published in full or in part, sometimes unfortunately without dates; but the material used was apparently too scanty to make possible the telling of a connected story. No use appears to have been made of the files of the Pittsburgh Gazette. Some information on conditions in western Pennsylvania near the close of the eighteenth century is given in letters written by the Reverend Charles Nisbet of Carlisle, Turnbull's father-in-law.

The remainder of the volume is also valuable and interesting, for several members of the family played important parts in American history, but has no special relation to western Pennsylvania. The book is attractively printed and bound and profusely illustrated, but contains no index. Some of the difficulties encountered by the author are indicated in the foreword, in which he tells of "a certain number of great-aunts, who 'spent three whole afternoons beside an open fire, burning old papers' in front of nieces and nephews too young or too indifferent to stop them." He also states, however, that: "Through the more modern custom, followed by many other families, of presenting old letters and papers to libraries and historical societies, it has been possible to dig out a good deal." There is a lesson here that cannot be too often repeated.

*Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey*  
**Solon J. Buck**

*Ohio Indian Trails* by Frank N. Wilcox (Cleveland, The Gates Press, 1933. 268 p. Illustrations.)

Anyone who attempts to trace Indian trails undertakes an important but arduous task as Mr. Wilcox must have discovered when he set about laying the groundwork for *Ohio Indian Trails*. The painstaking research in libraries and the field investigations involved occupied his leisure time for six years, but the results more than justify the trouble and expense. The author's appreciation of the beautiful in nature has made him see Ohio as it must have existed in Indian days and this has led to the scattering here and there of admirable gems of description. It is to be doubted, in spite of this, if the general reader will find the content interesting, as it is essentially a catalogue of the trails with a listing of the important towns and the natural features on each trail. The excellent format of the book will do a great deal to hold the reader, however, especially the numerous woodcuts executed by the author, which show a remarkable feeling for the spirit of the time.

A number of the important Ohio trails began in Pennsylvania near Logstown or at the forks of the Ohio, for it was from these points that the traders began
their western journeys. The Mahoning Trail followed the Ohio, Big Beaver, and Mahoning rivers into Ohio where it connected with two important routes to the West. The Great Trail from Logstown was traversed by Bouquet and the soldiers of Fort Laurens. The Mingo Trail, crossing the Ohio at Mingo Bottom below Steubenville, was the course followed by Williamson and his men on the way to Gnadenhutten, and part way at least by Crawford on his fateful expedition against the Indians.

It is to be regretted that there is no citation of authorities, but perhaps this would have been too complicated to be practicable. At any rate this volume is a valuable reference work, one which paves the way for similar studies on other regions. The two maps might have been improved by making them larger and more detailed. As it is one has to refer continually to both a road map and a topographical map in order to follow the routes intelligently. The bibliography does not by any means exhaust the list of sources dealing with the subject and in fact can hardly cover the ones consulted in the preparation of the book. The two indexes might well have been thrown together and enlarged. Mention of a few minor slips might be in place. Marietta was founded in 1788, not in 1782 (p. 28). Logstown was not on or at the mouth of the Big Beaver but several miles farther up the Ohio (p. 70, 83). Was Conrad Weiser ever a Moravian missionary? (p. 24).

Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey


Provocative scenes in the history of an old square in Reading, Pennsylvania, are presented in this book. The author describes the square, which was named by Thomas Penn in honor of his proprietor father, as it appeared when Reading was a part of the Pennsylvania frontier. The curtain is then lifted on a series of short acts representing various unrelated moments in the life of the town of Reading with the square as the central scene. The anecdotes do not, however, appear entirely disconnected; enough background is sketched in to place each one in its larger historical setting. The series opens with a picture of the settlement as it awaited attack by the French and Indians in the fall after Braddock's defeat. Interesting to western Pennsylvanians, too, is a brief glimpse of Albert Gallatin in September, 1798, as he passed through Reading on his way from Pittsburgh to New York, and of his ill-mannered reception by the citizens.