bears of David Zeisberger; Harmony and Economy, the scenes of the first and last sojournings in this country of the Harmony Society; Amity, the last residence and burial place of Solomon Spaulding, the author of "Manuscript Found," the reputed source of the Book of Mormon; and Bethany, West Virginia, the shrine of the Campbellites or Disciples of Christ. The visit to Upper Buffalo recalls the Great Revival of 1802 and the occasion on which Elisha McCurdy addressed an audience of ten thousand with overpowering effect; and trips to New Richmond, Pennsylvania, and Salem, Ohio, bring reminders of the antislavery movement, the one as the residence, for ten years, of the famous John Brown, and the other as a leading center of abolitionist activity. About other places visited clinging memories of other national figures, such as Albert Gallatin, William Holmes McGuffey, James A. Garfield, and Mark Hanna; of the western campaigns of Washington, Braddock, and Wayne; of old times along the Cumberland Road; of the "Fighting McCooks" and Morgan's raid in Civil War days; and, at the last place visited, in the Blue Ridge Mountains, of Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln.

The book does not purport to take one to every point of historical interest within the hundred-mile radius or to exhaust the meaning of those visited, but it will be strange indeed if the reader is not tempted to push on, with eyes opened and interest kindled, and explore for himself the sites or remains of these and other historic churches, schools, highways, battlefields, and industrial enterprises, particularly in the large segment of the circle east and north of Pittsburgh scarcely entered in the course of these introductory journeys.

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Succinctly, yet with simplicity and charm, Major McCreight has completed his expressed task of assembling "the when, the why and how" of Pennsylvania's acquisition of Cook Forest, a great stand of virgin timber, the mecca of thousands of nature-loving pilgrims. Although he might have dwelt lengthily and eulogistically, and perhaps with justification, upon the beauties of Cook Forest Park, he has impressed those beauties on the reader only by passing references such as those made in connection with the story of Anthony
Wayne Cook’s little joke of having his chauffeur pretend a breakdown in the forest preparatory to leading his guests “along the fern bound path in the fairyland,” where it was often observed “that sturdy men could not restrain the tears, at the grandeur and solemnity of their environment.”

A vivid picture is presented of the vagaries of public support and of politicians from the year 1910, when M. I. McCreight first became imbued with the idea of preserving the forest for the education and pleasure of future generations, until the passing by the Pennsylvania legislature of the Cook Forest Park bill and the subsequent fulfillment of the bill’s terms of raising two hundred thousand dollars to augment the state’s grant of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Of major interest of course is the cross section of the whole problem of conservation—its advances and reverses during this period, the proposals of legislators more than willing to support a deserving project if made sufficiently attractive to them, the opposition of special-interest groups, and the argument of organized charity that if large drains were to be made upon the state treasury, no cause surely was worthier than its own. The author notes that not the least of the conservationists’ difficulties arose while Gifford Pinchot, popularly associated with conservation policies, was state forest commissioner. During this time a plan for the park was vetoed by his commission; and while he was governor, “four more long years of the Pinchot administration had to be suffered without any result.” It was not until April 14, 1927, that the bill passed both houses of the legislature and received the signature of Governor John S. Fisher.

To the researcher the inclusion of numerous complete letters in the text is of value and interest, but the general or casual reader may at times find some of them somewhat tedious. This neatly and inexpensively bound brochure reflects the sincerity of one who is faithfully recording the adventures of eighteen long and often discouraging years spent in a philanthropic project, but the reviewer feels that these hundred pages have merely scratched the surface. It is to be hoped that some day not far off the wealth of material on conservation and its attendant problems will be more fully developed, and that Major McCreight’s tactful allusions to political chicanery will be so expanded as to show clearly its importance in the state and national politics of the past few decades.

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_Frank B. Sessa_