complete percussion lock rifles, shotguns and Civil War martial pistols of recent manufacture. Today there are many shooting clubs that occasionally feature shooting events for muzzle-loading weapons while other clubs hold regular shoots. It seems that the fires of interest in muzzle-loading weapons, mainly the old Kentucky rifle in percussion and flintlock form, die down but never go out completely. With such interest rampant this book should be popular and it certainly seems timely. *The Pennsylvania-Kentucky Rifle* has much to offer the researcher, the history buff or the modern rifleman who has a desire to burn “charcoal” pioneer style.

*Washington, D. C.*

**Ellis Lea**


The author of this volume is both literary and scholarly though his scholarship is not fully revealed. It seems apparent that his reading (or research, if you please) has been extensive, covering not only general and special histories but also original records, including not only regimental volumes but also many diaries, journals and reminiscences. As the author says in his “By way of Apologia and Acknowledgment” (an artistic title for an inadequate preface), too many writers on the Civil War have “followed the fortunes” of the Union army or “marched with” Lee’s men. Great names such as James Ford Rhodes and Douglas Southall Freeman immediately come to the American historian’s mind.

A purpose of the volume is much too briefly stated in the author’s expressed aim of presenting “a picture in the round.” His Southern birth and education and long residence in the North have well fitted him for such an attempt. Relative success in this respect has been achieved. A high degree of impartiality is revealed in the book. Psychologists might well complain of the author’s emotional and intellectual neutrality, though the orthodox historical scholar will approve.

Historiography, whether orthodox or unorthodox, is of many types and qualities. Ferdinand Schevill, in the preface to a textbook, tartly said that there are as many definitions of history as
there are (or have been) historians. Much the same is true of historiography. A gifted historical magazine article writer once stated she was writing a given article not for the dramatist, nor for the novelist, and not even for the psychologist, but for the student of history, by which she probably meant the lover of history as such.

The motivation (or motivations) of the author and publishers of such a volume cannot fail to cause speculation on the part of the reader. The volume seems one of the centennial publications, though it is definitely not made to order but the end result of extensive accumulation of data both significant and episodical. The market place probably plays a role. Unorthodox history, though in some respects more difficult, is easier to get published and more widely sold than a standard orthodox academic history unless perchance it is written by a Francis Parkman.

This volume is of the unorthodox type. The very title itself is indicative. It smacks of Madison Avenue and reminds one of some church bulletins with modernistic sermon topics. A whole series of questions come to mind. Was the battle of Gettysburg shaped? Did God shape it? Was it possibly shaped by Satan? Does Fate really shape battles? The author assures the reader that neither Lee nor Meade planned it. Probably the title was chosen exactly because it raises such questions. A few of the reviewer's rough notes suggest, here, too much emphasis upon atmosphere, too much striving for dramatic organization, too much use of literary device, though, it must be said, without fiction and with an abundance of fact.

It has long been an idea of historical criticism that successful historiography involves a happy combination and possibly an even measure of the general and the particular. In this work the author has introduced, not always relevantly, many particulars, some of which are episodical or incidental with a few somewhat melodramatic. And source references for them are not always given, producing thereby an impression of journalistic writing.

As said above, this is a work of considerable scholarship. The accounts of major movements on the battlefield are of merit. The estimates of Meade, Lee and their subordinates, while summary, seem judicious and as accurate as such matters permit. But the impression of the campaign as a whole and the battle as an integral unit is not altogether satisfactory. The enormous maps provided with the volume are of value mainly to specialists. The three small maps on the dust jacket, if greatly enlarged, and scattered through
the account, would have been more valuable to the general reader. And there is some slight addition of supplementary material with little relevance.

The Shaping of a Battle: Gettysburg is a superior centennial publication. The author and the publishers are to be congratulated. It is well worth the modest price indicated. The layman will find it interesting and informational.

Emeritus Professor of History
University of Pittsburgh

Alfred P. James


This attractive little book of 182 pages is made up of four lectures delivered by Professor Shryock in the Anson G. Phelps series in 1959 as an interpretation of medical developments in America during the two centuries of 1660 to 1860. Three of the four lectures are devoted to specific subjects that would ordinarily appeal to various types of audiences. The fourth lecture is the result of a convergence of the themes presented in the other three lectures. Lecture I is titled “Origins of a Medical Profession”; Lecture II, “Medical Thought and Practice: 1660-1820”; Lecture III, “Health and Disease: 1660-1820”; and Lecture IV, “Medicine and Society in Transition: 1820-1860.” The facts as presented in each lecture follow generally a chronological sequence. In this respect the book differs from most histories of medicine in that other well-known writers usually begin with the genesis of medicine in Babylonia, Greece, Arabia and follow through the succeeding centuries in Europe and America to modern times. While some of these latter histories make up a chaplet of biographies, often with a maze of dates and events, Professor Shryock’s lectures make up a consecutive narrative that depicts the progress preceding the last century.

In the first lecture the author deals with the part the various healing groups of medicine played in the development of medicine as we know it today; the function of the guilds and apprenticeships, and the standing of these various groups, especially before reputable physicians were certified by some recognized authority. Even though