

sudden realization that William Penn, like many great and respected men in history, justified devious means to accomplish desirable ends.

Although he has relied most heavily on manuscript sources located in this country concerning Penn's life, Illick all-too-frequently resorts to summarizing and quoting secondary sources. Thus some of the material presented is already well-known and generally accepted. In addition the professional historian will find fault with the author's compulsion to restate his main thesis at every opportunity. Finally the general lack of serious analysis gives the book an aura of undeserved superficiality.

Despite such minor shortcomings, *William Penn the Politician* has merit for those desiring a lucid, well-developed account of Penn's two great political accomplishments: the founding of a colony "which was distinguished by its autonomy at a time when the home government was bringing other plantations into a position of greater subservience" and the successful defense of this American province for some three decades. Painstaking research, a fluid pen, and a mastery of both primary and secondary sources help to make the reading of this volume both pleasurable and worthwhile.

Waynesburg College  
Waynesburg, Pennsylvania

JOSEPH C. MORTON

*Benjamin Franklin and Pennsylvania Politics.* By WILLIAM S. HANNA. (Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1964. Pp. 239. Notes, bibliographical note, index. \$6.50.)

*Benjamin Franklin: An American Man of Letters.* By BRUCE INGHAM GRANGER. (Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1964. Pp. 264. Bibliographical note, index. \$4.95.)

History in its most comprehensive sense is virtually all-inclusive. There are at least fifty-seven kinds of history as can be listed quickly by consultation of adjectives in a small dictionary. Existence, factuality, knowledge and understanding are features of any good story of mankind.

In any comprehensive history of the United States, Benjamin Franklin must be considered as one of the most important subjects. He made himself famous in his own lifetime. As sage and seer he surpassed his contemporaries, with only one possible exception, namely Thomas

Jefferson. It is well known that Franklin and Jefferson are the two historical figures of greatest interest to the American Philosophical Society.

Active research and writing on Franklin are no recent matter, but it can be assumed that with the projection, announcement and appearance of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin* (New Haven, 1959- ) a veritable flood of books and articles will appear in a few decades.

The two small volumes herein reviewed, though doubtless begun before the appearance of the early volumes of the Yale-American Philosophical Society edition of the papers of Franklin, furnish a hint of the future significance of Franklin studies of many kinds.

The first of these two volumes is in the field of political history. However comprehensive political history, in the Aristotelian sense, may be and however inclusive politics and government may seem, the old story of political parties and conflict is narrow and impermanent. Often it seems uninteresting and unimportant to those not involved in party politics. For a century or more, political history was gradually shelved by historical researchers, scholars and authors. Where not thus shelved it was buttressed by ideas and data drawn from what might well be called social history.

This retreat from the story of political parties and conflict was carried too far. Buttresses became buildings. Political and governmental structure, as a dominant thread in the story of mankind, was unduly ignored. Important historians protested and began to promote studies in political history, sometimes in the narrow sense of party politics and partisan conflict but often supplied with milieu of a buttress-like type.

*Benjamin Franklin and Pennsylvania Politics* is an intriguing title. In view of comment above, this work might be broad and comprehensive. But it might be narrow, dealing mainly with party politics and its unavoidable conflicts. This reviewer's first impression on seeing the jacket and title page was that it was a story of party politics and unity would only be found in what might be called the political biography of Benjamin Franklin. The statement on the inside of the jacket agrees with this impression. Whatever contribution to history is made by this volume is due to stronger light through the miasma of party politics and an altered interpretation of the often unsuccessful role of Benjamin Franklin. The facts, the truth it might be said, are laid bare, but the result is not inspiring and the reader will lay aside the volume with little gained in either pleasure or understanding. The author virtually admits this when in his Preface he says (p. ix),

"There is little evidence of any inner directions in provincial politics that responded to fundamental principles."

Space forbids an analysis of the contents of the book. The contents involve twelve parts (or chapters). The dominant organization of these parts is chronological. This is fortunate for biography and chronology supply clarity and perspective needed in an otherwise jungle of detail.

This volume is well printed and well bound. The Preface (somewhat too brief) is good. The Notes (really footnotes, though at the end) are excellent. The Bibliographical Note (really an essay), 225-231, is both impressive and of high value. The Index (233-234) seems adequate to any reasonable expectation.

The scholarship and workmanship of this book are worthy of emulation by others who would wrestle in the field of historiography.

*Benjamin Franklin: An American Man of Letters* is literary biography, a nice combination of two types of historiography, that is to say literary history and biographical history. The organization of the contents is admirable as one would expect in the output of a professor of English. The emphasis is upon the literature and the biography is secondary.

There are eight topical divisions dealing with the literary background, the periodical essay, the almanac, the letter to the press, the personal letter, the familiar letter, the bagatelle and autobiography. And there is a summary conclusion (239-245). Such topical arrangement inevitably produces chronological difficulties, but in this case there was periodicity or phases, and the chronological problems are successfully mastered, though some repetition is found. Probably repetition does not disturb the professor of English as it does the historiographer who makes use of footnotes and cross references to avoid repetition.

Strangely enough, some of the sentences of Professor Granger are too long, too compound, and sometimes not very lucid. And the vocabulary is somewhat technical for the general reader, with a few words not found in an ordinary dictionary.

The binding, paper and typography of this publication are admirable. No egregious errata appear. In this matter both the author and Cornell University Press are to be complimented.

As the jacket statement claims, "This first comprehensive treatment in seventy-five years of Franklin's belletristic writings constitutes a careful assessment of his place and accomplishments in the world of eighteenth-century letters." A left-handed compliment might

be that an improvement could have been made by enlargement. In such addition, at least a few illustrations might have been included. As it is now, this publication should be a matter of interest not only to specialists but to the general reader. It is well worth the moderate price placed upon it.

*Professor Emeritus*  
*University of Pittsburgh*

ALFRED P. JAMES

*The McGraw Site, a Study in Hopewellian Dynamics.* By OLAF H. PRUFER. (Cleveland: Scientific Publications of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, New Series, Vol. 4, No. 1; February 1965. Pp. 144. 31 figures; bibliography. *No price given.*)

For thousands of years the Indians of the Ohio Valley lived in relative isolation, developing a tradition and culture distinct from those of the other tribes across the mountains and beyond the lakes. Until recently, Ohio has been an empty spot in our knowledge of this local tradition. Ohio archaeologists were concerned mainly with opening mounds to find handsome and unusual relics of their builders. In the last few years, however, Case Institute of Technology and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History have taken leadership in the investigation of the whole story of Ohio prehistory. What they find is very pertinent to our understanding of early western Pennsylvania.

*The McGraw Site*, the latest report of this work, is a natural companion to Don W. Dragoo's *Mounds for the Dead*, reviewed here in October. It deals with the period of mound building that overlapped and followed the Adena occupation which Dragoo described. Indians of this later "Hopewell" period put the final stage on the McKees Rocks Mound, which the Adena folk had started, and scattered smaller mounds of their own throughout the Monongahela, Allegheny and Upper Ohio valleys. A number of people—Dr. Prufer, Dr. Douglas H. McKenzie and Dr. Oriol Pi-Sunyer from Case Institute, Dr. David H. Stansbery of Ohio State University, Dr. Hugh H. Cutler of the Missouri Botanical Garden, Dr. Richard A. Yarnell of Emory University, and Dr. Paul W. Parmalee of the Illinois State Museum — provide detailed studies of the pottery, flint implements and animal and vegetable materials found in the refuse dump of an Indian farmhouse on the outskirts of Chillicothe, Ohio. Dr. Prufer sums up this and other evidence in the final chapter, which will be of more interest to