BOOK REVIEWS


This Bouquet orderly book of 1764 was originally published in the Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine in three issues, starting in 1973. The three parts have been brought together in the convenience of this volume, issued by the Society in 500 copies, with all the elaborate annotations by Edward G. Williams. In addition, there are appendixes, bibliography, index, and modern road maps in a back pocket on which the Forbes-Bouquet Road has been plotted.

The virtues of this work are two: (1) the meticulousness with which the editor has identified the Forbes Road of 1758 from Carlisle to Pittsburgh as traversed by Bouquet in 1764, measured the miles, and marked the route on a modern map; and (2) the intensive footnotes commenting on the route, noting any variations, as well as identifying every person or geographical feature mentioned in the journals. This kind of editorial tour de force is not going to be superseded by a later historian's investigation. For one thing, Williams has killed the old popular generalization that the Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30) followed the historic road.

The text of the orderly book details the march of an army through the wilderness, the camps and provisions, the cattle and horses, the care of the sick, the courts-martial, discipline, and care of arms. Bouquet commanded two regiments of regulars, two regiments of Pennsylvania militia, two companies of Maryland militia, and 200 Virginians, a total of about 2,000 men. Williams calls it a "tightly organized task force," and it was. The author is a great admirer of the commander, and with good reason. It was a peaceful expedition hopefully, but attack was possible, and Bouquet was never a slack officer. The magnetic attraction of the orderly book was, as Williams says, that it "contained numerous allusions to identifiable spots on the terrain," whether Bouquet was following the road he cut in 1758 or making new shortcuts. The road was used for the next thirty years to reach Pittsburgh. Today many physical traces of the road are gone, and it can be located only from descriptive documents.

Williams did a similarly thorough job in 1959 of tracing Bouquet's
subsequent route from Fort Pitt to the Muskingum River in Ohio, where he held an Indian conference and recovered numerous white captives. This work also appeared in the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* in installments, which were combined into a book issued in a limited edition in 1960. The Society is to be congratulated on its enterprise. Both books contain source material of considerable historical value.

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**The American Revolution Within America.** By Merrill Jensen.  

In this publication of his four-part Anson G. Phelps Lectureship on Early American History, held at New York University during the fall of 1973, Professor Merrill Jensen articulates a thesis he has long held regarding the validity of the so-called Progressive interpretation of the American Revolution. These lectures are at once a succinct statement and useful summary of the historical interpretations contained in Professor Jensen’s three major contributions to our understanding of the Revolutionary era. In *The Founding of a Nation: A History of the American Revolution, 1763-1776* (New York, 1968), *The Articles of Confederation: An Interpretation of the Social-Constitutional History of the American Revolution, 1774-1781* (Madison, 1940), and *The New Nation: A History of the United States During the Confederation, 1781-1789* (New York, 1950), the author argues forcefully and convincingly for a sympathetic reappraisal of the “internal revolution” thesis of Carl L. Becker, J. Franklin Jameson, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Charles A. Beard, and others of like persuasion.

Briefly stated, Jensen and the others of the Progressive or Neo-progressive school view the past in terms of conflict — conflict between classes, conflict between geographic regions, conflict between races, conflict between differing religious, economic, social, and political interests. Specifically, they would all agree that in the period 1763 to 1789 there was indeed an American Revolution within America. Becker aptly described the essence of this historical interpretation when he called the American Revolution both a struggle for “home