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
rule” and a struggle to determine “who should rule at home” (Carl L. Becker, The History of Political Parties in the Province of New York, 1760-1776. Madison, 1909, p. 22).

It is altogether fitting and proper during this bicentennial year that we have this engagingly written restatement of a historical interpretation long under attack by consensus historians. In reminding us that the American Revolution was much more than a war for independence, Jensen sides with those who consider the events of the 1770s and 1780s as being revolutionary. Basically the Jensen interpretation views colonial America as being politically, economically, and socially conservative. Throughout the thirteen seacoast colonies, aristocratic elites consisting of merchant-princes, lawyers, and large landowners ruled virtually unchallenged. However, with the advent of fighting in 1775 “democratical” elements were able successfully to take advantage of the instability thus caused to accomplish the Revolution of 1776 — a transfer of power from the few to the many, and a transfer of power from a central government in England to thirteen separate and virtually independent states. The Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and various state constitutions (most notably the Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776) were political manifestations of this earlier more radical phase of the American Revolution.

War weariness, the inability to solve the complex and manifold problems (primarily economic) facing the young nation, and the influence and hard work of a small group of dedicated nationalists gave rise to a conservative, and nationalistic, reaction. The culmination of this new conservative phase of our Revolution was the constitutional convention of 1787. Thus the “Grand Convention” (to use Clinton Rossiter’s term) wrought yet another revolution. This new revolution, the Revolution of 1787, reversed the Revolution of 1776 by transferring power from the many to the few, and by transferring power from thirteen independent states back to a central government. The foregoing interpretation, although certainly debatable, does enable us to look at the existing and far-reaching events of the Revolutionary era more broadly and therefore hopefully more meaningfully. Despite the disclaimers of such historians as Robert E. Brown and Jack P. Greene, there is great merit and usefulness in Jensen’s thought provoking interpretation on the nature and extent of the American Revolution.

With the current vogue to publish indiscriminately any book which deals even remotely with the American Revolution, it is both refreshing and worthwhile to have readily accessible these thoughtful reflections of an outstanding historian. These four exceedingly read-
able essays will be of great value and interest to both layman and scholar alike.

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Joshua Gilpin was a successful Philadelphia entrepreneur. He owned a store on Water Street, a residence on Front Street in Philadelphia, and a paper mill in Wilmington, Delaware. In 1809, he journeyed from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh and back to attend to family business and to vacation with his wife, son, and a few servants. The Gilpins were early settlers of Delaware County. Through shrewd investments, they had acquired land interests at Redstone and in Indiana County. In the early nineteenth century, the Gilpin family seriously considered further investments in the trans-Appalachian valleys of Pennsylvania, so Joshua was sent by his family to report on the commercial prospects of the region. While traveling in a private carriage, Gilpin jotted down his observations on diverse subjects for investment purposes. But this journal provides the reader with something more than the keen entrepreneurial assessments of Joshua Gilpin, since the atmosphere at various inns, quality of accommodations, and the state of the roadbed are subjects treated in his notebook also. The reader gets a glimpse of the human side of a businessman and is able to focus the record of history on its basic datum — the individual.

As Gilpin passed through southern and Western Pennsylvania, he noted the terrain, the presence of natural resources, land values, and other investment possibilities. This journal not only gives a detailed observation of the trans-Appalachian region as it developed commercially, but it also supplies the reader with a glimpse of daily life in this area. At Redstone and in Indiana County, Gilpin surveyed extensive tracts of land owned by the family, and he also consulted the tenants about rents and future developments in the area. Basically, the journal was a report to the family on existing Gilpin investments