these two chapters can doubt that Turner was aware of vital forces other than the frontier and sectionalism in American history.

The concept of the section as an important factor in American history has special value for western Pennsylvania, which has much more significance as the heart of a great physiographic province—the Allegheny Plateau—than as the western end of an eastern state. The early recognition of the natural unity of this section is clearly indicated in the essay on western state-making. That western Pennsylvania was involved in the early diplomatic problems concerning the Mississippi Valley is implied in the essays on French policy, and attention is called to the interest of the French minister in the Whiskey Insurrection (p. 161). In the discussion of the streams of settlers that colonized the West prior to the Civil War (p. 295–297) the flood of Pennsylvanians and especially western Pennsylvanians that poured down the Ohio Valley is not recognized. The distinction between the New England-New York and the southern zones of settlement in the Old Northwest is somewhat blurred by the fact that Pennsylvanians settled in large numbers in both zones and were the predominant element in considerable areas. Here as elsewhere their rôle was probably that of the mediator between the other elements.

The publication of these scattered essays in an attractive volume is a distinct service to teachers, students, and general readers, to many of whom they would otherwise be unavailable. Even the research scholar will find the volume a great convenience, but he will look forward with even greater interest to the publication of the volume to which Turner devoted his last years—"The United States, 1830–1850: The Nation and Its Sections."

Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey

Solon J. Buck


Three fundamental attributes of a valuable biography are an interesting and worthy subject, satisfactory documentary materials, and the proper kind of authorship. There may be other aspects, but these three are essential. Jeffery, Lord Amherst, is beyond doubt an excellent subject for a good biography, as this book amply reveals. His rôle in America from 1758 to 1763 and in England during the American Revolution has long been familiar from widely scattered documents already in print and often used in American and English historiography. But the discovery of seventeen chests of Jeffery
Amherst's papers in the possession of the present Earl Amherst in the cellar of "Montreal," the family home at Seven Oaks, Kent, England, has rendered inadequate the information hitherto available about the life, activities, and career of Lord Amherst. Of the more than eighty-five thousand items in these papers, many are entirely new to the historical world. They naturally offered a distinct challenge to biographical research and writing. And it was natural that a graduate of Amherst College should accept the challenge. According to the publisher's announcement, J. C. Long is not only a graduate of Amherst, but has also done graduate work at Harvard. For several years he was in newspaper work in New England and in New York. Before writing this biography he had already written Bryan, the Great Commoner and he is now editor of publications for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. Judging from the present publication the author possessed the necessary art of biography. Inevitably his training, career, and interests have influenced his work. To the reviewer Lord Jeffery Amherst represents the modern impressionistic, journalistic, and popular type of biography. As such it is excellent. The historical student would, however, prefer a broader and deeper historical treatment.

Within the literary organization and limits prescribed, the author has faithfully adhered to historical facts. Four of the twenty-six chapters deal with Amherst's home, boyhood, and early years in England and, as a soldier, in Germany. Fifteen deal with his career in America, the most significant part of his life, and the last ten chapters are devoted to his experiences in England from his return in 1763 to his death in 1797 at the advanced age of eighty. Throughout these chapters use is made, in addition to other contemporary historical material, of the new Amherst Papers. At the end of the volume occurs a valuable note in regard to the location and character of the Amherst Papers. Statements in the text are documented in chapter footnotes, also placed at the end of the volume. There is a good index, but the four-page bibliography does not give the technical information expected in historical works.

To a student of the history of western Pennsylvania this volume is unfortunately disappointing. The war in America before 1758 is almost ignored. The campaigns of Braddock and Forbes are omitted. The West in America is given inadequate consideration. Pontiac's Conspiracy is considered only in relation to Amherst's Indian policy. Vast documentary materials, some of them even in the Amherst Papers themselves, are not used, doubtless for the reason that they concern most directly other matters than the personal life of Am-
herst. Valuable as this biography is, it remains for some historical writer to use the Amherst Papers for the information they contain on other than personal aspects of the history of the last half of the eighteenth century.

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Alfred P. James

War out of Niagara: Walter Butler and the Tory Rangers (New York State Historical Association Series, no. 2). By Howard Swiggett. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1933. xxv, 309 p. Illustrations.)

During the American Revolution the two most direct sources of British-Indian war menace to western Pennsylvania were Detroit and Niagara. From the latter post originated many of the raids on frontier settlements from Bedford to Pittsburgh so well known to students of Pennsylvania Indian wars. This book, as its title implies, aims to reveal a phase of the hitherto little-known inner springs of this center of British power. It would be refreshing to the inquiring mind to profit by an opportunity to follow a fair-minded scholar into the camps of the "enemies" and to acquire a better understanding of the basis of British Indian policy at Niagara during the Revolution.

The book, however, fails to supply such an opportunity. The imposing title apparently connotes to the author nothing that would make it the symbol of dynamic treatment and organic analysis. There is nothing in the text to indicate that war comes "out of Niagara." War merely appears, and soldiers and Indians march and fight and quarrel and blunder, and Niagara is merely the central and most important and most frequently mentioned place from which they departed and to which they returned. The work is chatty and pleasant reading. It has striking chapter headings and is on a more dignified plane than most local British and Indian history written by Americans. But withal it is so discursive and incoherent that the reader is soon lost in a forest of confused and unrelated facts.

The author has essayed to relate his subject to the larger field of which it is a part. But he does not understand the realities of British Indian policy. Nor does he understand the Indians and their point of view. He is more concerned with superficial chronology and with personalities, with the Butler-Johnson quarrels, with exculpating the hero, Walter Butler, for the butcheries of the Wyoming and Cherry Valley massacres, with the motivations of George Washington, with the tragics of Butler's death, than he is in organic cause and effect. The distinguished auspices under which the work is published, and