

such social topics as population, unemployment, and occupational distribution. In the field of economic history it is even more significant, as the study of this development of our national industry is yet far from complete. The study, therefore, more than justifies itself to both the progressive business man and the professional historian. A word of caution, however, should be inserted for the benefit of the lay reader. To produce a volume of this kind with the interest of the running narrative is not in the nature of this type of work. The author of this particular book however has been more than usually successful in this respect.

*University of Pittsburgh*

THEODORE R. PARKER

*Pen Pictures of Early Western Pennsylvania.* Edited by JOHN W. HARPSTER. Maps and illustrations by HARVEY CUSHMAN. (Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press, 1938. xv, 337 p.)

THIS volume is one of the series of studies growing out of the important work done by the historical survey sponsored jointly by the Buhl Foundation, the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, and the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Harpster has edited and arranged interesting and pertinent portions of the journals of soldiers, traders, missionaries, and travelers in the early Middle West relating to the settlement and development of western Pennsylvania. In one account a French soldier describes the construction of Fort Duquesne and tells an absorbing story of life in a frontier outpost; the journal of William Trent affords a first-hand account of the siege of Fort Pitt by the Indian confederates under the Ottawa chieftain, Pontiac, in 1763; and the journals of Colonel James Smith, Indian captive, and of Robert Orme, aide-de-camp of General Braddock, describe the latter's defeat. These and more than thirty other selections render a colorful and accurate picture of this region as eyewitnesses saw it from the time of the struggle between the French and English for control of the Ohio Valley to 1829. Pittsburgh was then nearly half a century old and presented an aspect of "filthy looking houses stretching away in rows continuously ahead and enveloped in an atmosphere of smoke and soot which blackened everything in sight" (p. 287).

The University of Pittsburgh Press has set a high mark in the publication of *Pen Pictures*, and the reviewer seldom has the opportunity of claiming so many virtues for one book. It is artistic in format, the product of scholarly work, and yet should be read as widely by the general reader as by the student of the period, who may be led through these selections to the full text of the

original writings. Besides an adequate index, there is a "Selective Bibliography of Travel and Description in Western Pennsylvania" comprising some 170 items most of which are available in the libraries of Pittsburgh. There are a few slips in editing and typography of which such a volume without careful work may have had many more.

WILLIAM D. OVERMAN

*The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society*

*Guidebook to Historic Places in Western Pennsylvania.* Compiled by the WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY. (Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press, c1938. ix, 186 p. Map.)

THIS guidebook is an interesting contribution to the literature dealing with the history of western Pennsylvania. The book is one of a series written under the direction of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey and sponsored by the Buhl Foundation, the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, and the University of Pittsburgh.

The plan is to name and give the location of the more important historical sites, and the principal facts associated with them, of the twenty-seven counties of western Pennsylvania. For example, under Allegheny County there are listed such places as the site of the Bates-Stewart duel, the Allegheny Arsenal, the First Presbyterian Church, the Civil War fortifications, Lafayette Hall, the Monongahela House, and, of course, Fort Duquesne, Fort Pitt, the Block House, and Fort Fayette.

There is also a very clear and distinct map, with the old roads and highways well marked, together with a bibliography and a complete index. The book will be very useful to the historian, and also to the traveler who has an interest in the country over which he travels.

The list of interesting and historical places is fairly complete, and no important place seems to have been omitted. One of the best features of this book is the chapter on "The Travelways." Braddock's Road, the Catawaba Trail, the Forbes Road, the Frankstown Path, the Glade Road, the National, or Cumberland, Road, and Nemacolin's Trail are all listed and their routes described, together with brief sketches. There is also an account of the different canals, such as the Beaver and Lake Erie Canal and the Pennsylvania Canal.

The civilization of western Pennsylvania, in its best and most enduring features, grew up around the frontier churches. Perhaps more of these were in Washington County than in any other county, and the list of these churches given in the chapter on that county forms a useful guide.