The general reader is offered here a drama of stormy human passions, the insoluble mystery of a man, with violence, slanders, scandals, murders, and a hearty portion of sex with racial tones. The relatively objective scholar will still probably not hasten to discard Current, et al.

Professor Emeritus of History  
University of Pittsburgh


As the title clearly indicates, this work of a political scientist is quite properly a subject for review in a historical magazine. In this magazine in a short essay entitled "History as Analysis and Guidance" the reviewer asserted briefly that in every field of study history is not only used but presented in exposition. *Pennsylvania Constitutional Development* illustrates this matter in a most convincing way. Fundamentally it is regional constitutional history, a basic matter in the understanding of republican government.

The authorship, scholarship and purport of the book meet the test of any reasonable evaluation.

In an excellent Introduction, the author frankly admits that emphasis is put upon the Pennsylvania Constitution of 1874, as yet in operation, and upon the desirability of a new one. On the latter point she almost departs from cool, objective, scholarship and becomes an eloquent pleader for better government under a more modern constitution which might clear up the issue of constitutional versus statutory law.

None too much attention is given to the Constitutions of 1776, 1790 and 1838. The book might have been enlarged and the treatment less summary, less encyclopedic. But it is noticeable that even in summary political science, such as pages 9-21 of this book, social history and historical writings are freely and properly drawn upon and woven into the account.

Clarification of data, through the device of classification of major
differences, has been successfully accomplished and thereby relieves the work of the reader in grasping so many subdivisions.

Seemingly minor shortcomings are found in all scholarly publications.

Here may be found a footnote notation wrongly placed in the context and some important things not indexed, but such items are few and perhaps trifling.

Printing is certainly expensive when a book of 166 pages is priced at $6.00, but little can be done about it. And any adult Pennsylvania citizen, who has such money to spend, would make a wise investment in purchasing this volume.

*Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania*  
Alfred P. James