rection is well told, although nothing new has been added to it. The author’s estimate of the result is interesting: “The insurrection produced no great changes in the politics of western Pennsylvania. The democratic farmers who had actively opposed the excise on whiskey were still opposed to the principle of the tax. Their economic problems and their environment did not change, and their political philosophy did not change; but they recognized that violent resistance to the federal government was not a feasible means of obtaining redress.” The growth of industry in Pittsburgh and the concomitant demand for a high protective tariff is related, as is also the interest among the westerners in developing better transportation facilities. The bitterness of the political feeling between the Republicans and the Federalists is well shown in a “hitherto untold story of what was nearly a pitched battle at the bridge in Meadville between two companies of the militia, one Republican and the other Federalist,” during the War of 1812.

The author has used the chronological treatment, which on the whole seems adequate. He shows the intimate relation between local and national politics and the importance of patronage, even in these early times, in building a political machine. The book contains a good map of western Pennsylvania and is well printed. The bibliography is adequate, although some important works are missing, such as “Papers Relating to What Is Known as the Whiskey Insurrection,” in Pennsylvania Archives, second series, volume 4. The name of Charles Thomson, the Revolutionary leader and secretary of the Continental Congress, should not be spelled with a “p”, and Alexandria is misspelled on page 256. The book is a product of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey and its sponsors should feel justly proud of the excellent contribution Professor Ferguson has made to the literature on Pennsylvania history.

Pennsylvania State College

J. Paul Selsam


The history, techniques, labor conditions, and economics of the Pennsylvania iron industry in the eighteenth century are set forth here in a fashion that both the student and general reader can understand and appreciate. The different processes of making iron and steel are described clearly—no small boon to the editor of historical publications—and the study of the develop-
ment of tariffs and merchandising will be valuable. For the general reader the chapter descriptive of iron plantations is especially recommended. A resident of western Pennsylvania would like to have seen more attention devoted to the early stages of the industry in this section.

It is interesting to note how quickly after its introduction into Pennsylvania in 1716 the iron industry became important. The fact that such prominent ironmasters or investors as John Dickinson, Michael Hillegas, James Wilson, William Allen, George Taylor, John Nicholson, and William Thompson were active in the Revolution suggests that merchants and planters were not alone in seeing the value of separation from Great Britain, and that the country owed to Pennsylvania's ironmasters and iron manufacturers a greater share of the credit for independence than is usually granted.

The volume is magnificently footnoted and has an invaluable bibliography and index. The appendixes contain a list of ironworks and miscellaneous statistics. Unfortunately, the format of the book is far from pleasing and the illustrations are poor; the product of the author's patience and skill certainly merited better treatment by the publisher. Nevertheless, the book fills a long felt want, and fills it so competently that the reviewer hopes that the author will continue his researches into the later period and give us the manual we need on the development of Pennsylvania's greatest industry.

University of Pittsburgh Press

Leland D. Baldwin


The growing catalogue of chronicles of American collegiate institutions has once more been expanded to admit the latest publication of the Carnegie Institute Press, The Story of Carnegie Tech by its dean of men. In writing the annals of an institution but a generation old, the author admittedly faced the problem of a dearth of colorful historical material. The deficiency of beginnings in a log cabin, struggles through years of public indifference, and periodic acceleration and retrogression in the more picturesque decades of native American intellectual growth the author has made up with details of organization and incidents surrounding the founder's infrequent visits to the school. This is a story of Pittsburgh's latter years, of the period in which an already recognized industrial metropolis set stone around her superstructure of steel.