

falters by furthering the idea that same-sex desires and relations are “exceptions” that need not be integrated into this story of gender and power, which is our loss.

Connecticut College

JENNIFER MANION

The Philadelphia Campaign. Vol. 1, *Brandywine and the Fall of Philadelphia*. By THOMAS J. MCGUIRE. (Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2006. x, 420 pp. Illustrations, notes, glossary, bibliography, index. \$34.95.)

Despite the gentlemanly words used so often to describe eighteenth-century warfare, campaigns and battles were hotly contested events that elicited a brutality and savagery that has been the true hallmark of war in all ages. Local citizens of all political persuasions that were swept up in the tumultuous events of the American Revolution were indelibly marked by their encounters with battle. Thomas J. McGuire's book, *The Philadelphia Campaign*, reminds readers of the impact that marching armies and bloody battles had on the population of rural America and, perhaps more importantly, of the divisive nature of what truly was a civil war.

In McGuire's words, “*The Philadelphia Campaign* is a story about people—soldiers and civilians, husbands, mothers, fathers, and children—all of whom shared a common experience in the American War for Independence” (p. 4). His remarkably thorough research enables him to unfold the story of the campaign through the eyes of its participants, men and women, adults and children, soldiers and civilians, British and American. McGuire's exhaustive explorations of libraries, archives, and private collections uncovered surprising new documents, which shed greater light onto the Philadelphia Campaign. For example, he discovered two previously unpublished watercolors that are the only two known images created while the British army was in the field. One of these images, entitled *A Rebel Battery on the Heights of Brandywine*, is the only participant-created image of the Battle of Brandywine.

McGuire deftly leads the reader through the maneuvering of Howe and Washington's army and the eventual clash along the banks of the peaceful Brandywine Creek. Nine-year-olds Sally Frazer and Tommy Cope, both of Chester County, witnessed the conflict along the Brandywine. While neither one of them actually participated in the battle, McGuire points out that “both were directly affected by it and never forgot it. Their world was forever changed by the Revolution, and Brandywine was one of the largest battles of the war” (p. 2).

McGuire also addresses the poor reconnaissance and lack of intelligence by the Continental army that ultimately led to its defeat at Brandywine. McGuire assigns blame to Major General John Sullivan, who in McGuire's estimation, “knew little if anything about what lay above his position at Brinton's Ford . . .

[and] claimed, almost unbelievably, 'I had no orders, or even hints to look at any other places, but those mentioned'" (p. 184). Despite his charges of improper reconnaissance, McGuire's nuanced account does not read as a wholesale indictment of General Sullivan, as he later exonerates Sullivan for the collapse of the Continental right wing.

Although McGuire's multifaceted approach helps to highlight the human aspect of the conflict and the divisive nature of the Revolution, it sometimes does so at the cost of clarity. Viewpoints switch often, and the casual reader may lose track of the greater story unfolding. This small critique aside, *The Philadelphia Campaign* should stand as one of the definitive accounts of a very crucial campaign of the American Revolution, one that places the military events of that war firmly within the framework of the colonial society in which they took place.

Pennsylvania State University

JAMES BAILEY

At Work in Penn's Woods: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Pennsylvania.

By JOSEPH M. SPEAKMAN. (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2006. xv, 237 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$37.50.)

As one of Penn State University Press's Keystone Books, Joseph Speakman's monograph on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in Pennsylvania is intended to stand out from typical scholarly works published by university presses. Rather than speaking primarily to other academics, such books are supposed to serve Pennsylvania's citizens by educating and entertaining them about the history, culture, and environment of the Keystone State. In this regard, *At Work in Penn's Woods* is a success. The book is well written, filled with interesting historic facts, and sprinkled with amusing stories about the CCC and its enrollees in Pennsylvania during the Great Depression. In his attempt to reach a wider audience, however, Speakman has missed an opportunity to introduce his nonacademic readers to important historical issues surrounding the corps and conservation during the New Deal era.

Speakman's hope is that "an examination of one of the largest and most successful state CCC programs will draw attention to the considerable achievements of FDR's pet project while also pointing out its limitations" (p. x). He begins this examination with an introduction that explores the pre-CCC history of Pennsylvania's forests, which were decimated at the turn of the century by commercial logging. The author then dedicates subsequent chapters to exploring the corps's first year of operation in the state, the administrative history of CCC enrollment in Pennsylvania, and the different types of work projects undertaken by the corps in state forests, state parks, on farms, and at historic sites such as Gettysburg. In one of the most interesting chapters of the book, Speakman