

of a more receptive reader, young William Lloyd Garrison. Christie and Dumond contend that it was Garrison's reading of Bourne's book, and not his own cogitations, that changed him suddenly from a supporter of Benjamin Lundy's gradualism in dealing with slavery to a proponent of immediate and unconditional emancipation.

Garrison then went on to establish the *Liberator*, in which he aired his views on slavery. For material for the early issues he relied heavily on Bourne's book, and on contributions from Bourne himself, who at that time (1831) was editing an anti-Catholic journal called *The Protestant*. Bourne was glad to help, and in 1833, when Garrison was in Europe, Bourne furnished a number of articles for the *Liberator*. However, none of Bourne's contributions had his name attached to them. They were either unsigned or under pen names such as "Onesimus" or "A Colored Baltimorean." Christie and Dumond have been able to identify this unsigned material, proving that much of what has been attributed as a matter of course to Garrison was actually Bourne's work.

This book is a major contribution to the history of the antislavery movement in the United States. It demonstrates conclusively (1) that the original inspiration which launched Garrison on his antislavery career came not from within himself but from reading Bourne's little book; (2) that much of the matter in the early *Liberator* which has hitherto been regarded as typically Garrisonian was in fact lifted from Bourne; and (3) that Bourne was a frequent contributor of new material to the columns of the *Liberator*. And for good measure we have also a new interpretation of the Presbyterian pronouncement of 1818 on slavery, which future Presbyterian historians will not dare to overlook.

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Harrison Gray Otis, 1765-1848, the Urbane Federalist. By SAMUEL ELIOT MORRISON. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1969. Pp. 524. Appendix, Index. \$12.50.)

Admiral Samuel Eliot Morrison, author of forty-two books, co-author of two, and editor of three, on various phases of American history, has returned in his forty-third book to his original subject

of 1913, Harrison Gray Otis. After re-reading his first book, the author felt that a new one would be necessary, "that a new school of social history has arisen to which no detail of people's lives is inconsequential." Hence, *Harrison Gray Otis, 1765-1848, the Urbane Federalist*.

Young Harrison, or Harry, appears first in the book as a boy of nine who was told one day after arrival at the Boston Latin School, "War's begun, and school's done. *Deponite libros.*" He saw the British Regulars swinging along to Lexington and Concord. His father and uncles belonged to the Sons of Liberty; James Otis was one of these uncles. His mother's family, the Grays, lost almost everything to the Loyalist cause, ending their lives in pensioned exile in London; his Grandfather Gray was fourth on the list of "notorious conspirators, permanently banished."

Harry was graduated from Harvard in 1783. Although his father was bankrupt, Harry received free the best of law educations in the office of the senior John Lowell, because of esteem for the Otises.

After Harry Otis became established, he married Sally Foster. Throughout their forty-six years of married life, they loved each other dearly; and much of the book's charm lies in the picture of their life in their beautiful home (Charles Bulfinch, architect), and in their eleven children reared with love, dignity and respect, and laughter, believing that "home was the best place on earth." The Otises constantly entertained, from informal dinners, to a reception for President Monroe, with music in the garden and later fireworks. But every feminine reader will remember most vividly the buckwheat breakfast for dozens of Harry's friends, casually invited to the Otis home as the morning went along! His political and law careers often necessitated separations from his family, and the book contains many of his delightful letters to his "dear girl."

Through his law practice, real estate investments that included turning the old Copley pasture into a site for the Statehouse and for Beacon Hill houses, the purchase of much Boston wharf property, and investment in cotton manufacturing, Harry Otis became wealthy.

In a day "when social position was almost a requisite in politics," he became a popular member of Congress, his charm and elegant appearance an asset. Sally and he enjoyed life in Philadelphia.

The watershed of his career was his leadership of the Hartford Convention of 1814, to publicize New England grievances against the Federal government. Politicians and President Adams accused the members of disloyalty. Otis, however, believed that when a section in

a federal government became conscious of oppression by the central government and wished to publicize a complaint, that there was no better way than through a convention. Unfortunately, from then on "it became a habit with Otis to publish defenses of the convention," and to refer to it in speeches, rather than to ignore the barbs of his enemies. Later, he became an excellent third mayor of Boston, and even returned to Congress, resigning before the end of his term. Federalists gradually joined the National Republicans, later renamed Whigs. But the old Federalist party survived as a social cult, its leaders and their descendants "long occupying a position in New England corresponding to that of prominent Confederate families."

Admiral Morrison makes no attempt to portray Harrison Gray Otis as larger than life; instead, he uses objectivity — with a touch of affection and a twinkle. As for the Hartford Convention, the author's aim was "not to defend Otis or attack Adams, but to find out from contemporary sources how the project originated, what it was expected to accomplish, and what actually happened." In summation he said that Otis acquitted himself well, with not much evidence of great or original statesmanship, and represented "all that was best of a class."

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BOOK NOTES

Republicans and Labor, 1919-1929. By ROBERT H. ZEIGER. (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1969. Pp. 277. Biographical Note, Index. \$8.25.)

Robert H. Zeiger analyzes the role of the Harding and Coolidge Administrations in the decade of struggle after World War I between labor unions and industry, labor trying to consolidate its wartime gains and to secure certain basic reforms, industry determined to return to a pre-war basis. For a hundred years labor problems had needed attention; now answers had to be found; and for the first time, party leaders seemed to be aware of labor's great political power. Labor was a sleeping giant that, up to this time, had voted along local or regional, ethnic or religious lines, but never as a group of workers.

Republicans and Labor is partly the story of how leaders met — or avoided — the problems of a decade, and partly the story of almost