Then the author brings him by stage, on November 3, to Canonsburg, where he became violently ill. There, on November 16, 1833, at the home of his physician, Dr. Jonathan Leatherman, now the borough building on East Pike Street, Dr. McMillan died in his eighty-second year. His grave, beside that of his wife in "Hill Church" (Chartiers) Cemetery, is covered with a raised stone slab. According to a brief notice in the *Daily Pittsburgh Gazette* of November 21, 1833, "the deceased was the apostle of the Presbyterian Church in the West," and Dr. Guthrie's researches embodied in his book amply justify this claim. To paraphrase Secretary Stanton: "Now he belongs to Pennsylvania," where his name is inscribed among the immortals on the frieze of the State Education Building at Harrisburg, and where the institutions that he fathered are among his monuments.

To the legion of descendants of many of the very people named in its pages, this book should be "must" reading. It promises to be a welcome volume to many who are blood of the blood, flesh of the flesh, faith of the faith of those mentioned therein. Our grateful thanks to the author, a fellow "Scotch-Irish" Presbyterian.

*Neffs, Ohio*

MILTON M. ALLISON


In some respects Mr. Higginbotham's task is more difficult than

3 Mr. Allison, now minister of the Coalbrook Presbyterian Church in Neffs, Ohio, was born in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania (in the heart of the "McMillan country"), and is related to or acquainted with many of the descendants of people mentioned in Dr. Guthrie's book, including those of John McMillan himself. Moreover, a number of the reviewer's ancestors were trustees of Jefferson Academy or Jefferson College.—Ed.
that of his predecessors. Intrinsically the years 1800-1816 are less interesting, with the Federalists declining to impotence and Republican factions primarily quarrelling over spoils and personalities rather than issues. Thus while the author’s research, organization, and style are all to be commended, the book on the whole is not likely to appeal to the general reader.

The primary source for this work is the contemporary newspapers, particularly the *Aurora, Freeman’s Journal*, and *Democratic Press*, all of Philadelphia. The author has investigated the available manuscripts and used the pertinent secondary works, but the work is essentially based on newspapers. Since the newspapers of the era were frankly party organs and their editors were important political figures, much of the political story may be culled from their pages. Nevertheless the author allows Editor Duane and the *Aurora* to dominate his account to a greater extent than is justified. For most of the period Duane was in opposition to the governors, McKean and Snyder, who were in office during these years, and to the majority of the Republicans, but the story is primarily told from the point of view of the quarrelsome editor.

Closely related to this over-emphasis on the *Aurora* is the author’s great concern with Philadelphia city and county. In almost every general election and assembly vote, the author gives a detailed account of how the city and county voted and compares the rise and fall of factional strength with previous votes. Frequently there appears to be no great significance to these figures and as the author points out several times, the state was by no means dominated by its eastern center.

One also leaves the book with the feeling that the connection between national and state politics could have been more fully explored. The author rightly confines his main attention to state politics and does no more than is necessary to refresh the reader’s memory on the main events of Jefferson’s and Madison’s administrations. Yet the frequent assertions of the Duane-Leib group that Gallatin and Dallas were interfering in state politics from Washington would appear to have demanded a fuller inquiry from the point of view of the latter.

The author has done an excellent job in organizing a complex story. With no real disagreement on key issues and with no great personalities around which to weave the account, the book nevertheless holds together very well—no mean accomplishment. Each chapter is prefaced by a general account of what is to be covered later in detail
and a concluding chapter admirably summarizes the whole period.

Mr. Higginbotham writes very well, so well that one looks forward to more accounts from his pen. Like all of us he occasionally nods—"failure to impeach" for "failure to convict" (p.77) and "inferred" for "implied" (p.111)—but such slips are rare and can be readily forgiven in return for paragraph after paragraph of clear concise English.

The author finds no factional political pattern in this period. He considers and discards both East-West and urban-rural divisions. His research convinced him that the Germans, Quakers, and frontiersmen were likely to divide among themselves on any specific issue.

Interestingly he finds little to support the land hunger or Indian menace theories as causes of the War of 1812. The people of Pennsylvania were far ahead of the national government in demanding a strong policy against England and apparently based their views on England's policy on the seas.

It is pointed out that if Pennsylvania—the only state north of the Mason-Dixon line to support Madison in 1812—had given its votes to the Federalists, Madison would have been defeated and the Jeffersonian Republican party might well have become a sectional party with no Northern representation.

This reviewer is reluctant to close without adding his voice to the numerous protests against the deplorable practice of placing footnotes at the end of the book where they are almost useless.

In conclusion, this book is an excellent account of a political era lacking in great leaders and key issues. Despite the fact that it is well written and well organized, all but the specialists will probably content themselves with the concluding summary chapter.

Pittsburgh

Schuyler C. Marshall


The mounting revenues of New York's Erie Canal, totaling as much as a million dollars in a year, gave the forward impetus for many states to enter upon a canal-building epoch. New construction schemes were brought into being; work began on old projects which had been hopefully discussed for years. Many canals piled up spectacular profits