

Part IV is Pennsylvania today. Here the authors divide the state into nineteen regions. Since many people might be at variance with the authors about drawing the boundaries, the authors recognize this by calling the reader's attention, in the preface, to the problem of delimiting regions. Each area is discussed as a chapter. In each chapter the authors show superior interpretation of the present day landscape. The last eight chapters deal with western Pennsylvania. The greater number of the eighty-three well-selected photographs are found here; five full-page maps clearly show the boundaries of the areas under discussion.

Part V, the future of Pennsylvania, is a survey of what the state might be with increasing or declining production of natural resources and population changes. The authors do not attempt to make definite forecasts because of technological developments.

Teachers will welcome the inclusive appendix which lists all the topographic maps of the state, other suggested sources of maps, climatic data for thirty-two stations, and a very comprehensive bibliography.

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*The Frontier State, 1803-1825. (The History of the State of Ohio, vol. 2). By WILLIAM T. UTTER. (Columbus, Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, 1942. xiv, 454 p. Maps, illustrations.)*

THE high quality of Ohio's new *History* continues in this third volume of the new series carrying the story of the commonwealth through its first twenty-two years of statehood. The illustrations continue to be outstanding, revealing a wide selection and a most discriminating taste. Frank Roos's collection is drawn upon for splendid pictures of Ohio's early houses: the Tupper-Ward house at Marietta, the Taft house at Cincinnati, and others. Quaint newspaper woodcuts have been reproduced of such items as an improved plow, a "large ox," a bark-mill, a still, a hot air balloon, a tumbler, and a celebrated dwarf. All maps are drawn with strict regard for the county lines as they existed in the year involved.

The word "frontier" in the title is misleading. As the author himself points out, "emphasis has been laid on regions which were most thickly settled in this period, which means that northern [frontier] Ohio receives but scant attention." Thus the author's two chapters entitled "Acquiring a Farm" and "The Farm in Production" are admirably executed essays on agricultural evolution, beginning with a sound analysis of Ohio forests and soils and culminating in such specializations as the breeding of the Miami Valley hog, and the widespread pasturing of the very un-frontierlike Merino sheep. In his

essay (chapter 12) entitled "Sickness and Doctors," one is treated to a well-balanced study that takes the community out of the dark horrors of blood-letting, "marsh effluvia," and quacks, to the dawn of modern medicine with the heroic leadership of Daniel Drake and the scientific training of medical students at the Medical College of Ohio in Cincinnati where the state's first class of M.D.'s was graduated in 1821.

Another outstanding quality of this book is its reduction of politics to more reasonable proportions, a virtue lacking in other volumes. Of the fourteen chapters only three deal solely with state politics, and one of these is of the very essential matter of establishing a new state government. In addition to the "social" chapters already named, there are the following: "Waterways," "The Building of Roads," "Growth of Industries," "Financial Disaster" (Panic of 1819), the "Struggle with Human Depravity," and a "Maturing Society." The further toning down of state politics is accomplished by the happy device of centering two chapters around the theme of "Ohio and the Nation." Moreover, the military aspects of the War of 1812 are reduced to a legitimate minimum by the author's ability to deal with strategy and the circumstance that the war itself, in Ohio, was "three-fourths politics and one-fourth fighting."

Professor Utter has a knack of getting at the "inside" of things. Thus in dealing with the establishment of the principle of judicial review in 1807, he gets right down to "cases" in a year when there were no officially published reports. This is in striking contrast to the complete neglect of the Ohio Reports by the author of volume 3. Other examples are the description of the framework of local township and county government (made possible by the Ohio Historical Records Survey), his treatment of industrial techniques such as the making of potash and pearl ash, and his raising of Ralph Osborn from the shame of Ohio's nullification episode—Osborn *et al vs* Bank of the United States—to candidacy for one of Ohio's unsung heroes. His dealing with banks and the Panic of 1819 reveal a mastery of economics and a sense of balance in distributing the blame between over-laxity of credit and undesirable rigidity, and between East and West.

The sins of commission are negligible and those of omission not too gross. It is unfortunate that the treatment of religion fails to describe the beginnings of Roman Catholicism with the establishment of the diocese of Cincinnati in 1821, under the leadership of Ohio's great Catholic pioneer, Bishop Edward Fenwick. The chapter on "Waterways" is done without benefit of Dr. Baldwin's *Keelboat Age*. One omission, far from being a "sin," redounds to the author's everlasting glory. Of Ohio architecture, he writes, "neither space nor

the competence of the writer permits a discussion of this important subject." Would that more historians had this sense of honest candor and humility.

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*The First Century and a Quarter of American Coal Industry.* By HOWARD N. EAVENSON, B.S., C.E., DR. ENG., PAST PRESIDENT OF A. I. M. E. (Pittsburgh, Privately Printed, 1942. xiv, 701 p. Illustrations, maps, tables, graphs.)

THOSE who are historically minded have been greatly aided, of late years, by books embodying studies of men or subjects not dealt with at length in general histories. An example of the first class is the useful series of *Pennsylvania Lives* published by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

*The First Century and a Quarter of American Coal Industry* is a striking example of the second class, a definitive study of a subject of great importance, particularly to Western Pennsylvania, never before so thoroughly done or with so great interest. Its author, Howard N. Eavenson, a graduate of Swarthmore College, after a lifetime of work and study in the coal industry, is one of the foremost, if not the foremost, authority on coal in all its forms. He has spent eight years in exhaustive research in every library and collection in many countries to produce a monumental and yet most interesting work.

While the century and a quarter named in the title of this work is 1758 to 1885, the first part of the book gives the earliest historical mentions of coal with scarce and interesting maps and references. The first four hundred pages will be of the greatest interest to the general reader since they give the history for each state and district, separately, without too great emphasis upon the technical aspects of the subject.

Readers interested in maps, very numerous now, will find fine reproductions of scarce maps from the collections of the British Museum, Privy Council Office, Public Records Office, Bibliotheque Nationale, as well as the Library of Congress and some fifteen American university and historical society collections.

The succeeding two hundred pages contain most valuable maps, charts, and tables connected more particularly with the technical aspect of the study and yet, most instructive to any general reader interested in industry. The voluminous data and figures contained are drawn from widely scattered and generally inaccessible sources, fortified by the expert knowledge of the author to check, supplement, and fill out lucunae.

The author has presented to the Society an autographed copy but the book ought to be included in the libraries of all historically minded readers.

*Pittsburgh*

HENRY O. EVANS