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  
Leland D. Baldwin


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.
Slight for purely historical purposes, for which it was not intended, the chief merit of this book is as an example of what can be done in the way of imbuing accurate historical incident with a modicum of charm and literary flavor.

*Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey*  
*Elisabeth M. Sellers*

(New York, Robert M. McBride & Company, 1933. xii, 293 p. Illustrations.)

If anyone thinks that the romance of steamboating has not survived right up to our own day let him read this account of the experiences of young Captain Way, the proud and affectionate owner of a boat older than himself, during the years from 1925 to 1932 when he was fighting a losing battle for river business against well-heeled and unscrupulous rivals. There are mighty wrestlings with wind and current and ice, struggles with cantankerous engines, troubles with roustabouts, and piracy under the shadow of the Smithfield Street Bridge in Pittsburgh while unromantic folk hurried unseeing overhead. There is even a steamboat race, not with the contestants stripped for action, nor with a nigger hanging on the pop valve, but a race nevertheless in which the golden antlers changed owners. The photographic studies that open the book are masterpieces and have no small share in preserving this authentic page in the drama of American history. Let us only hope that it is not a last page, but that the rivers will come to life again and that Captain Way can once more tread his own deck.

*L. D. B.*