troversial ground, there is nearly always observable a tendency to resolve all doubts in favor of Penn. Furthermore, some of the author's statements appear too sweeping to be accepted without question, as, for example, when (in the preface) he characterizes Penn as "a learned scholar and author of classic literature, and a law-giver and international statesman of the highest rank," and when he refers to Penn's "profound scholarship" (p. 317). Also open to question is his statement referring to Penn's literary ability: after excepting Milton, he goes on to say: "By none of his other great literary contemporaries, however—Pepys, Butler, Bunyan, Dryden, and Locke—is Penn at his best totally eclipsed: this as to form; while as to substance, he shines among them as does the sun among the planets" (p. 156). Again, "As a maker of constitutions and laws, Penn has taken high place in the line of illustrious statesmen" (p. 335). Some might question also whether Penn was entitled to as much credit for the passage of the Toleration Act of 1689 as Dr. Hull accords him (p. 215). That William Penn was a great and good man is freely admitted, but was he really as great as Dr. Hull would have us believe?

It would be expecting too much, however, to expect a book about William Penn written under Quaker auspices to be entirely free from hero worship, and, after all, there may be room for difference of opinion regarding these matters. Dr. Hull has produced an outstanding biography that amply sustains his reputation for thorough scholarship. His life of Penn is a notable contribution to the subject and will no doubt receive the high commendation which it so richly deserves.

The Pennsylvania State College

Wayland F. Dunaway


Historians of the economic-determinism school must find it a difficult task indeed to find a place in their hypothesis for such a man as Anthony Benezet. Here was a man who was a philanthropist in the true sense of the word, a man who really subordinated his own economic welfare to his love of humanity. Of French Huguenot parentage, he became a Quaker shortly after his arrival in Philadelphia in 1731. Unlike his father and his brothers, he was unable to find either success or happiness in the merchandising business, and it was not until he was twenty-six years old, in 1739, that he found his real forte—school teaching. He was a pioneer in two fields of education—girls and Negroes. To the
former, he taught such "advanced" subjects as English grammar, hitherto reserved for boys. For the latter, he had the utmost compassion and was so convinced of the need for educating them that for twenty years he taught negro children gratuitously in his home at night. In 1770 he was successful in having the Friends set up a school for Negroes, and twelve years later, when it became impossible to find a teacher for this school, he resigned his position in the girls' school to take over the duties in the negro school. He was a pioneer in the abolition movement and was an important factor in persuading the Friends to take a definite stand for abolition. His humanitarian efforts were not confined to the Negroes, however. To the exiled Acadians in Philadelphia, he lent a vigorous helping hand. During the Revolution, he devoted his energies to the cause of peace. He was a friend of the Indian and worked for an equitable solution of the Indian problems that Pennsylvania was forced to meet.

Dr. Brookes's account of these and other phases of Benezet's life occupies the first third of the book, and the remainder consists of letters by and to Benezet, a bibliography, and a list of Benezet's writings. Careful documentation and conscientious weighing of evidence characterize the narrative, though the orthodox historian will find the style a little too eloquent and the author's enthusiasm for Benezet somewhat fulsome. Moreover one feels that Dr. Brookes might well have worked more of his source material into the narrative, welcome, and useful to students of eighteenth-century Pennsylvania, as this material is in its segregated form. Of special interest to western Pennsylvanians is the fact that the biographer, in both narrative and documentary sections, made considerable use of papers and data relating to the Benezet family that had been collected by the late Dr. William J. Holland, himself a direct descendant of a brother of Anthony Benezet.

It is to be hoped that this life of Benezet will find readers among those interested in such present-day social problems as the negro problem, as well as among those whose interest is in history.

Pittsburgh

MARIAN SILVEUS


It is not surprising that the reception given Dr. Macartney's interesting stories of "places and personalities in the land beyond the Alleghenies," published last year in a volume entitled Not Far from Pittsburgh, has prompted