dealt with quite well, for example, the chapter on tax reform in which the interest groups and conflicts are well outlined. The last chapter on "The End of an Era" is undoubtedly the best written from a literary standpoint, primarily because it has about one-fifth as many facts and details, proportionally, as the other chapters. The bibliography is complete; Warner consulted every possible manuscript source. In short, no one can accuse him of doing a slipshod or hasty job. The very thoroughness which might have been a strong point has, however, created a ponderous encyclopedia and chronicle of the progressive era in Ohio.

The author has created a source book for other scholars, but not a book which will fascinate the general public. The style, though dry, is clear and forthright. The documentation is very complete, and the scholar will find the footnotes very helpful. The author, however, would have done well to look closely at his own evidence. He shows, for example, how efficient and responsive to constituents was boss George B. Cox's machine in Cincinnati, but fails to say so in clear terms. Warner cannot believe, apparently, that anyone could prefer efficiency and responsiveness to "morality," and he never quite understands why Cox kept coming back between reform waves.

Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.

Monte A. Calvert


This is the twentieth in a series of fifty handbooks designed to make easy the study of local history in the United States. Like the previous issues, it is the work of an expert, an accredited authority. It was written with a frank enthusiasm but without any pretense of formalism. Reading it is a pleasure, not a task. Dr. Stevens, the author, is a popularizer. Clifford L. Lord of Hofstra University introduces his production with the challenge: "Do you enjoy a good mystery story? . . . The possibilities are unlimited. Have fun."

But that colloquial invitation does not close the door to serious scholarship. Dr. Stevens himself is an example of what happens to
people who yield to the attraction of a local historical scene. He loves Pennsylvania, and those who follow him through the available materials to which he refers will find themselves sharing his affection.

Possibly here is a place to repeat the basic principle of worthwhile chronicle writing. The purpose of any such composition must be emotional as well as intellectual. Unless a reader cares, he never will understand. Dr. Stevens uses the word “student” in its broadest meaning. He lists the sources of Pennsylvania learning as he has found them and used them, and he shows how one facility added to another brings into practical existence a knowledge which is a valuable component power.

The individual scholar naturally accomplishes in any serious historical procedure a conscious form of identification. His degree of achievement is governed, of course, by the guidance of students who have been teachers and mentors. Dr. Stevens especially is concerned to provide help in finding data which connect the receptive scholar with a traditional environment dating at least as far back as William Penn. The search is fascinating — because it is not fiction but rather scientific documentation.

However, most impressively of all, this pamphlet is an aid in personalizing historical quotients. The reader learns his place in the picture of being a Pennsylvanian, an American, a modern heir of ideological values as ancient as Hebrew, Greek and Roman civilizations. In his own time he belongs to the inclusive story of the Keystone State. Certainly that is what an earnest student is supposed to be — a partner in the progress of his share of the world and his own era.

Dr. Stevens submits his findings generously. The result is not just “a good mystery story.” It will enrich the experience of many persons in terms of books to read, researches to pursue, tours to undertake and places to visit.

Pittsburgh

James Waldo Fawcett

Appomattox: The Last Campaign. By Burleigh Cushing Rodick.

The purpose of specialized research is generally a combination of interest and inspiration. The organization and expression of the re-