appointed. William Penn, a curious combination of realist and idealist, attempted to establish a colony that would serve not only as a refuge for his oppressed Quaker friends, but also as a community in which a political structure based on "truth, justice, and righteousness" could be tried. The author shows that the cultural pattern that developed in the Quaker colony, and in Delaware, was the result of many factors. Penn's philosophy of government and of life; the religious ideals of the Quakers and their customs; the national groups, including the English, Germans, Scotch, Irish, and Scotch-Irish and their cultural patterns—all these contributed to the basic social structure of colonial Pennsylvania.

Professor Wertenbaker has performed his task exceedingly well in this book. The work is limited in its scope to the middle colonies and even omits some phases pertinent to the cultural growth of those colonies, but the author's reasons for the delimitation and omissions are valid despite the reader's desire for the complete picture. The book lacks a bibliography but nothing else is wanting: thorough research, judicious conclusions, experienced literary ability, an abundance of illustrations, and a good index all combine to make it one of the finest contributions to American historiography.

University of Pittsburgh

Russell J. Ferguson


As meritorious as it is interesting, this book has one heel undipped in the Styx. The flaw (pp. 30–31) may be noted first and hurriedly, in deference to the strength of the other 181 pages. The Great Bathtub Hoax gulls another author. Again the Philadelphia common council of 1853 tries to pass an ordinance prohibiting tub-bathing between the last of October and the fifteenth of March; again Millard Fillmore installs the first bathtub in the White House; in simple, the accurate history (as yet unborn to print) of laving-basins weeps at the thousandth triumph of H. L. Mencken's jest. One should be resigned to seeing its one-and-thousandth recrudescence in some magazine or book next month; but one isn't.

Not So Long Ago offers the reader a vivid, authentic acquaintance with eighteenth-century folk in their sick beds, at their sanitations, aggravating or
emolliating their aches and pains with variolous injections, worm-voidings, nitre, "conserve of roses powder'd and mixt," the traditional overdoses of calomel, and so on. The journals of Elizabeth Drinker—from which spring the present volume—begin with the twenty-four-year-old lady's note of a tea party, October 8, 1758, and end with "How uncertain is life!" written on November 3, 1807, three weeks before her death. Wife of a Philadelphia merchant, mother of nine children and grandmother of twenty-five, her interest in disease, therapies, and the shuffling off of mortal coil transcended this large family circle, and included friends and townspeople alike; her journals are lush with accounts of illness and medical incidents of all sorts. For the transposition of these accounts into medical history, Dr. Drinker was superbly qualified. Identified with the Drinker Respirator and dean of the Harvard University school of public health, he is also the great, great grandson of the diarist; to this writing he has brought both scholarship and a personal, affectional interest tempered correctly by urbanity and amusement. I have not read, nor do I surmise there exists, a more fascinating introduction to colonial medical practice of the better sort. It is rather appalling to remember that the procedures here discussed were of the better sort, the therapies of such renowned physicians as Rush and Physick, Redman and Shippen, Jr. Better a flintless backwoodsman confronted with an irritated she-bear than a citizen of Philadelphia in 1800 being treated for a facial cancer.

The character of Elizabeth Drinker colors and vivifies even such a specialized gleaning from her journals as are the abundant quotations in this book. We want more of this excellent lady—her interest in bison, reptiles, natural curiosities; her observations on events of public interest in Philadelphia and on the city's eminents; the warmths and the formalities of her family circle. If, by private means, institutional subsidy, or however, her diary is published in full, competently annotated, Pennsylvania social history will be decidedly enriched. The volume of *Extracts* published in 1889 by a great grandson, Henry D. Biddle, was bowdlerized and refined with such misching-malicho that with due allowance for its kid-glove year the book has a piceous odor. Biddle's sole gauge of printability was, apparently, out with any reference to childbirth and to jakes; otherwise, inclusions and omissions seem to follow whimsey. Elizabeth wasn't allowed to spell naturally; for instance, "Boiled down the juce of a large water-mellon" in Dr. Drinker's book (always literally faithful to the journals) in the earlier volume was "I boiled down the juice of a large watermelon." *Not So Long Ago*, excellent as a specialized
boiling-down, also suggests that as to Elizabeth Drinker's diary Pennsylvania would welcome the whole water-mellon.

_University of Pittsburgh_  
E. Douglas Branch


This work depicts the life and activities of a Pennsylvanian who was prominent in social circles, politics, commerce, and finance from 1750 to 1807. It is simply an additional product of a man who has devoted many years of study to important men and events in eastern Pennsylvania during those stirring years of the American Revolution and the formative period of the republic. As such, it sheds more light upon those interesting Philadelphians who were so closely associated with the commercial activities of the colonies, the financing of the Revolution, and the financial stabilization of the new nation.

Thomas Willing, son of an English immigrant of good family connections and of Anne Shippen of Philadelphia, was born in 1731. He received his formal education in England and returned to the colony to participate in his father's mercantile business. Unusually successful in commerce, clothed with social prestige, and surrounded by an able group of young men that included Robert Morris, James Wilson, Tench Francis, and Charles Thomson, Thomas Willing entered politics in 1763 as the mayor of Philadelphia. Soon he was plunged into the early revolutionary struggles that followed the Stamp Act of 1765. He served as chairman of the committee of citizens of his city that drafted non-importation resolutions in that year; he represented Philadelphia in the colonial assembly from 1764 to 1767; he served as president of the provincial conference in 1774; and acted as a Pennsylvania delegate to the Continental Congress in the years 1775 and 1776. In the latter capacity, he and only one other colleague opposed the Declaration of Independence.

From 1781 to 1807, when illness necessitated his retirement, he was closely associated with the more significant efforts to establish a sound financial system in the new nation. He was affiliated with Robert Morris and James Wilson in the founding of the Bank of Pennsylvania, and in 1781 he became the president of the Bank of North America. The latter bank aided the cause of the patriots in financing the closing years of the Revolution and contributed to the development of a spirit of nationalism that eventually led to the return of the conservatives to power in 1786. More than any other