BOOK REVIEWS


Paul Wallace has essayed a difficult task, namely, the writing of a book which, on the one hand, is based on sound scholarship, and, on the other, is light and interesting enough to have an appeal for a nonacademic audience. Though it has some weaknesses and mistakes, the net result comes off rather well. One of the chief assets of the book (which is part of the Regions of America Series) is that the story “moves”; it never becomes tiresome. The subtitle derives from a statement by Penn, who, upon receiving his province, hoped that God would “bless and make it the seed of a nation.”

Wallace is careful to say that he is not producing a history in the ordinary sense of the word; it is a “story”: “This is the story of a land, a people, and an idea” (p. xi). The “story” part is there, of course; and yet, it would be nearer the truth to say that the work is an “interpretation” of Pennsylvania’s past—an “interpretation” portrayed eclectically, topically, and personally. The story is Pennsylvania’s past as Wallace sees that past. There are many gaps in the tale, for the book is hardly a connected history of the colony and state. One somewhat remarkable gap is the lack of attention to Buchanan; according to the index, he gets two passing references. As against the downgrading of Buchanan, we have rather full treatments of Milton Hershey, Andrew Mellon, and Owen J. Roberts.

Within the author’s guide lines, however, it is a grand book, so good that I prefer to talk about the strong points instead of sniping at the weaknesses. Therefore, I shall limit myself to one “snipeshot” only, the statement (which has nothing to do with the book itself) in the biographical note: “In 1949 Mr. Wallace joined the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission as editor of the magazine Pennsylvania History.” The assertion rubs this reviewer the wrong way, because Pennsylvania History is a privately run journal and is not operated by the Commission, friendly and helpful as the Commission has always been.

Now for some of the good things in the book. Wallace is best in the wonderful little vignettes he writes, as chapters, about certain institutions and phases of Pennsylvania’s past. Those on Pennsylvania robbers, the underground railroad, the industrial revolution, the coal, the lumber, the oil—these are topics which Wallace makes alive and real. He knows them so well that the general reader, for whom the book apparently was written,
secures an excellent introduction to these topics. The chapters on politics are less successful; Chapter 19, on political parties, does not stand up well.

Probably the best portions of the book, the places where the reader can watch the "old pro" functioning with deft, sure, and true strokes, are those pages devoted to Indians. As an old Indian hand, the author does a superb job when he talks about his red friends. I tried a few paragraphs on several of my classes, to see how the students would react to Wallace's Indian approach. The students were obviously impressed by an interpretation they had seldom, if ever, heard. Wallace's contention that the race problem of the eighteenth century was a confrontation of white versus red, whereas the present one is white versus black, intrigued them. So, also, the thought that the continued pushing of the red men westward deprived them "of the very blessings the white man had come to America to find: freedom, dignity, and the good life" (p. 72).

Another phase of Pennsylvania lore which Wallace treats well has to do with immigration, not only of the masses of people who found refuge in Penn's Woods, but also the immigration of future leaders. One of Pennsylvania's methods of achieving greatness is to "steal" the best brains from Europe and from other states of the Union, adapt them to Pennsylvania conditions, and then claim them as Pennsylvanians. In a real sense, we Pennsylvanians do not produce brains; we import them. This statement is particularly true of many of our politicians (see pp. xi, xii, 60). We need not be ashamed of this fact; we should be proud. After all, it is a high honor that so many potentially able people want to come here and live. Some like us so well that they settle at Gettysburg after achieving fame, and that is nice for us, too.

I wish I had double this space to comment further on this fascinating book which sets one to thinking about the past and even the future of the Keystone State. I cordially recommend the volume to all who might be interested, and there should be many. One last pat on the back: I must praise an author who has the courage to call Bos bison by its right name (p. 6).

Susquehanna University

William A. Russ, Jr.

Moses Brown, Reluctant Reformer. By Mack Thompson. (Chapel Hill, N.C.: Published for the Institute of Early American History and Culture by the University of North Carolina Press, 1962. xii, 316 p. Illustrations, bibliographical essay, index. $7.50.)

From beliefs to action is the classic course of man's life when it becomes dominated by religious persuasion. But sometimes, when the opposite course is taken, there results a life wherein the high ideals realized were translated from practical affairs. Such was the life of Moses Brown of Rhode Island (1738–1836).
Born into the Baptist persuasion of that notable family which has given so much to its community both yesterday and today, Moses Brown became a member of the Religious Society of Friends in 1774. By that time, however, he had already evinced a broad and active concern for the welfare of his fellow man. In his biography of Brown, Professor Mack Thompson, chairman of the division of humanities at the University of California, puts it concisely: “Experience in business and politics shaped his thought and character, and developed his capabilities. His later conversion to Quakerism surely had a profound influence on his life, but his lifelong interest in education, in science and technology, in preventive medicine, in philanthropic and humanitarian projects, and his deepening concern for the general welfare of his community clearly originated during the decade of the 1760’s before he apparently gave any thought to becoming a Quaker.” The author has effectively developed both the practical and the religious influences in Moses Brown’s career.

Severe illness in the family, deaths near at hand, the loss of his father when a boy, apprenticeship with his brothers to Uncle Obadiah, quick and early business success, a “young Joseph” singled out from the brothers by the uncle to be his successor as the head of varied family business ventures and as a civic leader, all stirred Moses Brown to seek spiritual comfort among the Friends. Following his own sickness and insomnia, at the age of twenty-eight, the transition became complete. He went from a this-worldly to an above-this-worldly emphasis in his life, from the Counting House to the Meeting House.

Mack Thompson’s “Epilogue” should be read first. Moses Brown is not well enough known in history. He was more a good Quaker than one of the great Americans, although this biography places him alongside Franklin and Jefferson, Anthony Benezet and John Woolman. But even his activities as a Quaker have been generally overlooked, for too often attention has been centered on Pennsylvania Quakerism to the virtual exclusion of other areas. The name “Brown,” familiar in so many fields of culture today, and the record of a life that extended for ninety-eight years have both been neglected too long. If available, we would be further enriched by publication of the papers and letters, the business and religious correspondence of Moses Brown. Judging from other worthies of his time, journal keeping, letter writing, and other “paper work” were in that golden period which can contribute so deeply to today’s understanding of the past and of the men who molded it.

Moses Brown was a man whose contributions were often obscured by his modesty and humility. When Rhode Island College had its “first Foundation Stone” laid in 1770, “nothing was said about Moses Brown, the man who had done more than any other to bring the college to Providence. He was probably content to watch the ceremony from the edge of the crowd.” It was his brother John who was honored at this first ceremonial stone laying. Later on, when the college became Brown University, it was Moses whose name was memorialized.
So it was with the school that is regarded as one of New England’s finest. It was known first as the Brick House School, and later as the school for the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, established by its Meeting for Sufferings at Portsmouth. Finally, in 1904, when it had been well located for more than a century, “in recognition of his generous charity and far vision, his practical statesmanship joined to high spiritual ideals, his sterling character and great soul,” it was decided to rename the New England Yearly Meeting Boarding School what it always could have been, the “Moses Brown School.”

Moses Brown lived what he believed, and influenced all that his concern touched. “If the desire for fortune was not present in [him], neither was the desire for fame. There are those rare individuals who work tirelessly and successfully for no other reasons than a feeling of responsibility to improve the world and a genuine love of mankind. Moses Brown was such a man.”

*Ph (Philadelphia) Richmond P. Miller


It would be difficult to find a more obscure group than the Nicholites, who came into being in the 1760’s and largely disappeared as a separate entity early in the nineteenth century. Their founder, Joseph Nichols, is not mentioned in biographical dictionaries, and the movement is not noticed in the usual reference works.

The group sprang into being in an informal fashion around Joseph Nichols, who was an uneducated farmer. Apparently, the sudden death of a close friend changed him from a lighthearted man into a serious, spiritual person who felt a call to minister to his fellow men. He began to make converts in Kent County, Delaware, where he lived, and across the boundary in Maryland. He emphasized the principle of direct revelation, and talked about obedience to the “Inward Director.” He urged his followers to practice simplicity in their lives, even to the point of wearing undyed clothing and using benches and stools instead of chairs. He opposed slavery, the taking of oaths, and violence. Unfortunately, he died in 1770, when he was only about forty years old. The movement, however, did not die with the founder, as frequently happens with new religious groups, but actually became stronger in the next two decades.

The Nicholites, as they were called, resembled the Friends in many ways, and they were sometimes called “New Quakers.” They organized in communities where there were Friends, both in Delaware and Maryland, and later in the Carolinas. Their dependence on the direct revelation of the will of God, their concern for simplicity, and their opposition to a hireling minis-
try, slavery, and violence, were all indications of their similarities. However, they held themselves apart. In North Carolina, in 1778, when appealing for the right to affirm in courts instead of swearing an oath, they said, "... we do profess and confess the same principals that the Quakers Doth, but for Some reasons which we could render if required we hitherto have not thought it best to Joyn Membership with them."

They differed in their attitude toward education. While Friends were not interested in higher education, they were diligent in providing at least some schooling for all of their children. The Nicholites had no interest in education, and apparently many of them were unable even to sign their names on wedding certificates and wills. The Nicholites stressed plainness even more than Quakers. They grew no flowers around their homes, and kept their houses extremely simple. They refrained from wearing any clothing, including shoes, which had been dyed. John Woolman, who visited among them in 1766, shared this testimony with them, and may have had some influence on them.

There was a cordial relationship between the Nicholites and Friends. Friends who traveled in the ministry sometimes made a point of visiting in the meetings of the new group. In the 1790's, the Nicholites began to discuss merging with Friends, and late in 1797, more than a hundred of them applied for membership in the Third Haven Monthly Meeting on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Those who became Quakers continued to mingle with those who remained Nicholites, and slowly most of the remaining Nicholites became Friends. The little group practically disappeared early in the nineteenth century, although one lone member, Elisha Wilson, maintained that he was a Nicholite until he died during the Civil War.

This slender book probably tells us all that can be learned about this tiny sect. Kenneth Carroll has been collecting material and publishing articles about the Nicholites for more than a dozen years. In the appendix to the book he has published birth and marriage records, including the names of witnesses to marriages, and noticed more than two dozen wills. Unless new records are uncovered at some time in the future, this is the definitive book about the Nicholites.

Haverford College

Edwin B. Bronner


This entertaining and lively account of the struggle between Great Britain and France for control of North America is a convenient and readable survey of the military events. Probably because of his military and engineer-
ing background and his experience as director of historic Fort Ticonderoga, Colonel Hamilton is at his best in the clear and easily followed accounts of campaigns and battles, and his descriptions of arms and artillery, barges, bateaux, and canoes, uniforms, forts, and similar details of colonial military life are admirably done. Indeed, these technological details, too often neglected by historians, make the book well worth serious attention.

The task of writing a popular survey of the French and Indian wars cannot be considered easy. The story is complex, since the first three wars, King William's War, Queen Anne's War, and King George's War, were merely the American phases of wars in the Old World over European issues, while the fourth and last began in America and had important and lasting results for the future of the New World. This is the French and Indian War proper, which is seen by Lawrence H. Gipson as the Great War for the Empire and by the French Canadian historian Guy Frégault as the War of the Conquest. These various names suggest the diverse interpretations which can be given to the wars. To the British colonists they represented efforts to gain protection and security from French and Indian raids; to admirers of British principles of government they represent the triumph of these principles in North America; but to the French of Acadia and Canada their outcome was subjection under alien rule.

The last interpretation is largely ignored in the present work, perhaps to avoid complicating the story; but it would have helped to explain why the French and Indian War was more cruel, more "total," than earlier eighteenth-century wars. To paraphrase Dr. Frégault, Canada resisted conquest as violently as a living organism battles for life. To overlook this view may give the impression that the French were wrongheaded and even wicked for wanting to remain French. In our present age, which has seen other peoples displaced like the Acadians or subjugated like the French Canadians, it is certainly not difficult to understand why some of them fought so bitterly and in uncivilized ways.

Much stress is given to the influence of geography on military action, and especially to the two great natural routes through the Appalachian barrier, the Lake Champlain route to the St. Lawrence River, and the Mohawk River route to Oswego and Lake Ontario. Similar attention should have been given to another important route, that connecting the Great Lakes with the Ohio and the Mississippi and thus linking Canada and Louisiana. The threat to this route by the activities of Pennsylvania's Indian traders and Virginia's Ohio Company led to the French occupation of the Ohio Valley in 1753-1754, which brought on war. From this it may be questioned if it really was a violation of "all the laws of geography" for the British to begin by attacking the French on the Ohio in 1755. Fort Duquesne was not a "finger tip" at the end of a route of communication, but a link in the chain which French empire builders had planned to bind New France together.

This oversight may be related to the way in which the story focuses on New York and New England, to the neglect of events farther south. Aside
from the major episodes of the Braddock and Forbes expeditions, Pennsylvania's important part in the French and Indian War receives scarcely a mention. On the contrary, we are told that "Pennsylvania suffered under an assembly that would do little or nothing to guard its frontiers." This was true enough at the beginning, but not after the war was under way. Then, Pennsylvania appropriated a total of £490,000 for defense, created a chain of frontier forts, and raised a sizable armed force during the period of active warfare—altogether a remarkable military effort for a colony with its peaceful traditions. The Pennsylvania expedition led by John Armstrong against the Indian village of Kittanning on the Allegheny River in September, 1756, did much to restore the morale of frontier settlers and to shake the faith of the Indians in the French; it would seem as worthy of attention as Robert Rogers' raid from Crown Point on the Indian village of St. Francis, three years later.

The absence of annotation to show the sources of many challenging and interesting statements is to be regretted. It may be doubted that footnotes "quickly scare away" the general reader from a well-written book on a historical subject which interests him. Perhaps the intelligence and curiosity of the general reader are underrated; surely there are some in this category, not scholars even in their own estimation, who are interested in knowing the sources back of particular statements. For them it would be little consolation to be told that there is an annotated copy of the book in the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  Donald H. Kent


The purpose of this volume is to defend the military reputation of Lord Jeffery Amherst, which the author believes has been "much under-rated," and to claim for him credit for the first government of British Canada. The author's research in the British Museum, Public Record Office, and Bodleian Library has revealed for him new material, and many documents are quoted in paraphrase. Intrigued by the prospectus, the reader may look for a new portrait of the "soldier of the king." That this expectation is not fulfilled is largely due to the author's method.

Seeking to tell his story by quoting from documents, he strings together letters which are paraphrased or "digested versions" rather than verbatim quotations, yet he gives no citation or source reference by which they can be checked. While this method may serve for an intimate glimpse of the subject's early life and personal relations, it breaks down in dealing with the complex issues of a military career. Three firsthand versions of the assault on Louisburg, followed by a criticism, confuse the reader and do not provide a satisfactory analysis or basis for criticism. Many more points of view, and
consideration of other critics or studies, would seem to be in order. While emphasizing the documentary record, the author has failed to use a number of relevant collections in this country—the Abercromby, Loudoun, and Gage Papers—and such published documents as the Sir William Johnson Papers, containing much Amherst material. Thus, one may doubt the thoroughness of his research.

The author emphasizes the military strategy and success of Amherst, and criticizes adversely James Wolfe’s rashness, insubordination, and madness, though he does not doubt his courage. Thus, he feels that Amherst deserves more credit and Wolfe less for the successful issue of the fighting in 1759. Amherst, he believes, was wise in his caution and should not be blamed for his Fabian tactics in his campaign of that year against Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Montreal. He errs in some details, as in crediting the capture of Fort Niagara to Prideaux rather than to Sir William Johnson, who had succeeded to the command after Prideaux’s death.

Finally, he devotes a chapter to Pontiac’s Conspiracy, but fails to recognize that Amherst has been largely blamed for this disaster because of his unwise Indian policy, as pointed out in Howard Peckham’s The Pontiac Uprising (1947). Amherst was contemptuous of the Indians, doubted their fighting ability, and refused to take the warnings of George Croghan and Sir William Johnson to conciliate them with gifts and concessions.

The volume is attractively bound, but the text is in typescript with unjustified lines; there are no notes or references, and but a brief bibliography.

New York Division of Archives and History  
Milton W. Hamilton  
Albany, N.Y.


An indiscreet jacket blurb imposes a burden upon an author by challenging the reviewer to measure the book against it. The burden becomes heavier when, unchallenged, the reviewer is not enthusiastic about the book. If this is “the first full biography” of Germain, it is a very badly proportioned one. When the blurb calls Germain “the man primarily responsible for Britain’s defeat in the American revolution,” the reader is warned to be on guard.

Mainly, this is a study of Germain’s administration as Secretary of State for the Colonies. He received his appointment on page 95, that is, in 1775 at the age of fifty-nine. He left office in 1782, that is, on page 455. The remaining thirty-five pages of text present not only his last three years of life, but also the little that is said about his private life since last that subject was mentioned in the early pages. Perhaps there was a “meagreness” of Germain’s personal life. His papers do not reveal his “private thoughts.” But
that does not justify the rush to get over his life prior to 1775. His rise in his military career remains unexplained. The reader is left to wonder why in 1758 at the age of forty-three Germain (or Lord George Sackville until 1770) should be placed in command of British forces on the Continent. The battle of Minden is treated sketchily, and the presentation of the court-martial, a decisive event in his life, lacks political perspective. Gerald S. Brown’s article, “The Court Martial of Lord George Sackville,” *William and Mary Quarterly* (July, 1952) would have been useful to the author. Soon after the court-martial, Germain began his political ascent. If there was one, the basis of the reputation he acquired during the next fifteen years is not revealed. Valentine discusses this period in about twenty pages, only three of which are concerned with American affairs. It seems to have been his position on the American question which finally brought Germain to the attention of North and the king and, at last, to office, though all we learn about it is that he stood resolutely for the supremacy of the Crown in Parliament.

Once Germain is in office, the pace of the narrative slows. The central four fifths of the book contains some excellent chapters. Two of these, describing the administration of the war effort in England and the colonies, support with details the views of other scholars—for example, Brown and George H. Guttridge—that Germain was in effect the war minister, even though the “Ghost of Minden” continued to haunt him. But in showing that Germain faced nearly an impossible task, these discussions seem to lessen his responsibility for some of England’s failures. Valentine blames him for the unpleasant relationships with Carleton, the Howes, Burgoyne and Clinton, and he does not doubt that in the campaign of 1777 “the responsible co-ordinator,” Germain, was “the least pardonable” of all who were involved.

Valentine follows the planning of the campaign in proper detail, but for a biography of a minister situated in London there is too much attention to the campaign itself. For four chapters Lord George is virtually ignored. Germain’s conduct during the remainder of his tenure of office, especially in connection with the recriminations following upon defeats in America, is presented in a way that makes him a despicable person. Valentine admits his distaste for Germain; his judgment is based upon evidence. The evaluations of Lord George’s administrative ability and competence as a strategist are less convincing because the evidence and the arguments are more debatable than those relating to his personal and political conduct. Again, in Chapter XXVIII Valentine seems to undermine some of his conclusions about Germain’s responsibility for British defeat. If it is true that even a successful Saratoga campaign “could not have gained its end,” then it follows that Germain’s share of the blame for ultimate British defeat is lessened. The final assessment of the career of Lord George has not been made.

*University of Kentucky*  
Carl B. Cone

From its inception in 1781 and into the first years of the Federalist period, the Department of War weathered many storms of criticism, suffered from poor and reluctant financial support, and was beset with varying qualities of leadership. In the face of growing public hostility to things military following 1783, the future of the Department seemed uncertain. But Indian troubles on the southern and western frontiers, threats of internal insurrection, and the British occupation of forts in the Northwest substantiated its existence. Thus, during the first years of peace the nation was preoccupied with military problems. Professor Ward contends that the emergence of America as a sovereign and united nation can be fruitfully studied through the administration of the War Department. While this thesis is valid, in its development he has overemphasized the importance of military affairs in their relationship to the strength of the national government. Mad Anthony Wayne's defeat of the western Indians in 1794 and the collapse of the Whiskey Rebellion within that same year are not only indicators of the vitality of the new government, they are also barometers of the continuing weakness of American military policy. The reliance upon a small standing army to be supplemented by the militia in time of need could only make for instability instead of strength. Andrew Jackson's victory at New Orleans in 1815 was due to the particular circumstances involved rather than the excellence of the American militia.

After 1783, the Secretary at War (the title was changed in 1789) was one of the most important executive officers of the national government. He served as a source of military information for Congress, advised the Chief Executive on military matters, supervised relations with the Indian tribes, and was responsible for the administration of the Army. The Secretary of War sometimes represented the United States government in affairs of state, and until the undeclared naval war with France he also had charge of the Navy. He was made the scapegoat for the disastrous campaigns against the western Indians and he received very little of the glory from their eventual defeat. The traditional view of the administration of the War Department, 1781-1795, has been one of ineptitude and inefficiency. Professor Ward does much to revise this evaluation by carefully delineating the first two Secretaries, Benjamin Lincoln and Henry Knox, as able administrators who were constantly hamstrung by petty politics, poor financial support, and American dislike of a large standing army. One wonders, however, why the author failed to cite in his bibliography North Callahan's recent biography of Knox. Mr. Ward makes excellent use of military affairs to illustrate several of the basic governmental precedents of the Federalist era: the employment of the Presidential Cabinet as the council of the Executive
instead of the Senate, and the expansion and broadening of the military and the treaty-making powers of the Presidency.

This study is a well-documented narrative of the Department of War, and despite occasional stylistic lapses it nevertheless is an important contribution to the knowledge of American military policy and of the Federalist era.

Temple University

SAMUEL R. BRIGHT, JR.


"A proud, independent, often difficult individual" but "possessed with an avid curiosity and zest for life," Titian Ramsay Peale was one of those men who by devotion to their work make a valuable contribution to intellectual endeavor without ever achieving a place of renown. Neither a "great nor a creative" leader among naturalists, by his long and useful service he yet merits an extended biography. Certainly, he was not the least interesting member of a fascinating family.

Born in a museum, surrounded by pictures and specimens of natural history, by painters and naturalists, Titian Ramsay Peale could hardly have become anything but a painter and a scientist. His father, Charles Willson Peale, was one of the leading portrait painters in America; his older brothers, Rembrandt and Raphaelle, were embarked on their careers as painters. In 1794, C. W. Peale had removed to Philosophical Hall in Philadelphia the museum which gave him increasing prestige in the world of science, and the family moved in with the museum. There on October 10, 1799, Titian was born, and there he lived for ten years among the stuffed birds, the mastodon bones, the portraits of notable Americans, and the scientist friends who frequented the place.

A youth spent on the Peale farm outside Germantown did not divert Titian from the bent established in his first years. He early showed talent for art. By the time he was seventeen, revolting against the business career his father had planned for him, he had discovered that he wanted to devote his life to natural history and he rejoined his brother Rubens, who was then directing the museum. Here, in 1816, he was making sketches for Thomas Say's work on American entomology, and a few weeks after his eighteenth birthday he had the happiness of seeing six of his colored plates published in the prospectus for that work. Ten days later, he was elected a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. On Christmas Day, 1817, he set out with Say, George Ord, and William Maclure for Florida on his first field trip. The pattern of his life for the next three years—an alternation of field work and of precision painting at Philadelphia of objects of natural history—was now established.
In the following winter, C. W. Peale obtained for his son a place as unpaid assistant naturalist in the expedition Major Stephen H. Long was organizing for the exploration of the West. This excursion up the Platte and across the foot of the Rockies to the Arkansas gave Titian opportunities not merely to draw animal specimens but also to record (along with Samuel Seymour, official artist of the expedition) our earliest views of the Rocky Mountains. Returning to the museum, he married in 1822. His next field trips were to Florida in 1824–1825, to Maine in 1829, to Colombia, South America, 1830–1832. At home, between trips, he was busy with plates for Charles Bonaparte's extension of Alexander Wilson’s *Ornithology* (1823), for Say’s *American Entomology* (1823–1824), for the prospectus for *Lepidoptera Americana* (1833). In 1835, preparations began for the South Sea Exploring Expedition under Lieutenant Charles H. Wilkes. Departing in August, 1838, Titian did not again see home until June 10, 1842. After a brief period at the museum, which was soon to come to an end, he returned to Washington to work on the collections brought back by the expedition and to prepare his volume for the extensive Wilkes report. Difficulties with Wilkes led to the suppression of his volume soon after initial distribution and the substitution, ten years later, of a book by another hand.

With the breakup of the family museum and the difficulties over the report, Peale's world seemed to go to pieces. But these unhappy years in the 1840's were brought to a close by his appointment in 1848 as an assistant examiner in the United States Patent Office. Eventually, he rose to the rank of examiner. He remained in the service for twenty-five years, in out-of-office hours indulging himself in his scientific interests and in painting, occupations he continued until his death in 1885.

The author has put her story of Peale's life together from a vast array of manuscript material which she has combed with admirable thoroughness. She has doubled the value of her study by appending to the biography all the extant Peale journals of the Wilkes Expedition. Of the seventy-seven illustrations, almost all are after drawings or paintings by Peale, and many of them are published for the first time. A list of sources consulted, an index, and map end papers showing the routes of Peale's two great journeys add to the usability of the work. Everything about this handsomely made book is rewarding. Miss Poesch has surely made her own contribution to a phase of history in this excellent account of Titian Ramsay Peale's contribution.

*Washington University*

**John Francis McDermott**


In this his second volume on Anglo-American relations, Mr. Perkins displays the same comprehensive scholarship and wealth of detail that distin-
guished his *First Rapprochement*. If this book seems not quite so illuminating as his earlier one, it is perhaps because he is now on more familiar ground, ground already explored and mapped out by such scholars as A. L. Burt, Irving Brant, and, of course, Henry Adams.

The story Mr. Perkins has to tell, of the diplomatic relations between Great Britain and the United States in the seven years preceding the outbreak of war in 1812, is essentially tragic. On one side were the British, fighting for their lives against Napoleon and believing also that they fought for human liberty; on the other side were the Americans, desperately neutral because only in neutrality could they find assurance of their independence and identity. To the British, American neutrality seemed economic opportunism and political irresponsibility of the crudest kind; to the Americans (except for what remained of the Federalists), British notions of liberty and justice made only a mantle of hypocrisy to cover arrogance and brutality. For the British, the rights of search and impressment, indeed the whole fabric of maritime regulatory authority embodied in the Orders in Council, were the safeguards of America's freedom as well as of Britain's own. For the Americans, impressment and the Orders in Council were simply engines of British tyranny.

Had there been, between Britain and America, nothing but blank incomprehension and conflict, the tragedy of their relations would not have been so acute. What was tragic was the wasted good will on both sides, the lost moments of near-agreement. Mr. Perkins is properly critical of the Americans and British respectively for throwing away the two most promising chances of *rapprochement*: in 1807, when Jefferson foolishly rejected the Monroe-Pinckney treaty, and in 1809, when Canning disavowed the Erskine agreement.

In accord with the dominant trend of recent American historical interpretation, Mr. Perkins gives greater weight to such intangibles as national pride than to economic considerations; he finds national conflict more significant than class conflict. One cannot quarrel with this, even though it may have prevented him from examining sufficiently the elaborate and subtle intimacies of the Anglo-American trading world. But in dealing with affairs of the spirit, Mr. Perkins is a little heavy-handed. There is a certain poverty in his repeated use, in describing the British, of such adjectives as "haughty," "condescending," "scornful," "arrogant," "disdainful," "contemptuous," and "insulting." And it does not really widen his range of characterization to use the noun forms of such words, or to combine them, as when he chides the British for regarding the United States with "contemptuous scorn." Occasionally, indeed, Mr. Perkins goes with one leap beyond the borders both of good taste and clarity: was "that paranoid attitude of whining superiority" really so common among British officers as Mr. Perkins maintains? One would think it fairly rare anywhere.

Fortunately, Mr. Perkins is more at ease in making individual than in making national characterizations. He is usually persuasive in his judgments of people; he can be nicely succinct and deft, as in his biting summary of
“Copenhagen.” Jackson’s unsuccessful mission to Washington in 1809. His use of quotation is generally skillful, although sometimes he uses several quotations when one would do. There are a few evidences of haste in proofreading, and one, at least, of haste in copyreading: surely, on page 110, “neither...nor” should be “either...or”; otherwise the United States would find itself forbidding the importation from Britain only of goods “that could neither be obtained elsewhere nor be made in America.” This would be carrying Jeffersonian self-denial to extravagant lengths!

As a full and, on the whole, a balanced study of diplomatic relations between Britain and America, Prologue to War seems certain to be consulted by students and scholars for some time to come. One might hope that Mr. Perkins’ sympathetic account of a new, weak nation’s search for self-respect through neutrality might temper a little the “scorn,” “arrogance,” and “disdain” with which our cold warriors regard the neutrals of our own time.

University of Toronto

W. H. Nelson


This attractive volume gives the reader more than the title would imply. In an interesting manner, the author records the work of the craftsmen who created figureheads and other wood carvings for sailing vessels built in the United States. In so doing, however, he gives in brief outline the history of the origins and development of the shipbuilding industry in colonial days and down to the end of the clipper ship era. Of course, shipcarvings were dependent on a shipbuilding industry, and they did not, in fact, survive the end of the era of sailing vessels—that is, the making of shipcarvings did not survive, but the author has shown that interest in the work of the shipcarvers is still very keen.

The colony of Virginia established a shipbuilding industry in 1620 by importing twenty-five experienced shipwrights from England. Massachusetts Bay brought in six ship carpenters in 1628. Maryland had a merchant fleet of one hundred and sixty sail in 1697; three years later, Boston had one hundred and ninety-four vessels, New York, twenty-four.

New England had the earliest shipcarvers in the colonies. By 1708, however, Robert Mullard was at work in Philadelphia, and he did the carving for the Hope Galley in October of that year. He is known to have provided carvings for other vessels in 1711, 1712, and 1713. Anthony Wilkinson was doing shipcarvings in Philadelphia in 1729. William Hunt was in the business by 1731, and Henry Wells in 1748.

As in many other fields of human interest, there have been fashions in figureheads and other shipcarvings. The Continental frigate Raleigh had as
a figurehead an effigy of Sir Walter Raleigh, with bearded face and sword in hand. This vessel was built at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and William Deering, Jr., was probably the shipcarver. His father had trained him, and had practiced there before him. The Continental frigate Hancock carried a figurehead of the president of the Congress, John Hancock, in yellow breeches, white stockings, blue coat with yellow buttonholes, and a small cocked hat. The frigate Boston, built in Massachusetts, had an Indian figurehead, with bow and arrows. It is believed that the frigates Washington, Montgomery, Randolph, Trumbull, Effingham, and Warren had figureheads representing the man whose name each honored.

After the American Revolution, our native shipcarvers began to be influenced by France and other European nations as well as by England, while at the same time their own ingenuity created styles and fashions entirely new. Almost all vessels of the United States Navy and all of the larger merchant vessels featured shipcarvings of good quality or better. The “Clipper Ship Era” brought new designs for shipcarvings, usually light carved pieces on the stern and a figurehead designed and mounted to assure minimum weight. The peak of American sailing vessel construction was reached in the year 1855, with a peacetime record of 1,781 ships of all types and sizes. Numbers declined steadily thereafter, and this decline meant extinction for the shipcarver.

The author has dealt with all periods in an effective manner, and his choice of illustrations is excellent. Born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and educated at the University of Pennsylvania, his earliest researches were in the maritime history of Maryland and Pennsylvania, but he has gone on to embrace the entire country in his survey of this and related subjects.

The late Commodore Dudley W. Knox, U.S.N., considered Brewington to be the best-informed man in the United States on the history of the sailing vessels built and operated in this country. Knox recruited him for the Office of Naval History of the Navy Department, and he is still a commander in the United States Naval Reserve. The Navy Department desired to retain him as Curator for the Navy, but circumstances prevented this arrangement at the end of World War II. He is now assistant director of the Peabody Museum of Salem, Massachusetts.

Naval Historical Foundation

Washington, D. C.

JOHN B. HEFFERNAN


Relatively little has been written about the role of women in American society. Much of the available information must be culled from diverse
The book is divided into three parts, a syllabus, a list of more than a hundred outstanding women, and a bibliography. The syllabus organizes women’s contributions under the headings of the English and European backgrounds of the immigrants, the earliest settlements, heroic and patriotic activities, status and rights, religious life, education, the home, productive life of the communities, and charitable activities. These main topics are broken down into subheadings. Where feasible the subjects are further arranged under geographical classifications. Concise, informative summaries of the content of the subsequent references introduce each major and each subordinate heading. Following the descriptive résumé is a list of pertinent references which include specific pages.

The list of one hundred and four women, chosen especially as examples of different national background, religion, and profession, and for their contributions to the solution of the problems of their day, is arranged alphabetically with the name of the colony where each was born, her most significant contribution, birth and death dates, name of her husband, and specific page and number references to items in the bibliography which follows. The bibliography includes books, magazine articles, and pictorial publications.

Temple University

Frances May Manges

Thoughts on the Kentucky Rifle in its Golden Age. By Joe Kindig, Jr. (Wilmington, Del.: George N. Hyatt, 1960. xiv, 561 p. Illustrations, index. $27.00.)

Thoughts on the Kentucky Rifle in its Golden Age reaches out beyond the scope of the mere gun collector. The author, Joe Kindig, Jr., of York, Pennsylvania, is a highly regarded connoisseur of American art. Years ago, he recognized the long-neglected artistic merit of the better rifles turned out by the early gunmakers of his native state.

Perhaps the significance of this book can be immediately sensed only by those collectors and students of the American long rifle who have been fortunate enough to know the author with his ever-ready enthusiasm and love for the Kentucky rifle. But, as the years go by, the thoughts expressed by the writer will awaken and stimulate a growing interest in new collectors and students. This has been Mr. Kindig’s expressed purpose in writing the book. Certainly, when this edition is sold out, the book will become a prized collector’s item in its own right.

The book is divided into two parts. The first is a brief but enlightening text on the frontiersmen, the gunsmith, on the Kentucky rifle itself, and, finally, on the “Kentucky Rifle as a Collectible.” The second part describes and appraises two hundred and sixty-two rifles from the Kindig Collection.
The reader is shown the differences in style and design found in the several riflemaking areas of eastern Pennsylvania, as well as the variation of detail by the individual riflemaker within each area. No book on the Kentucky rifle has heretofore attempted to do this. The full-page photographic plates which illustrate the specimens in detail are outstanding in quality and clarity.

Mr. Kindig has a capacity for recognizing and appreciating the best in Americana that few will ever possess. He has for the first time introduced these Kentucky rifles as artistic masterpieces of early American craftsmanship. *Thoughts on the Kentucky Rifle in its Golden Age* is by far the finest and most complete book on any early American firearm yet written.

*Freeville, N. Y.*

**Wester A. White**

*Our Amish Neighbors.* By William I. Schreiber. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1962. xii, 227 p. Illustrations, bibliography, index. $5.95.)

Another book about the Amish! This one deals with the Amish communities around Wooster, Ohio, by a professor whose roots are German. By now, the literature dealing with the Amish, most colorful of the sects originating in colonial Pennsylvania, is so extensive that it is reported that more than seventy dissertations on them are pending in American institutions.

Each new book brings new insight. *Our Amish Neighbors* is no exception. Professor Schreiber comes to this theme well-informed on European peasant culture and he is therefore able to assess the significance of the Old Order Amish from an unusual point of view. Against the changes which have overtaken the German Bauer in Europe during the last two decades, he asserts that the Amish community in America has become "the last refuge of German peasantry" (p. 226). So the Amish are preserving peasant traditions which are fast disappearing in the new Europe of the Common Market, and they are doing this with a tenacity which is remarkable, for they have "succeeded in maintaining a distinct 'group' character in an America renowned for modernity and progress and an apparent homogeneity and conformity of manners and customs" (p. 226). These descendants of sixteenth-century Anabaptists, the first real sect in Protestantism, are thus maintaining deep, tough roots in the face of the ongoing progress of American life. Professor Schreiber is reluctant, however, to draw sociological and religious conclusions from this statement.

This work adds further new facets to our understanding of the Amish. Especially interesting is the self-revelation of Amish life as it is presented in the pages of their newspaper, *Sugar Creek Budget*, a journal which appears to shatter all conventional ideas of journalism. In this widely circulated sheet we have a mirror on their minds and we can see their concerns and motives. Also freshly reported is Professor Schreiber's account of the
Meidung or shunning case of 1947, a case in which the central tradition of the Amish cult was put on trial.

Have not the Amish come a long way from the novels of Helen R. Martin, who presented them as kill-joy puritans? Now they are the objects of wide curiosity, and they are being presented in book after book which report them in their present way of life. However, few of these books probe beneath the surface. Perhaps the Amish would be better served by profounder studies of their faith, for none of these recent works explains whence they come by their amazing faith, the stubborn clinging to ancient customs and ways because they believe their way to be right.

The definitive book on the Amish as a religious group is yet to be written.

Norristown

John Joseph Stoudt


Many Americans do a “double take” whenever they see an old print or painting of what unquestionably is yesterday’s typical side-wheel New England, Long Island Sound, or Chesapeake Bay steamboat flying the American flag but sporting a Chinese name and Chinese characters painted on her paddle box. While the role of the American China clipper and the “China trade” is reasonably well known and certainly remarkably well documented in such superb collections as that of the East India Marine Society at the Peabody Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, the prominent part subsequently played by the imported American and British steam-boats in the internal trade of mid-nineteenth-century China is not so well appreciated. It is with particular gratification, then, that this interesting and scholarly study of steam vessels serving local trade on the China coast and rivers is now available to students of maritime enterprise.

The author, whose monograph was originally prepared as a thesis in Far Eastern history, is a Research Fellow at Harvard. Oriental heritage combined with Occidental training in historiography has served him here in good stead. Essentially, his book narrows the field to an account of the American-owned Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, founded in 1862, and of its rivals, both British and Chinese. The author’s principal source material, only recently made available by the Forbes family to the Baker Library of the Harvard Business School, consists of original documents of the American house of Russell & Company, supplemented by business and family papers of other foreign concerns having commercial interests in China.

While nautical buffs might find the work disappointing in its failure to reconstruct an expected nostalgic picture of “Steamboat Days on the Yangtze,” here is a factual and skillfully drawn account of a sound business
enterprise. This in itself was remarkable if only for the time and distance which of necessity separated its American management from its Chinese theater of operation.

Extensive notes and a complete index ensure the usefulness of Dr. Liu's work, while appendixes and notes offer ancillary matter on such topics as customs house entries and clearances at the Chinese treaty ports; particulars of the several steamship companies and their services; officers of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company; types of goods shipped, both foreign and Chinese, and so forth. A roster of ships giving dates and comparative data on tonnage, builders, and other facts would have been a welcome addition, however. But the portfolio of steamboat photographs in the center of the book will be found an agreeable substitute to written descriptions and is particularly welcome. The widely disparate sources of these views alone well attest the diligence of the writer in assembling his material. Dr. Liu has been successful in making an important contribution in this heretofore ill-appreciated field.


This book completes the three-volume set which Mr. Carrington has done on the naval side of the Civil War. The author has continued the high-caliber work characterized by the two previous books which covered the periods from January, 1861, to March, 1862, and from March, 1862, to July, 1863.

Virgil Carrington Jones writes with a flair for exploiting the human side of history. His coverage of such topics as the H. L. Hunley, first submarine in history to sink a ship, the expeditions to release the Confederate prisoners held on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie, and the story of the raider-spy, John Yates Beall, has all of the gripping interest of a first-rate piece of fiction. Yet, it is all a factual recital, and the very painstaking documentation found in the footnotes evidences a high level of scholarship and research.

The desperate and tenacious will of the South to fight on, long after the certainty of defeat had fixed itself in the consciousness of every intelligent Rebel, is well brought out in the handling of the blockade runners during the closing months of the war and of the deep-sea commerce raiders still ranging the oceans of the world months after Appomattox. The author conveys a certain poignancy in his description of the cruiser Shenandoah attacking ships in faraway whaling grounds long after the armies on land had dispersed and gone home.

Many readers will be disappointed at the neglect of the Confederate "Navy that never was"—the rams contracted to be built for it by the Rich-
mond government in England and France, the diplomatic haggling that revolved about them, and their ultimate diversion to such unlikely destinations as, for example, the Danish Navy. There is a great deal of material which could have been profitably added, too, concerning other raiders of the Alabama type which were never actually turned over to the Confederacy because of the manifest direction which the war was taking toward Union victory. It is difficult to understand how one can write about the naval side of this war and not devote appropriate attention to these features of it. The fact that the South never realized its hopes of obtaining these ships certainly does not diminish their potential importance to the over-all pattern of the struggle. Sometimes, the things which do not actually happen are of equal importance in historical perspective with those events which did occur.

One senses a certain weariness in the sketchy accounts of some topics, like the Alabama-Kearsarge duel off Cherbourg, almost as if the author were trying to wind up his project as quickly as possible. It may actually have been a limitation of space imposed by the publisher rather than a weakening of the zeal of the chronicler, but the impression is created that the detail of earlier sections of the three-volume edition is being purposely put aside.

There have not been as many book-length publications on any phase of the War Between the States as this centennial era had led many of us to expect. The lag has been especially notable in the story of the naval operations. It would scarcely be possible, therefore, to overstate the value of the contribution which Mr. Jones has made for general reader and student alike in turning out this generally excellent piece of work. Fellow writers on the period, such as Bruce Catton, have given it their highest praise and such an evaluation is justified. These three books definitely belong in any collection of Civil War reading.

Rider College


Inasmuch as Herbert Hoover, more than many Cabinet members, made his Department the embodiment of himself, any account of its policy must be an account of him, of his development and motivation. These Mr. Brandes attempts to analyze in their contemporary setting, meanwhile disclaiming any attempt to extol or disparage. As he cogently observes, Hoover's ideals were those of the middle-class conservative in the era of neonormalcy, taking positions on individualism and nationalism which reflected the shifting patterns then prevailing and which resulted in a paradoxical mixture of liberal and restrictive policies (pp. x, 25, 15). The data, taken chiefly from government records and secondary sources, are assem-
bled around an opening section on the organization and techniques of the Department of Commerce under Hoover, a middle section on his campaigns against foreign controls over raw materials needed in the American economy, and a final section on loans and investments abroad.

This appears to be a dissertation by an earnest student who secured a publisher before leaving his manuscript "to soak awhile"; as a result, he has left in some information that has long been well-known, and has failed to follow through on some of his best new leads. For example, he mentions twice (pp. 171, 210), without real explanation, Hoover's shift from belief in cancellation of pre-Armistice obligations to advocacy of repayment of the total inter-Allied debt to the United States. More detail on the victories of Commerce over State, and on Hoover's defeat by investment pressure would have strengthened the book. Also, in reference to Hoover's denials that the American tariff prevented German payments, Brandes fails to inject supporting argumentation produced by recent scholarship. In other words, the author would have been better served by a wider acquaintance with the literature of finance. Hasty publication is revealed also by an index which is inadequate and which, through much of the book, is numbered two pages ahead of where the reference actually appears.

This book is valuable for its implicit demonstration that to the challenges of the new era the leadership of the twenties was applying solutions of the past. They lacked both appreciation of the need for drastic innovation and skills in innovation. Among the more significant of Secretary Hoover's tenets are that "all the things which made America great stemmed from the competitive business tradition" (p. 214); that unless private American lenders abroad had federal guidance they "would seem to have the moral right to insist that the Federal government should not press its governmental claims to the prejudice of their investment" (p. 189); and that "America's economic progress was the product of free initiative and self-help" (p. 106). Perhaps it is loyalty to these blanket ascriptions which moved Mr. Lewis L. Strauss, of Kuhn, Loeb and Company, 1919–1947, to hail this volume in a foreword as an offset to "the long-continued political distortion of Mr. Hoover's career" (p. viii).

University of Pennsylvania

Jeannette P. Nichols


The impact of James Forrestal upon the American Navy and American politics during the war years and the postwar period is ably delineated and detailed by these joint authors, who had opportunity for personal observation of what went on before the footlights and behind the scenes in Wash-
ington. Those expecting a biography of the man who was Under Secretary of the Navy (1940-1944) and Secretary (1944-1947) will be disappointed.

The book begins when Forrestal left Dillon, Read & Company to take a post under Frank Knox, and concludes when he became the nation's first Secretary of Defense on September 17, 1947. His accomplishments in that period are not treated chronologically, but topically, a method providing a clear picture of each achievement, but distracting in its lack of continuity. The reader finds himself shuttled back and forth between 1940 and 1947 until, at times, he is thoroughly confused as to what happened when. Regardless of this, it is fascinating to note the play of politics, the service rivalries and jealousies, the fear, if not respect, for congressional opinions and actions, and the influences brought to bear to attain an end.

There is an ample bibliography, several useful appendixes, and a large array of footnotes. Of these latter, it is surprising the large number whose claim to authenticity rests with "in conversation with Albion," "confidential communication to Albion," "in conversation with Connery." While either man's integrity is not to be questioned, these notes smack too much of the phrase-worn "A government official said today," to be taken without a modicum of doubt. Conversation is not as reassuring as the written word.

Reading between the lines, it is apparent that neither author had a very high regard for Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, or for his "semi-autobiography." Likewise, they dismiss another writer of the period, Rear Admiral Julius A. Furer, with slight courtesy. His Administration of the Navy Department in World War II they state was the compilation of a retired naval contractor which "falls far short in critical quality" when compared to the Army's administrative volumes prepared by "professional scholars."

All in all, one better understands James Forrestal, the man, through his diaries, but learns more of what he had to contend with in the phenomenal success he had as Secretary of the Navy in Albion and Connery's volume.

Brevard, N. C.

WILLIAM BELL CLARK

Volume One: Northern States; Part IV: New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

This checklist of regimental publications and personal narratives of the Civil War is a revision of and supplement to the section on "Military Organizations" in the Bibliography of State Participation in the Civil War (third edition), published by the War Department Library in 1913. State military units of New Jersey and Pennsylvania are listed numerically by arm of service, and there is a brief statement of service for each unit. Following this statement, publications relating to the unit are given, with at least one location for each title.
In any compilation of the magnitude this checklist represents, the element of selection must be a factor. The preface sets forth not only the criteria for selection of entries, but clearly explains the method used in arranging the entries. No index is included in the separate parts of this project (seven parts are to be published), but an index of authors, and of titles where necessary, will be supplied for the completed checklist.

This checklist will prove valuable for both historical and genealogical research.

**Painting Survey**

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is making a survey of oil paintings of Philadelphia scenes, including views of the interiors of Philadelphia buildings. It is hoped that anyone who has knowledge of such paintings will inform Nicholas B. Wainwright, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.
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Founded in 1824, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has long been a center of research in Pennsylvania and American history. It has accumulated an important historical collection, chiefly through contributions of family, political, and business manuscripts, as well as letters, diaries, newspapers, magazines, maps, prints, paintings, photographs, and rare books. Additional contributions of such a nature are urgently solicited for preservation in the Society’s fireproof building where they may be consulted by scholars.

Membership. There are various classes of membership: general, $10.00; associate, $25.00; patron, $100.00; life, $250.00; benefactor, $1,000. Members receive certain privileges in the use of books, are invited to the Society’s historical addresses and receptions, and receive The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography. Those interested in joining the Society are invited to submit their names.

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