

dress instead of presenting them in ancient Greek and Roman costumes, which was the prevailing style at that time.

This book has been a long time in coming and the reader is well rewarded for the delay.

Greensburg

HELENE SMITH

Economic Development in the Philadelphia Region, 1810-1850. By DIANE LINDSTROM. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1978. Pp. viii, 255. Preface, appendixes, endnotes, selected bibliography, index. \$16.50.)

Not so long ago, historians of the American economy generally agreed that antebellum increases in per capita income were in some substantial way a function of regional specialization. First canals, and then railroads, allowed the East to concentrate on manufacturing, the South on cotton, the West on foodstuffs. If Philadelphia trade patterns (this is a book about trade patterns) reflect those of other major cities, Diane Lindstrom has issued a formidable challenge to the mythology of the national market. The critical ingredients in the city's economic success were two: intraregional trade (within the East) — primarily in coal, secondarily in textiles; and commerce with the hinterland.

Lindstrom begins by focusing on Philadelphia's 1810-1850 transformation from a commercial to a manufacturing city. (This argument is essential, for Lindstrom equates the city's economic progress with structural transformation.) The evidence in support of such changes is hardly overwhelming, however. Philadelphia's industrial output at least doubled in the three decades after 1810, but was this "impressive growth" (p. 42)? Lindstrom assumes that it was, and this allows her to emphasize eastern demand, because it was "large and more concentrated in the regional economy's goods" (p. 91), at the expense of trans-Appalachian (that is, national) trade. The latter, though growing more rapidly than any other branch of Philadelphia's commerce, is slighted because much of it was in goods made in Europe and New England. In short, if a trade pattern did not contribute to the development of Philadelphia's manufacturing sector, it must not have been central to the city's development. Lindstrom has not so much confronted the national-market theory head-on as side-stepped it by introducing a "dynamic sector" model of economic development.

The relationship between the core city, Philadelphia, and its

hinterland is also treated in the context of structural transformation. Here, however, the statistical case is compelling (the hinterland purchased seven times more goods from the core in 1840 than it did in 1810), and Lindstrom documents important economic changes in the hinterland. In 1810, hinterland residents farmed on a subsistence basis and made most of their goods in the household. Forty years later, commercial farming was the order of the day, manufactured goods were purchased from Philadelphia factories, and mineral extraction was a major source of employment. The result was a functional division of labor between core and periphery.

This substantial contribution to the history of economic development is somewhat diminished by the author's failure to come to terms with the meaning of this hinterland transformation for the people who experienced it. For Lindstrom, this transformation is a "celebration" (p. 151). Subsistence farming is not valued as a way of life; it is a state from which one should "escape" (p. 121). Why? Because specialization meant increased productivity, and increased productivity meant that "virtually every part of the region was better off than it had been previously" (p. 159). We learn, however, that intense competition among hinterland producers of grain, coal, and iron meant that "most of the savings that resulted from hinterland specialization" did not remain there but "were passed on to the urban consumer in the form of lower prices" (pp. 153-54). In the periphery, in fact, "the years from 1815 to 1840 brought harsh readjustments" (p. 178). Two sentences, together near the end of the volume, capture Lindstrom's confused vision of the industrial revolution: "Philadelphia County profited from all of these changes within its hinterland. It attracted a healthy proportion of the outmigrants from the countryside, again depressing unskilled wage rates" (p. 179). The lesson, it would seem, is that one person's profit is another's "readjustment."

Department of History
State University College
Fredonia, New York

WILLIAM GRAEBNER

The Miners. By MARY SIEGEL TYSON. Edited and Produced by DEAN E. TYSON. (Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, and Ann Arbor, Michigan: Sweet Arrow Lake Press, 1977. Pp. xvi, 368. In appreciation, acknowledgments, author's preface, illustrations. \$5.95, paper.)

To the superficial observer of Pennsylvania ethnic historiography,