the claims while actually revealing the social, economic, and even political influence of older regions. This, of course, is an inevitable by-product of interest, enthusiasm, and allegiance. But while it is possible to pardon such claims, it is not necessary to accept them. On the whole the author has done well what he set out to do. He has pictured in a somewhat dramatic way the expanding and expansive forces in our history.

The volume is unusually free from errors of fact and printing. Inevitably a few errors crept into an account of a movement extending from the settlement of America to the present day. For example, George Rogers Clark is said to have entered Kentucky by the Wilderness Road, whereas he seems to have gone by way of the Ohio River. But a few errors of this kind do not seriously mar an otherwise excellent piece of historical work. The author is to be congratulated on his presentation of his romantic theme and the publishers complimented on their work. Residents of western Pennsylvania will find this volume worth while in putting the romantic and even dramatic settlement of their section in its larger setting — that of the story of the westward movement and the occupation of the continent from sea to sea.

Alfred P. James

*The Correspondence of General Thomas Gage with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775*, vol. 1. (Yale Historical Publications, Manuscripts and Edited Texts, vol. 11). Compiled and edited by Clarence Edwin Carter, professor of history in Miami University. (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1931. xii, 455 p. $5.00.)

Although well known to research scholars, the significant rôle of General Thomas Gage as commander in chief of all British forces in North America from 1763 to 1775 has been strangely overlooked in popular and general history. Only the small fraction of his career connected with his position in Massachusetts in 1775-76 has received adequate attention. To Professor Clarence W. Alvord is due no small part of the credit for a better point of view. His great work, *The Mississippi Valley in British Politics*, revealed a much wider
perspective in later colonial history. It is therefore a natural and happy feature of historical scholarship that one of his collaborators, Dr. Carter, should have advanced along the same line and buttressed the work of Professor Alvord by the present publication.

For two decades or more Professor Carter has specialized in the history of the British régime in the Mississippi Valley. In this work he unavoidably became aware of the importance of the rôle of General Gage and the significance of the documentary material connected with his régime of more than a decade. Many items connected with this régime were already in print but widely scattered. Other manuscript items lay ready for use, mainly in the Public Record Office in London and in the British Museum. A compilation and edition of some of this material would plainly be a valuable contribution to American historical study. To this task Professor Carter set himself, with most fortunate results, for in his research he learned that the Gage papers were still in the possession of the Gage family at Firle Place in England. On these Professor Carter devoted several months of earnest study. He made a hurried list of the documents, which included nearly thirty-five thousand items, consisting of copies of letters written by General Gage, and a much more extensive mass of letters and documents received by him between 1763 and 1775. Later Mr. William T. Clements of Bay City and Ann Arbor, Michigan, bought the entire collection, which is now in America and will eventually be accessible to American scholars and students.

As the title indicates, The Correspondence of General Gage with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775 contains a limited portion of merely one section of the Gage materials, that of letters by Gage to others. Probably letters to the secretary of war and to the board of trade are equally numerous. And letters to Sir William Johnson, to colonial governors, and to army officials cannot be overlooked. But probably no selection more valuable could have been made for a single volume than these letters to the secretaries of state.

By long research all the items necessary for this classification have been located. It is hardly necessary to remark that
they are very well edited and carefully published. Though the print is small, the size of the book is convenient and the reviewer found no difficulty in following the text. While the student of local history awaits eagerly the direct information in the voluminous correspondence addressed to General Gage, this volume will furnish some idea of things yet to come. The reviewer made notes of more than fifty statements bearing on the history of western Pennsylvania. These statements are, it is true, but a summary and a reflection of statements written to Gage, but they are so significant that in the absence of other documents they would be fundamental in any understanding of western Pennsylvania in the days before the American Revolution. Apart from local significance the two most interesting revelations from this volume are the validity of Professor Alvord's theme of the significance of the West in British imperial policy after 1763 and the dramatic importance of the Stamp Act in the routine of imperial policy.

No more important volume in American history has appeared in recent times. General and local historians alike are under great obligations to Professor Carter and those who have made this volume possible. There are rumors of a companion volume at an early date. Those interested in this period of American history hope additional volumes will follow.

Alfred P. James

Proceedings of the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, Fiftieth Anniversary Number, vol. 47, no. 4. (Pittsburgh, Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, 1931. p. 171-256.)

In November, 1930, the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. On this occasion several papers were read which contain an abundance of valuable historical material. The first of these, read by George S. Davison, president of the Davison Coke and Iron Company, Pittsburgh, entitled "The First Half Century of the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania," reviewed briefly the development of the society during the first