maps helpful and well done, as well as interesting.

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The Old Northwest in the American Revolution: an Anthology.

The coverage of this volume is somewhat broader than the title would imply. Of its twenty-one essays, only eight deal with the Revolutionary War itself (and one of these is devoted to the west as a political factor in the peace negotiations); five address the period 1760 through 1774; and the remaining eight treat the post-Revolutionary period.

Inherently, any anthology will be marked by variations in style from essay to essay, by repetitious coverage, and by a diversity of themes. In this case, also, there are some variations in quality. Without quarreling with the editor's decision to include items from both scholarly journals and from what he describes as "so-called popular histories," it must be stated that in the latter cases the selections do not always live up to his claim that their "scholarship was of high quality." In at least one instance, the rather free-wheeling "popular" style of writing, while adding to readability, has resulted not merely in misleading oversimplifications but in demonstrable errors of fact.

With only one or two exceptions, even the essays on the period of the war emphasize not operations but strategy — in the broadest sense of the term, stressing political and economic rather than military strategy. In that particular context, the maps which are included are excellent, although less ideal for anyone seeking to follow the course of such campaigns as took place. It is also regrettable that more than passing reference to the wartime operations out of Fort Pitt down the Ohio and up the Allegheny is not included.

Nevertheless, this book makes valuable contributions in several respects. It counterbalances the common tendency of historical writing about the Revolution to concentrate so exclusively on the northeastern and middle Atlantic regions as to leave the impression that the war was restricted to those areas alone (except for Greene's campaign and the siege of Yorktown, even the southern theater has been some-
what slighted). Beyond this, it brings out episodes and factors which have been largely ignored. In no respect is this more marked than in the book’s coverage of the Spanish contribution to the American cause in terms both of supplies and of actual military operations.

As the editor states, “American independence could neither be won nor lost in the West, but the future of the United States might be determined there in a more indirect manner.” Rounding out the picture is certainly essential to genuine understanding of the American Revolution. Without question, this collection renders important service in facilitating such understanding, despite the complexity of the subject, and in putting this significant facet of the struggle for independence into context as a phase of a continuing historical development.

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Quantitative analyses of American society and politics for any period prior to 1850 are risky, for data-gathering techniques were crude and notoriously inefficient. Historians have, consequently, shied away from such treacherous undertakings, and we do not know as much about post-Revolutionary America as we ought to. Richard G. Miller has fearlessly placed his neck on the block, however, and has escaped largely intact. The result is a fine study of Philadelphia politics during the first party system.

Why Philadelphia? As Miller points out, Philadelphia provides a good arena for examining urban politics in the new nation. For the decade in question it was the state and national capital; it had two competitive political parties; the city underwent rapid demographic growth in the 1790s; and with large German and Irish populations its demographic complexion was mixed. Various theories of ethnic and urban voting patterns should find an adequate field for empirical testing here.

Miller’s first chapter is perhaps his best, for he undertakes a demographic and economic analysis of the Philadelphia social structure for