

frontier folk fleeing to the safety of more settled areas and forced them to appeal to their government for protection. Silver deftly shows how this sense of terror created a new rhetoric that emphasized national and racial unity against a merciless and savage foe. Later, politicians seized upon this rhetoric of fear and hatred to advance their own agendas. For example, the author demonstrates how opposing political forces in Pennsylvania used this new polemic to attack Quaker influence in government and proprietary interests at the same time. In addition, revolutionary leaders found it easy to link Indians with the British and Loyalists, thereby fueling agitation against the Crown.

A thesis as broad and complex as Silver's requires meticulous research. Sifting through an impressive array of letters, diaries, contemporary literary sources, and ethnographic data, he clearly establishes a new and fresh perspective on the origins of the American character. Many historians have questioned the dynamic role Indians played in shaping early American history, but it is Silver who finally puts an end to this speculation by producing a work that is thoughtful, well written, and compelling.

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Profiles of Revolutionaries in Atlantic History, 1700–1850. Edited by R. WILLIAM WEISBERGER, DENNIS P. HUPCHICK, and DAVID L. ANDERSON. (Boulder, CO: Social Science Monographs, 2007. 360 pp. Notes, index. \$40.)

This collection of essays covers important revolutionaries throughout the Atlantic world, ranging from George Washington to Toussaint Louverture to Alexis de Tocqueville. Lesser known figures are also included: the Mexican revolutionary Padre Miguel Hidalgo, the Argentine rebel José Francisco de San Martín, and the Irish revolutionary John Mitchel. In addition, the editors added some interesting pieces on nonrevolutionaries, namely Molly Pitcher and Hezekiah Niles. Their purpose in assembling such an eclectic mix of essays is to show how "prominent individuals associated with various revolutionary movements" affected "revolutions in science and technology, the political revolutions in the Americas between 1776 and 1812, and those in Europe between 1789 and 1848" (1).

Less clear, however, is how the essays in this volume relate to the Atlantic world. For example, we get a series of biographical sketches without any larger context. Except for some qualified exceptions, the authors do not highlight the connections between various revolutionary and counterrevolutionary movements, nor do they explain how the revolutionaries were similar, how they were different, or how/if they influenced each other. The essays on Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, for instance, contain a brief overview of their accom-

plishments during the American Revolution without explaining how the revolutions they led affected later revolutions in Europe and Latin America. In William Pencak's essay, we are told that Franklin's vision of republicanism had an enormous influence in the Atlantic world, but that assertion is not explored. Instead, Pencak focuses on the "many faces" of Franklin as a public and private figure, demonstrating the ways in which historians have viewed him: "a capitalist or a communitarian, a shameless self-promoter or a selfless public servant, a deist or a child of the Puritans or . . . an enemy spy" (58).

In Richard Rutya's essay on George Washington, the author portrays the general as a "Reluctant Rebel and Ardent Nationalist," but we get no sense of how Washington's leadership during the American War for Independence affected other transnational revolutions or other Atlantic world revolutionaries. Similarly, Edward T. Brett provides a good overview of the life and times of Padre Miguel Hidalgo, the man whose ideology helped foster a revolutionary movement in Mexico in 1810, but it is unclear how his leadership helped, as the author implies, state formation in South America during the early nineteenth century.

More successful essays include David Geggus's "Toussaint Louverture and the Haitian Revolution" and Joan Supplee's "José Francisco de San Martín: The Good Soldier," in which the authors demonstrate their subjects' importance to the revolutions they led, both at home and abroad. In Geggus's essay, which is a condensed version of his earlier work on Louverture, he argues that the Haitian rebel was "a strange type of radical"—an "architect" of freedom from slavery in Haiti, yet "the first of a long line of dictators" in the Caribbean (131). Geggus also shows the enormous popularity Louverture enjoyed in western Europe for standing up to Napoleon Bonaparte and also for being a symbolic figure to Atlantic-world abolitionists who admired his courage for challenging slavery in the Caribbean's wealthiest colony.

In Supplee's splendid essay, she explains how Martín's military career progressed from serving in the Spanish military for twenty-two years only to resign and lead the fight against the Spanish to liberate his native Argentina and then later Chile and Peru. She persuasively concludes that "more than any of his contemporaries, [Martín] envisioned a strategy for liberating not only his homeland but the entire southern cone from European powers" and that "more consistently than any of his contemporaries, he enlisted or maneuvered political leaders in support of that vision" (175).

All told, this is an interesting collection of essays. Whether it will reach its intended audience of students, scholars, and general readers is another matter.

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