnocentric belief, which the idea of progress made possible to frontier Americans, are meticulously described from available literary sources. The bibliographical footnotes are excellent and will certainly be of value in themselves as a guide to the early literature on the Indian. Minor technical criticism can be made of some points, such as the treatment of Quaker missionary efforts, which at least in the case of the New York Iroquois in the period after 1798 were by no means a "failure"
A certain sense of unreality is conveyed by not describing what the Indians were in addition to what white observers, guided by the principle of "savagism," thought they were. But the measure of the book's value lies in the clarity with which it delineates the pattern of thought called "savagism," rather than in the adequacy of its summarization of details of ethnography and interracial relations.

Psychological and sociological explanations for the ethnocentric view are less fully developed than descriptions of it. There is an interesting suggestion that primitive man had to be despised (both pitied and censured) because, to civilized eyes, he represented a way of life at once attractive and forbidden. This may have been a factor operating on unconscious levels. But it is also obvious that a belief in the inferiority and wickedness of one's native neighbors must have been very comforting to the conscience when one had embarked upon a systematic effort to destroy them and take their property. And it is also apparent—although Professor Pearce, not attempting to describe the ethnological facts, cannot make much of the point—that the mechanism of projection was powerfully at work, white men attributing to the Indian just those vices for which they themselves felt guilty, and considerably distorting their vision in the process.

The book has an added importance because the idea of savagism is not just an eccentric notion once held by white frontier Americans about American Indians. It is a panhuman mechanism of defense or mode of thought which can be employed by any group as a rationalization for already existing hostility. Savagism can even take a religious form, as it did, for instance, in the military evangelism of medieval Christians and Arabs. All peoples, from time to time, have recourse to the idea of savagism, regarding themselves as the only true men, and relegating others to the status of threatening and somewhat bestial outsiders. The function of savagism in human history is a major subject, but the savagist attitude has been more often condemned than investigated. Certainly Professor Pearce's book provides a solid contribution to the larger study of the role of the savagist thought process in human history at large.

University of Pennsylvania

Anthony F. C. Wallace


This book is based on four explicit assumptions: that the biographical approach is valid for the history of ideas; that the historian of significant men in the field of ideas must describe the environment in which they lived; that the political philosophy of the leaders of the American Revolution was rooted in generations of experience and not dreamed up after 1763; and finally, that the "men who made the Revolution held a philosophy of
ethical, ordered liberty that the American people still cherish as their most precious intellectual possession . . .” (p. 1).

A prodigious amount of work has gone into the writing of this book, as a glance at the footnotes will show. Scholars may object to some of the details in the section on colonial history, although, on the whole, the inaccuracies are more than balanced by fresh points of view that are often exceedingly well put. The most successful part of the book, to my mind, is that dealing with the six men. The essay on Thomas Hooker and his times is illuminating. Williams, Wise, and Mayhew exercise the same charm for the author that they do for anyone who studies them even casually. The essay on Richard Bland is the only adequate study of the political thought of a Virginia aristocrat of the eighteenth century.

The chapter on Franklin is the least convincing to me. Franklin is treated as a “representative colonial democrat,” although the author admits that his philosophical musings on government would not fill two printed pages. Any valid analysis of Franklin as a democrat must be based on his political activity. The author accepts the idea that Franklin was a leader of the “popular party” in Pennsylvania before 1776. Whatever he was, he was not that. He was the agent of the Quaker oligarchy and a henchman of Joseph Galloway in the effort to convert Pennsylvania into a royal colony, and their purpose was anything but democratic. Franklin made a politically miraculous shift of sides in 1775 and 1776. It is little wonder, therefore, that his contemporaries looked upon him as an unprincipled political opportunist whose only purpose was to be on the winning side no matter what side won. As Mr. Rossiter says, we need a “scientific biography” of Franklin.

The final section of the book is the best analysis we have of the political theories of the years 1763-1776. The author’s attitude is set forth in the statement that “the political theorist concentrates inevitably upon the problems of his own civilization. His theoretical structure is proportioned to ‘the felt necessities’ of the age rather than to a standard, timeless pattern in which every possible question receives its just due. The political theorists of the Revolution were no exception to this rule” (p. 375). In a sense it can be said that this book is no exception to its author’s own rule, for it is in a way a magnificent tract for the twentieth century.

To the degree that it is, it is misleading, for the author either ignores or underestimates the diversity of opinions as to the meaning of “liberty,” not only in the eighteenth century, but in subsequent times. Whatever the talk of “natural law,” “the rights of man,” and so on, the political theorists before 1776 were focusing their arguments on the problem of the relationship between the colonies and Britain. Not until 1776 did Americans have to face the task of creating governments for themselves, and then I think, and not before, they revealed their fundamental political beliefs. It is on this point that I differ with Mr. Rossiter. His view is that disputes involved in the writing of state constitutions were “political rather than theoretical in nature and are therefore not properly the concern of this discussion”
(p. 427). He also declares that historians have made much of the squabbles between radicals and conservatives in the writing of these constitutions and have therefore concealed “the broad agreement among Revolutionary thinkers over constitutional fundamentals” (pp. 415–416).

I would argue that the “broad agreement” is superficial and not fundamental and that the “political” struggles were the result of a conflict of basic assumptions about the nature of man, society, and government, and that no discussion on the level of formal theory reveals this. We have never had a study of the basic conflict between what are essentially democratic and antidemocratic forces in the eighteenth century. Mr. Rossiter’s book is a persuasive argument for the idea of unity during the period. He should now do one on the conflicts.

University of Wisconsin  
MERRILL JENSEN

_Epidemics in Colonial America._ By John Duffy. (Baton Rouge, La.: Louisiana State University Press, 1953. xii, 274 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. $4.50.)

Disease was one of the settlers’ unsleeping foes in colonial America. Attacks of smallpox, for example, were perhaps more dreaded than Indian raids, for there seemed to be no defense against them. Diphtheria and measles winnowed the young by half, while malaria was the alternately fiery and chilling ordeal by which newcomers to the land were seasoned. Among the problems which colonial Americans had to overcome—geography, Indians, the political questions of community—disease was by no means the least important.

In this book John Duffy, who is Associate Professor of History in Northwestern State College, Louisiana, has presented a great quantity of data about outbreaks of epidemic diseases in America. After a brief introduction which cites the general level of medical practices, the lack of trained physicians, and malnutrition as basic conditions of health and sickness in America, Mr. Duffy considers the most common epidemic diseases—smallpox; diphtheria and scarlet fever; yellow fever; measles, whooping cough, and mumps; the respiratory diseases, like pneumonia; and “agues, fluxes, and poxes,” by which is meant malaria, dysentery, typhoid, typhus, and venereal diseases. In each case he has attempted to show where the epidemic came from (Boston and Charleston were the principal ports of entry for smallpox, and Massachusetts and South Carolina physicians were the most significant contributors to the literature of smallpox and its prevention in eighteenth-century America); how many sickened and died (a difficult question to ask of an age which was hardly statistically-minded); and, to a limited degree, what effects the epidemic had on the community (one argument for the establishment of colleges in America was that England was too unhealthful a place for young men to risk studying there). Each chapter
is concluded with a brief evaluation of the disease, and the book itself closes with a chapter of conclusions.

As was to be expected of a field which Ernest Caulfield and St. Julien Ravenel Child have been almost alone in cultivating since Noah Webster wrote his *Brief History of Epidemic and Pestilential Diseases* in 1799, Mr. Duffy has drawn his data almost entirely from newspapers, diaries, and letters; and among the latter his principal source has been the reports of the missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Though laymen, these missionaries were no disinterested observers of colonial pestilences: of sixty-two missionaries sent to the Carolinas between 1700 and 1750, all relatively young and presumably in good health, twenty-seven died or resigned because of ill health within five years of their coming.

Most terrifying of the diseases, to which Mr. Duffy devotes his longest chapter, was smallpox, and it is smallpox that has won most attention from both general and medical historians. Between 1675 and 1775 there were only two occasions when the disease was absent from the colonies for as long as five years. Mr. Duffy points out that the disease was more feared in America than in England, where it was more prevalent; that both in New England and elsewhere the clergy recommended inoculation and that "on the whole" the argument against inoculation (that it was a denial of God's providence) came rather from laymen than clergymen; that inoculation was the principal reason for the steady decline of mortality from smallpox in the colonial period; and that disfigurement by smallpox occurred less frequently than is often asserted. On this last point, however, the evidence cited by Mr. Duffy and by one of his authorities, Charles Creighton, is at least open to question.

If smallpox was a dramatic killer, malaria and dysentery had greater social and economic effects on the community. Few escaped the debilitating and even fatal consequences of these two leading causes of sickness and death. They reduced generations of hardy pioneers to wasted, shivering wrecks; and had colonial America had more urban centers and closer contacts with Europe and among its own parts, their charge on the population would have been still greater.

Such considerations belong to the larger and fuller story of health and disease in America that is yet to be written. Mr. Duffy justly points out that a "factual groundwork" must be laid for future studies of the social and economic cost of disease and the religious implications of imminent death. In this useful, documented study, some of that factual groundwork has been laid. What Mr. Duffy has thus begun it is to be hoped he or someone else will carry forward until we know as much about the effects of disease on colonial Americans as we do of the operations of the Navigation Acts and the existence of cheap land on their life and thought.

There is a bibliographical essay and an index.

*College of William and Mary*  
Whitfield J. Bell, Jr.
Mr. Cohen had three purposes in mind when he wrote this book: to give some account of the *South Carolina Gazette*; to “present in as concrete a form as possible” some aspects of cultural life in the southern colonies; and to provide a checklist on specified topics for use by specialists. Accordingly, he starts with a historical sketch of the newspaper and then devotes brief chapters to club life, teachers, doctors, artists, architects and their associates, gardens, diversions, musical life, the theater, books, imprints, and literary efforts. Appended to each of these chapters is a checklist giving notices in the *Gazette* concerning each category.

Some interesting observations can be made on the basis of Mr. Cohen’s checklists. The poverty of the output of books and pamphlets is striking, especially for the years before 1760. The same applies to musical events, since after a good beginning in the thirties no notice of a musical event appeared between 1737 and 1751. De Brahm’s *Map of South Carolina . . . ,* listed under Charleston’s imprints, 1753, first appeared as one of the maps in Jefferey’s collection of 1768; so far as I have been able to determine, the subscription solicited in 1753 did not materialize, thereby giving some further indication of lack of interest in such matters. Othniel Beale was a well-known merchant and is more properly characterized as the contractor than as the engineer for the city’s fortifications.

Mr. Cohen is very modest about his contribution, which should prove very useful, not so much to the specialist, who will always have to read the paper, but to those who wish information from a reliable work for use in preparing textbooks or lectures on the subjects treated. Until this exceedingly important colonial newspaper is available in reproduction, this book will serve as a substitute for essential reading. Unfortunately, Mr. Cohen did not include the two other Charleston newspapers *The South Carolina and American General Gazette* and the *South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal,* sheets appearing in the 1760’s and in some respects more useful than the earlier one. Nor did he work through any other colonial newspaper, the *Pennsylvania Gazette* or the *Boston Post Boy,* for example, which would have provided a sound basis for comparisons, especially about literary contributions; Miss Elizabeth Cook’s dicta on the subject are in great need of qualification.

The arrangement of the material is very effective in developing certain topics, but it obscures the role of the *Gazette* as a newsheet, and one is left to draw many conclusions for himself. In the appendices are five sets of data about Thomas Whitmarsh, Lewis Timothy, Elizabeth Timothy, Peter Timothy, and Thomas Powell, successive publishers of the paper. Useful as they will be, one cannot but wish that Mr. Cohen, who knows so much more than the rest of us about the *Gazette,* had elected to portray these printers
in connection with their journal, including, if possible, some conjectures about its circulation, distribution, policy, and influence. Such a study will be necessary for every colonial newspaper if we are to have the badly needed general treatment of the colonial press and its all-pervading role in economic, social, and cultural activity. Accuracy is an important consideration in a work of this kind, as is also comprehensiveness; and as one who has ploughed his way through the South Carolina Gazette, I am pleased to pay tribute to Mr. Cohen's precision and thoroughness. He has arranged his materials so that they are easily handled, and his chapters are clearly and pleasantly written.

University of California, Berkeley

Carl Bridenbaugh

John Adams, Scholar. By Alfred Iacuzzi. (New York: S. F. Vanni [Ragusa], 1952. xiv, 306 p. Appendices, bibliographical note, index. $5.00.)

This addition to the literature on John Adams attempts an intellectual biography, a history of Adams' ideas. Through a survey of his linguistic studies and his reading, an effort has been made to trace the influences which together make up the cast of his philosophy. Hence the isolation of Adams' ideas from the context of his own troubled times is the arbitrary limitation selected for treatment by the author, Professor of Romance Languages at the City College of New York. Such a study will naturally indicate more of the breadth of interest to which John Adams' mind turned than it will illuminate the application of his ideas to the problems of government, law, and diplomacy with which he was so actively concerned. However, within these bounds of the author's defined limitations of his work, there are certain criticisms to offer.

The merit of this book is chiefly its addition to knowledge of the French and Italian writers which were of importance to Adams' thinking. However, the emphasis upon this Continental aspect results in certain distorted and misleading over-all impressions. The chapter entitled "John Adams, Lawyer," for example, while including discussions of the importance of Vattel, Barbeyrac, Aguesseau, Montesquieu, and Beccaria to Adams' study of law, omits a parallel examination of the English background of the law as Adams knew it in the eighteenth century. Disregarding the importance of the English common law and the English jurists so highly respected by John Adams in favor of emphasizing his readings in works on civil law primarily by French authors results in an unbalanced treatment and superficial picture.

Other chapters suffer from the same want of symmetry. "John Adams, Economist" places its main stress upon the writings of certain Physiocrats, Isaac de Pinto and Destutt de Tracy. One would feel less dissatisfied had equal space been devoted to the writings of Sir Josiah Child, James Steuart, and Adam Smith, economists who are mentioned only in passing. A discus-
sion of the relationship of these authors also to Adams' thoughts upon economics would have offered a more complete rendering of the subject, and afforded a firmer basis for determining which influences from among these multiple sources may have been of most importance to Adams.

For the historian of ideas, a complex problem exists in ascertaining the weight of various influences which aid in the formulation of any individual's outlook on life. Too ready an acceptance of a single "type" of influence or of a singular influence can have misleading implications. In addition to lack of proportion in the sense already mentioned, I would add that, granted all the similarities between James Harrington and John Adams, such a statement as "Adams is, therefore, indebted to Harrington for his belief in natural distinctions . . ." is a grave oversimplification and just not necessarily so. This indebtedness may as well, or as ill, be directly attributed to Plato, another believer in natural distinctions among men. Such convictions regarding human nature are limited neither to nor by any particular time or place.

More successful in method of execution are the chapters devoted to the sources of Adams' *Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America*. Here the method of the *Defence* itself is followed closely as Mr. Iacuzzi thoughtfully traces the main sources of information from which Adams drew, or quoted, for that comprehensive analysis and comparison of governments. This adds much of value to our knowledge of the composition of the *Defence*. Also of much interest is the material on Adams as a student of the Romance languages and as a translator.

*Baltimore, Md.*

KATHRYN C. TURNER

*John McMillan, The Apostle of Presbyterianism in the West, 1752–1833.* By DWIGHT RAYMOND GUTHRIE. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1952. x, 296 p. Illustrations, maps, appendices, bibliography, index. $3.00.)

The social history of early western Pennsylvania is inseparable from the history of the Presbyterian church. The present volume by examining carefully the career of an important frontier minister makes its contribution both to Presbyterian and regional history.

John McMillan, a product of the classical schools of eastern Pennsylvania and Princeton, was ministering to Presbyterian congregations in Washington County as early as 1775 and continued in that capacity until his death in 1833. Both from the importance of his services and the interesting times in which he lived, he is well worthy of biographical attention.

Professor Guthrie is not the first to be attracted to McMillan as a subject of biography, but in terms of thoroughness of research into the source materials for this biography, he may well be the last. There is not much likelihood that any substantial amount of material on the subject remains to be discovered.
Unfortunately, the volume suffers from several defects. The thoroughness with which the materials of research have been marshaled has not extended to the maintenance of an equally high standard of historiography. It is apparent that the author is chiefly interested in his subject as a figure in ecclesiastical history, and his understanding of the theological issues involved gives every evidence of competence. But when he ventures into the secular history that provided the setting for John McMillan's spiritual labors, he does not come off nearly so well.

Particularly is this true in his presentation of John McMillan's Scotch-Irish background. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 is called the Civil War, and Cromwell, of all people, is reported to have required Presbyterians to obey the King's law. On page 41 the migration of the Pennsylvania Dutch is described as though it included Dutch as well as German settlers. In Chapter VII the term Democrat is loosely used when Republican is meant, and this among other inadequacies reveals the author's need for a greater knowledge of the politics of the early Federal period in which John McMillan was much interested. It is worth noting that the volume does point up the considerable Federalist sympathy in Washington County at the time of the Whiskey Rebellion.

One cause of these blemishes on this basically valuable study is the author's defective use of sources. In his treatment of secular history a number of obvious monographs receive no notice in the footnotes and apparently were not consulted. Throughout the book there is a tendency to equate sectarian tracts with scholarly studies as sources of information. The former are indeed not without great value to the historian, but greater discrimination in their use would have been desirable.

The style of the present volume also leaves something to be desired. John McMillan never quite comes alive on any page, and part of the reason is that the reader is not adequately escorted into his times and locale. Chartiers and Pigeon Creek must have been far from a dull region in the last quarter of the eighteenth century, but Professor Guthrie never sets an Indian entirely loose on the warpath though he lets us see them skulking through dozens of his documents. An overly active imagination can turn history into fiction, but some of it must be employed if the past is to be reproduced effectively. The Washington County of McMillan's day pleads for more graphic description than it gets.

The author does deserve commendation for several features of the book. His employment of maps is both generous and sensible, and they greatly facilitate the reader's understanding of otherwise obscure geography. The appendices, containing the journal and expense account of John McMillan, enhance the volume by publishing the basic source material for the study. Despite its defects, the volume is an important addition to the history of the Pennsylvania frontier.

Muskingum College

WILLIAM L. FISK

This book describes farm life in that part of the northeastern states remote from the seaboard during the period of self-sufficient agriculture. The author explains that this era moved westward with settlement, but roughly defines it as extending from the coming of the pioneers to occupy the land until about the Civil War period.

Jared Van Wagenen is just the man to write such a work. Living still on the Schoharie Valley, New York, farm occupied by his family for 140 years, he is an early graduate of the State School of Agriculture at Cornell, taught on its faculty, lectured for two decades at the Farm Institutes which preceded the more modern Farm Bureaus and Extension Services, frequently contributes articles on farm topics to a variety of publications, and has long been associated with the leading farm experts of his state and beyond. In addition, he is a trustee of the New York State Historical Association and a director of the Farmers' Museum which it maintains. Add to this background his Dutch and New England ancestry and his eighty-two years of life, and his unique competency for the task he set himself is very plain.

Mr. Van Wagenen describes the pioneer's ax and his oxen, the clearing away of the forest, the erection of the log houses, which has often been done before, but in his accounts of the production of crops in the "homespun age," of the extent of the remarkable use of the wood abundantly at hand, of the work of the local craftsmen needed to make the communities self-sufficient, his full descriptions are enlightening and most valuable. Some space is given to an unsuccessful and forgotten phase of New York farming—silk culture; but perhaps not enough to what before the Louisiana Purchase was expected to be a major part of the area's effort—maple products. Due attention is given to the growing and processing of wool and flax and the place of buckwheat pancakes on the farm menu, but many other important household tasks, such as the making of butter, cheese, and soap, and the preserving of fruits and meats, are but slightly treated.

The author throws doubt upon certain widely held beliefs about the period treated. He does not accept stories that Indians could boil maple sap into sugar by throwing red-hot stones into a pottery or bark vessel, although they did make maple sugar. Neither does he think that the pioneers were indebted to the Swedes for the log cabin, although the Swedes did build such cabins. He maintains that this was an independent, indigenous discovery, one which hardly could have been avoided. He also denies that the settler could with his gun keep the larder full of meat. Game was rather scarce and the pioneer family was often very hungry. The arguments presented for these conclusions are quite convincing. Another interesting point is that there was no honey in the "bee tree" until the white man came, the honey bee being an importation, as are most of the common weeds which so trouble the farmer of today.
Farm crops seem to have been very much the same as now, but the author makes an exception of the small gray field pea once largely grown in the Mohawk Valley region. He thinks these were used as feed for hogs, but the Revolutionary commissary accounts show that they were a common army purchase. This reviewer thinks they were a soup ingredient. The point is made that meadows mowed with a hand scythe had to be stone free, and there is comment on the labor involved in removing them. No mention is made, however, of that wonderfully adapted sledge-like hard maple “stone boat,” or of the use to which the stones were converted—the stone fences which still stand along the original survey lines. A comment of interest and several times repeated is that the northeastern farmer of one hundred years ago firmly believed that self-sufficiency was permanently to be the agricultural way of life.

With the author’s inheritance and present age a nostalgic tinge might well be expected to pervade the pages he has written. It is there, but there is also an obvious effort to keep it well under control.

The illustrations are by Erwin H. Austin and for the most part were sketched from objects in the Farmers’ Museum which the author has helped so much to collect. There is no bibliography, but frequently in the text the sources are mentioned wherein Mr. Van Wagenen has substantiated the story of “the golden age of homespun” as it came to him in the well-remembered tales of his own youth.

_Hartwick, N. Y._

ROY L. BUTTERFIELD

_Township 34. A History with Digressions of an Adirondack Township in Hamilton County in the State of New York._ By HAROLD K. HOCHSCHILD.

(New York: Privately printed, 1952. xxvi, 614 p. Illustrations, maps, appendices, bibliography, index.)

This is an extraordinary and delightful book about what is generally regarded as a forested, mountainous region where vacationers and fishermen can enjoy the good life. Even today Hamilton County, New York, has a population of only 4,105 in an area of 1,747 square miles; and Township 34 has not many more than 500 people. How then can one write so fascinating a book of such monumental proportions about an area which to most residents seems to lack those elements of drama which are so necessary for the writing of a good book?

Mr. Hochschild’s approach to this problem is elemental and simple. There have been three periods, he says, in the development of this part of the Adirondack area. First came the era of large land grants to absentee proprietors which ended when the last of these had sold out to the lumbermen in the 1850’s. Fifty years later lumbering had begun to give way to the “summer visitor” and the third period of the history of Township 34 began. To the first two periods, full of drama as they were, Mr. Hochschild devotes
all but two chapters of his book. He has had, as an aid to his writing, the immense advantages of residence on Eagle Lake and of family connections with the lumbering, mining, and transportation developments in the area during the nineteenth century.

His description of the Eckford chain of lakes—Blue Mountain, Eagle and Utowana—and the surrounding region includes, on the one hand, the story of large-scale land purchases, iron mining, lumbering, hotels and stagecoaches, railroads and steamboats, and, on the other hand, place names and their origins, Ned Buntline, the hero-maker, Hathorn and Dunning, the guides, literary visitors, William West Durant, the industrialist and financier, and notes on wild life. Here are to be found contrasts of wealth and poverty, the story of a typhoid epidemic, and illustrations of how people make a community. Mr. Hochschild has an intensely sympathetic interest in the persons and places about which he writes. At the same time, he takes care to be accurate, exploding local legends and theories—for example, how the Eckford lakes came to be named. There are interesting comments about the customs collector who “had his softer side,” and there are engagingly humorous correspondence and claims about wild life with which the book ends.

The long description of lumbering and its economic importance is particularly noteworthy. Log driving originated in the Adirondacks as early as 1758. When the existence of Glens Falls was threatened because the stands of large trees became exhausted, a revolutionary development in 1813 saved the village. Single logs were driven down the Schroon and Hudson rivers. Today, Mr. Hochschild says, “Adirondack lumbering has lost its isolation . . . and its aura of romance. The lumberjack . . . has become respectable and commonplace.”

This book is an expansion of a narrative written by the author in 1928. It is based upon a study of important published sources, considerable correspondence, and a great deal of well-sifted hearsay. But what makes the book a very personal document is the author’s exact knowledge of every foot of the region. One chapter contains a critique of the publications of a number of nineteenth-century authors. There are over 470 illustrations, such as etchings, drawings, photographs, reproductions of reports, correspondence, surveys, examples of time tables and rail and steamboat fares. There are thirty-nine maps and four tables and charts. This reviewer does not know of any other book, descriptive of a local area, which is as well and adequately illustrated. The index is satisfactory. The appendices, of which there are twenty-four, covering 125 pages, are unusually useful. The book is physically a masterpiece of the bookmaker’s art. It is unfortunate that only 600 copies were printed, but perhaps that is enough to illustrate how local history can be written where one finds money, interest, imagination, hard work, and the ability to write engagingly.

Albany, N. Y. 

Albert B. Corey
*Reporters for the Union.* By Bernard A. Weisberger. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1953. xiv, 316 p. Frontispiece, index. $4.50.)

One who has been through recent wars as a correspondent finds it hard at times to recognize his forebears as described in *Reporters for the Union* by Bernard A. Weisberger. Some of the problems the Civil War newsgatherers faced, such as censorship and transmission, have changed little over the years and are thus quite familiar, but unrecognizable are the character and motives of the men. They were, if Professor Weisberger has them right, a smelly band of liars, spies, cheats, contraband runners, land grabbers and nest-featherers. Perhaps there were one or two who put recording events in a tragic war above their baser instincts; Professor Weisberger indicates as much by quoting an editorial from the *Philadelphia Press* of May 31, 1862, which said of correspondents that "Their mission has not been all a mercenary one, but a labor of enthusiasm. . . ."

But the bulk of this book is devoted to sin as a seasoner of reporters, and to the machinations of publishers. The Civil War was the first one in which the war correspondent (American species) appeared in sizable numbers, and in this war the reporter became what the author calls a "professional." The route of travel lay through Jay Cooke's effectively persuasive wine cellar and the tender ministrations of other bustling businessmen desirous of favorable notices in the press.

The state of reporters and the press in general in the 1850's apparently was pretty low. When the Kansas story "broke" in 1854, "Editors swung round in their chairs and scribbled notes; reporters boarded trains and steamboats and headed West to cover Kansas" and themselves with questionable achievements.

This was the tryout for events to come. Republican, Democrat, and Radical press had a field day telling the slavery story according to their own lights, a method of reporting that was carried on through the ensuing civil strife with such vigor that each group appeared to be writing about an entirely different war. James Gordon Bennett's *New York Herald*, which was critical of Lincoln and the abolitionists, and Horace Greeley's *New York Tribune*, which was classed with the Radicals, presented the public with strikingly different accounts. And so it was throughout the country.

Two of the meatiest chapters in the book are "Mr. Bennett's War" and "Mr. Greeley's War." The powerful connections and foibles of these two outstanding publishers are treated by means of the actions of their correspondents covering the war, especially those in Washington. The confused national capital was filled with officeholders anxious to get a good press; it was there that the best liaisons were made that became mutually profitable to the officeholder and the seeker of inside information. There was a running battle with censorship, after voluntary restraint broke down, and glory went to the reporter who could get a word spoken on his behalf by a War Department high-up—by the Secretary of War himself, if possible. And it
was possible. A Lincoln message to Congress was published in the Herald before it was delivered.

In the field, too, there were officers anxious for synthetic renown, and this resulted in newspaper "pets." But there were some officers, such as General Winfield Scott, who were anything but cordial to correspondents. General Scott avowed that he would rather have one hundred spies in his camp than one reporter. General Sherman wanted to hang a Herald reporter on the spot for an infraction of rules, and General Meade, irate over a dispatch that did not put him in a very good light, had Edward Cropsey of the Philadelphia Inquirer put on a horse bearing a placard reading "Libeller of the Press" and walked out of camp.

Professor Weisberger finds that the reporters for the Union left no lasting contribution to American letters. But smelly or not, there is a monument to them, and a big one too, standing on a Maryland battlefield; and it is the only one to correspondents of any American war. One is left with the impression that it was probably erected with tainted money—and also with the thought that perhaps there was another side to the story of the reporters for the Union which this book obscures.

Philadelphia  

Melvin K. Whiteleather

Doctors in Blue. The Medical History of the Union Army in the Civil War. By George Worthington Adams. (New York: Henry Schuman, Inc., 1952. [xii], 253 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. $4.00.)

Let it be said at once that this is an excellent work. A few studies of special aspects of the subject had been made before, and the recent completion of at least two unpublished theses indicates a growing interest in the whole theme. But the story had never been adequately told in print until the present account appeared. Dr. Adams has checked the many sources carefully (though citations are not given in the published version), has organized the complex materials effectively under topical headings, and has written with clarity and restraint. Neither the administrative nor the scientific aspects of the subject are neglected, and their interrelationships are made apparent. My only regret is that comparisons with the naval record, and with Confederate history as a whole, are not given. But since this is an account of Union Army experience, one can hardly demand that it transcend its own bounds. It is to be hoped that Dr. Adams will later provide us with the comparative studies.

It has been generally known that the administrative history of the Army Medical Department was marked, at the start, by almost incredible neglect and confusion. Order was subsequently brought out of chaos, under the pressure of dire necessity within the military forces and the prodding of the Sanitary Commission from without. Eventually, such progress was made that the final medical record compared favorably with that of all preceding,
nineteenth-century wars. This accomplishment resulted almost entirely from improved organization, since—contrary to the blurb on the cover—there were no “great strides of scientific knowledge” during the struggle. As is usual during wars, scientific progress was limited to the more effective application of knowledge already available.

The present study makes clear, nevertheless, how inefficient the medical services were in terms of present standards—especially during the first two or three years. It also makes clear the human as well as the military consequences. Unsanitary conditions in camp, poor food, and the like, destroyed far more men than did battle casualties. During the first year, for example, there were forty-four deaths per thousand from illness, and only nine from wounds. The soldiers were five times more likely to die from disease than were men of the same age group at home. Yet it was the neglect of the wounded which dramatized the sufferings of the rank and file. Recall, as but one instance, that 3,000 wounded were left on the field for three days or more after second Bull Run. Most of these were unfed “and practically all [were] without surgical attention. . . . Many reported ‘Killed in Action’ must have died lingering deaths, victims of faulty organization.”

Most of the early inefficiency of the medical services could be ascribed to the complete unpreparedness of the Medical Department, and indeed of the country as a whole. Dr. Adams traces the gradual improvement in organization of the central offices, and of such special programs as those for camp sanitation, the field and base hospitals, the ambulance service, and the recruitment of medical personnel. Also noted is the medical examination of recruits. How casual this was, at first, is indicated by the reputed enlistment of no less than four hundred women!

Some of the credit for the later reforms goes to certain enlightened medical officers, such as W. A. Hammond and Johnathan Letterman; much also is due to the leaders of the Sanitary Commission and of other relief agencies. Voluntary organizations, as well as individuals, played a larger role in the Civil War than would be permitted in later conflicts; and under the circumstances it was fortunate that this was the case.

The chief value of the study for medical history is the cross-section view provided of medical and surgical practice during the early 1860’s. Some effective sanitary procedures were improvised, and promising surgical methods were discovered—only to be forgotten subsequently. An awareness of the need for general sanitary reform, already present in 1861, was doubtless given further impetus—as Dr. Adams surmises—by the appalling experiences in army camps. And the activities of the civilian relief agencies foreshadowed those of later, voluntary health organizations. In these terms, the study is a valuable contribution to the history of the public health, as well as to medical history proper and to that of the Civil War.

Johns Hopkins University

Richard Harrison Shryock
(Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1953. xvi, 555 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. $5.75.)

This is something more than biography; it is history, history along the line of the definition by one of Britain's notable historians, Collingwood. He defined history as the rethinking of the thoughts of those who have preceded us, entering into the situations in which they had to act, confronting their problems with them. That is precisely what Ruth Randall has done with Mary Lincoln, and in part with Mary's husband. The result is a vivid portrayal of mid-nineteenth-century life in Illinois and at Washington, as it confronted a sensitive, warm-hearted, cultivated, ill-balanced personality eventually thrust into an environment beyond her powers of understanding or of self-control.

The author of this impressive book labored under five handicaps which make her achievement the more remarkable. First and foremost, she shouldered the handicap of a special mission—the onerous obligation of discrediting and disproving as far as possible the principal canards against Mary Lincoln uttered and recorded by her enemies, especially by William H. Herndon, her husband's law partner. This mission moves Mrs. Randall to describe the canards repeatedly, in order to refute them the more emphatically; also, where criticisms were valid she in good conscience must explain meticulously the background of the fault or weakness and its recurrent phases—a painful process. This forces the narrative to give way, at times, to the explanations. Nor can the author always give free rein to the fresh and telling phrase at which she has shown herself adept. Where one is too much put upon by a Mr. Herndon, one sometimes puts aside the skillful literateur for the stern judge.

A second handicap, conquered to a degree remarkable in this instance, consists of the strong emotional peculiarities of her two subjects. Mary Lincoln lived about sixty-four years, but as respects self-control, she remained a penitent child. By her quick, sometimes hot, rejoinders and her occasionally unrestrained hysteria she repeatedly misrepresented her basically loving, tender nature, handicapping herself, her husband, her children and many concerns touching her. Fate imposed on her a role which taxed too much her powers of self-discipline.

This emotional imbalance her husband understood, treated gently, and sometimes escaped by leaving the house whilst his wife recovered her composure. But he, too, made it hard for the one he married. "All through the record run descriptions of his extraordinary moods of abstraction in which he was blind and deaf to all around him, of his hours of melancholia in which he was sunk in such a darkness of spirit that he could hardly go on with the motions of living" (p. 77). This must have tried any wife; the sensitive, loving, vivacious Mary must have felt it sorely.
Also, through the Illinois days, he was away on the judicial circuit often and for many weeks at a time, leaving the lonely Mary to confront without his aid the frequent domestic crises involved in rearing four small boys. To make emotional strain the greater, one of these beloved children died when quite small, and two others before they were full grown, leaving but the eldest (and it seemed the least companionable and comprehending) to survive throughout Mary’s widowhood. The problematical aspects of the relationships between this man and wife were indeed legion, challenging the most expert understanding to explore their experience in their Victorian epoch.

A third handicap is not unconnected with the second. In this type of biography it is the domestic relationship which must pre-empt the stage; but folk then were less given than now to documentation of their intimate life. Serious psychiatric insight was rare. Mary did, in fact, write many letters, but those between her and her husband are too few and too characteristic of the period’s reticences to fill the gap. The biographer must sometimes be driven to surmise, after exploring, as Mrs. Randall has done, nearly every nook and cranny of correspondence with or about either of the married pair. The staggering bulk of her notes, 1,704 in number by actual count, and her painstaking documentation eloquently testify to her indefatigable zeal in contending with this handicap.

A fourth handicap arose from the fact (as I believe) that to write a fair biography one must develop an understanding attainable only with the aid of sympathy, which in turn tempts one to lean a little to the friendly side. This is practically inescapable and probably far preferable to an approach so nearly “detached” that the author is equipped with no sympathy to help him try to fathom the unfathomable. This author shows keen sympathy from the outset and naturally leans a little.

One bit of leaning seems to concern the assassination; on it we should have liked Mrs. Randall to analyze the John F. Parker aspect. He, it will be recalled, was the rather dissolute person, who (according to Otto Eisenschiml’s photographic evidence in his *Why Was Lincoln Murdered*) won a job as White House guard through the direct intervention of Mrs. Lincoln, only to absent himself from the presidential box at the moment of Booth’s attack.

A fifth problem is that of definition. Who among us can be sure of how to define a happy marriage? Herndon maliciously sought to establish sorry beliefs, among them (1) that Lincoln cherished through life an undying love for Ann Rutledge, instead of Mary; (2) that Mary did not love her husband; and (3) that their union was a most unhappy one. Herndon succeeded remarkably well in his designs, up until publication of *New Letters and Papers of Lincoln* (1930) and David Donald’s *Lincoln’s Herndon* (1948). Mrs. Randall’s work certainly puts the scholar’s quietus on points 1 and 2; any further repetition of these canards must reveal ignorance or stupidity.
Concerning point 3 the ticklish business of a definition of marital happiness obtrudes. Certainly the Lincolns had as much happiness as many, and more than many; but was it, on the whole, a "happy" marriage? Undoubtedly "There was love in the house on Eighth Street, there was fun and playfulness, there was the joy of children" (p. 96); and at the moment of the assassination this deeply affectionate couple were sitting very close to each other, while "Her hand was held close in his" (p. 382).

But in between there had been, alongside Lincoln's understanding and Mary's deep dependence upon him, many elements of strain. Soon after the marriage Mary developed terrible headaches which she had to endure intermittently throughout the remainder of her life. Lincoln also became prey to them. Worse, Mary came to make serious and repeated errors of judgment, embarrassing to her husband and helpful to the enemies of both. He once told her that if she could not control herself in some emergencies she would need to go to an institution for a time—a suggestion perhaps not intended or taken too seriously. But the suggestion is eloquent with strain. Love often outlives and conquers strain; but is living with strain a thoroughly "happy" marriage?

Despite and partly because of these handicaps, Mrs. Randall has done a definitive biography, placing historians deeply in her debt. She has finished off her achievement with fourteen pages of illustrations, seventy-two pages of notes, thirteen of bibliography, and twenty-three of index.

Philadelphia

Jeannette P. Nichols

Grant and His Generals. By Clarence Edward Macartney. (New York: The McBride Company, 1953. xvi, 352 p. Illustrations, index. $5.00.)

Had Dr. Macartney used the title "Grant's Lieutenants," it would have followed, more or less, the Lee's Lieutenants series of the lamented Freeman, but with certain differences in the presentation of the material. The Freeman method was to proceed through the war and to introduce each "Lieutenant" as he entered the military picture with Lee. Dr. Macartney has used a different development in that he takes thirteen generals who were associated with Grant at one time or another and follows the career of each as it relates to his association with Grant. To one familiar with the Civil War this is no particular hardship, but for a tyro, confusion can result since each chapter is a small book in itself and the reader jumps from Belmont to Wilderness to Vicksburg following the relation between the individual general under discussion and Grant himself.

The thirteen generals "in the order of their appearance" are Thomas, Meade, McPherson, Rawlins, Logan, Sheridan, Wilson, Halleck, Butler, "Baldy" Smith, McClernand, Burnside and Sherman. Then there is a final
chapter on Grant and the Commander in Chief, Lincoln. Emphasis is placed on the war in the West, the actions of the Army of the Potomac being subordinate to the western battles. In the preface and also in the “Sources and Authorities” which follow the preface Macartney explains that he secured the manuscript of an unpublished autobiography of General William F. (Baldy) Smith and from this manuscript and The Life of General William F. Smith by General James H. Wilson, the cavalry leader, he reaches the conclusion that Smith was "perhaps the ablest general in either army." This reviewer can certainly not accept such a statement from anything he has read of the accomplishments (or lack of them) in "Baldy" Smith, and in fact in his chapter on Smith the author intimates that his constant criticism of other commanders and their logistics and tactics led to Smith's dismissal from the Army of the Potomac. Grant said of him, "General Smith while a very able officer is obstinate and likely to condemn whatever is not suggested by himself." Later when Smith tried to get command of a Corps in the Department of the Gulf under General Canby, Grant wrote to Canby, "It will not do to risk Smith with any military command whatever."

The chapter on Grant and Thomas is of unusual interest because of the difficulty of rating Thomas as an army commander. A wonderful fighter, he was too slow and deliberate, and, as the author points out, General Logan was on his way to relieve him as commander of the Army of the Cumberland when Thomas moved at last and won a resounding victory over the Confederate General Hood at the battle of Nashville. Macartney rates Thomas above Sherman, which again is not the orthodox viewpoint.

Space forbids an analysis of each of the chapters on the different generals and on Lincoln, but the chief value of this book is the fresh viewpoint presented and the abundance of anecdotes and portions of letters which have been collected with great care. Macartney's opinion of the average general in the Army of the Potomac is low, and of the leaders of the western armies high, and much can be learned about Rawlins, McClernand, and Halleck which will be new material to most readers.

Dr. Macartney, who is minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, has spent forty years in his study of the Civil War and is the author of Lincoln and his Generals (not to be confused with a recently published book of similar title by Harry Williams), Highways and Byways of the Civil War, Lincoln and his Cabinet and Lincoln and the Bible. The portraits of the various generals came from the National Archives and the one of Grant is outstanding. This latter portrait Dr. Macartney considers the best picture of Grant he has ever seen, and this reviewer concurs. Grant and His Generals is recommended, and if you do not agree with some of the author's conclusions, you will enjoy working up arguments in your own mind to controvert them.

Paoli, Pa.                                      Kent Packard
American Gun Makers. By ARCADI GLUCKMAN and L. D. SATTERLEE. 
(Harrisburg, Pa.: The Stackpole Company, 1953. [vi], 246 p. Bibliography. $6.00.)

In recent years the collecting of firearms has become a very important avocation. The rapid dispersal of some great collections and the large number of books and magazines coming from our presses indicate this interest in a concrete way. A number of these books about gunmakers contain biographical data which assist the collector in establishing when, where, and by whom a particular arm was made.

*American Gun Makers*, by Gluckman and Satterlee, was first published thirteen years ago. In 1949 a supplement was printed; in 1953 we have the corrected and expanded volume, which includes not only gunmakers, but arms inspectors as well. The names are arranged alphabetically (thus eliminating the need for an index), and the information immediately follows the name. In some cases the facts supplied are few, such as "Kemp, W. Unlocated"; while approximately two pages are devoted to the entry headed "North, Simeon." Then, too, the type of information supplied about different makers varies. For some, only the birth and death dates are given; for others, comment is made on the quality of their work, and frequently the number of arms they made in a certain period is transcribed from contracts which they held with the Federal or a state government.

The entries about both the makers and the inspectors of military arms are most accurate and complete. These men can be positively identified from the contracts which they executed and from the names and initials which they placed on the guns that they made and inspected. Most of these men worked in the nineteenth century when records were more meticulously kept than before and which, being more recent, have survived in larger numbers.

Biographical material about the men who made early sporting guns (fowling pieces and rifles) in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries is more uncertain and meager. Men like Thomas Earle of Leicester, Massachusetts, and John Philip Beck of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, repose in obscurity in contrast to the recognition given the factories of Whitney and Springfield. This condition is to be regretted, but it obviously arises from the fact that documented data about these men are extremely difficult to obtain.

Unfortunately, the source of each biographical entry is not given, and the reader is unable to distinguish between the "meal and the chaff" which the authors mention in their foreword. The validity of the statements is further impaired by the authors' use of local histories as source material, for such secondary sources are usually not completely reliable or unbiased.

Though it may seem that some quality has been sacrificed to achieve quantity, the book surpasses by far all others in the amount of material compiled. Its claim for recognition is the compilation of over 4,000 items.

*Lancaster, Pa.*

HENRY J. KAUFFMAN

The tremendous task of compiling, editing, and publishing the papers of Thomas Jefferson continues with the appearance of volume VII covering the year 1784. Each volume whets the appetite for more, and the regularity with which the volumes come from the press assures an increasing and steady diet for the student of Jefferson and his times. This most recent volume embraces the period of Jefferson’s last days in Congress and the first few months of his assignment as minister to France. Once again the variety of Jefferson’s interests is amply revealed, as is the thoroughness with which he explored those interests. Scientific, national, and international affairs engaged his attention, but more incidental matters, such as the potentialities of balloons and the habits of the moose, or Francis Hopkinson’s directions for quilling a harpsichord, are also to be found alongside the more weighty problems of the national debt, coinage, and American trade.


Like most of the statesmen of his day, James Madison thought and wrote on the whole range of political and social concepts and problems. The Complete Madison brings together these thoughts as they are embodied in his letters, speeches, and formal writings. As Mr. Padover remarks in his introduction, “Madison as a Political Thinker,” his use of the word “complete” denotes the comprehensiveness of Madison’s thinking rather than the entirety of his expression. The selections are organized under two headings, “The Nature of Government” and “The Nature of Society.” The pertinence of Madison’s ideas to the issues of our own day reveals the depth and farsightedness of his thinking; an appendix of axioms drawn from Madison’s writings reveals the pithiness of his writing.


Anthony Wayne’s military expedition against the Indians of the Old Northwest is a colorful episode in American history. This journal, kept by an unknown officer with the expedition, is extensive in its scope and unusually detailed. Among other matters, it sheds additional light on the strained relations between Wayne and his first subordinate, James Wilkinson. The journal is documented and contains a useful index.