or demerits. As a matter of fact, the book might more aptly be titled Marcus vs. Platt.

Readers from the Western Pennsylvania area will be disappointed at the slight treatment accorded men like Congressman Thomas M. Bayne, Benjamin Franklin Jones, Philander C. Knox, and Christopher L. Magee. Stephen B. Elkins receives considerably more of the author's attention, but then on only in the continuing struggle between James G. Blaine and John Sherman for the Presidency of the United States.

Most people will agree the discovery of at least one stimulating point in any book compensates the reader for his time expenditure. For this reviewer the catalyst was found on page 255. Here, in a chapter entitled "Conclusion: The Old Party and the New Century," Dr. Marcus discusses voting habits in nineteenth-century America and twentieth-century Europe. Dr. Marcus drew an analogy between "old-time politics" and "old-time religion." Your reviewer was prompted to draw one between Germany's elections of the thirties and the United States' elections of the thirties — both in this century. It will be interesting to know the reaction or lack of reaction of other readers to this salient point.

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HELEN FRANK COLLINS


Charles W. Eliot's inclusion of Haskell's eyewitness description of the battle of Gettysburg in the Harvard Classics established it as a "classic" in the North. However, not until 1957, when Bruce Catton's _The Battle of Gettysburg_ was published, was the essay made available to the general public. Now, for the first time, there is a complete study of Haskell's life. This project was begun by Professor Weaver (Speech, Wisc.) during the centennial years as a "labor of love," and, after his death, it was completed by Professor Byrne (History, Kent State). Haskell's formative years are succinctly traced in the opening chapter. Self-taught as a youth in Vermont and "ambitious as Lucifer," he had, by 1861, taught school, served as superintendent of education in a frontier Wisconsin town (at twenty-one), graduated from Dartmouth
College, practiced law in Madison, and served as a prominent member of the Governor's Guard. After the Fort Sumter crisis, he was appointed adjutant of the Sixth Wisconsin Regiment, despite efforts by influential Republican friends to get him a line commission. He was subsequently promoted to the brigade staff, and became John Gibbon's aide-de-camp.

Thirty-one of thirty-eight letters of the Haskell collection and the Gettysburg "essay" are reproduced with knowledgeable and accurate editorial comment. All except six of the missives were written to his family during seven months of 1863. The editor capably summarized considerable data in order to "fill in" the chronological gaps. In the first four letters, written during September 1862, Haskell vividly, though repetitiously, describes his brigade's participation in the battles at Groveton, South Mountain, and Antietam, where the Iron Brigade's reputation was established. As a military critic, he writes as though he were a regular officer not a volunteer; his comments are always informative, usually intelligent, and often quotable. He wrote fifteen rather brief but interesting notes between March and May 1863, concerning the Chancellorsville campaign from the vantage point of Sedgwick's action on the "Second Fredericksburg" front.

The Gettysburg "essay" is dated July 16, 1863, but it was actually revised over a period of months. It is reproduced for the first time in its original form and it constitutes the bulk of the volume (pp. 91-205). Incidentally, the manuscript is located in the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Library, Harrisburg. Haskell's lucid account is quite purple and intense, particularly the description of the "supreme moment" when the "graybacks" momentarily pierced the defenses in the center of Cemetery Ridge and his efforts to rally the line. Haskell's defense of Meade for not "catching" Lee before he recrossed the Potomac is revealing; and the dramatic return to the battlefield on July 6 is realistic and should be required reading for Civil War romanticists. Four brief notes which were written in July add little to the superlative larger document.

In October, he described the sharp actions at Bristoe Station and Kelly's Ford with verve. On November 30, he wrote of a third visit to Gettysburg when he and the wounded Gibbon represented the Army of the Potomac at the consecration of the Soldiers' Cemetery. He relived the bravery and savagery of the battle, but criticized the sterile placement of the graves "wedged in rows like herrings in a box." Lincoln was not mentioned, only Edward Everett. The last brief note, dated February 2, 1864, as if in a Greek tragedy, related to his
optimism concerning the long sought promotion. The final chapter satisfactorily delineates the last six months of Haskell's life. With a newly elected Republican governor in Wisconsin, he was immediately appointed to command the freshly recruited 36th Wisconsin. By May, it was a part of Gibbon's Division, Hancock's Corps, in front of Cold Harbor. On June 3, the regiment advanced into that inferno; Haskell succeeded the wounded brigade commander, and was killed instantly while ordering his troops to protect themselves.

The format of this volume is excellent and, fortunately for the editor and reader, Haskell was a good speller. The Index is satisfactory; however, a bibliography would have been helpful. There are only three maps and these are inadequate for the general reader; also, a number of the thirty-one photos and drawings are superfluous. These are minor criticisms and do not detract from the historical value of the work. Skilled craftsmanship by the publisher and competent scholarship by the editor have produced a valuable, specialized addition to Civil War literature.

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JOHN KENT FOLMAR


To Richard M. Ketchum: a special salute for his *Faces from the Past*, which, in beautiful sentences disciplined by an understanding heart, comments on pictures culled from American history. There are faces of men and women remembered for their impact for good or evil, and sometimes just faces of types associated with an era, to name a few, Herbert Hoover, Dolly Madison, John Muir, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee, Maria Mitchell, Booker T. Washington and Frederick Douglass, Chief Joseph, Margaret Sanger, Billy Sunday, Buffalo Bill, Lizzie Borden, Hetty Green — and a pear-shaped stationmaster.

Mr. Ketchum's best interpretation, however, is of the Appalachian people, whose mountains to a certain extent even today turn back time. His comment misses nothing of their handicrafts, agriculture, language, religion, and their fierce, close-knit loyalties. Especially eloquent among the pictures are those of the very young (for example, the little boy claspign his chicken "friend"); of the very old; and of the still beautiful mother with her two barefoot children.