ton's time as they had before the Revolution. He was no longer a regular church attendant and seldom broke his work routine on Sunday. When national responsibilities at last drew him from Mount Vernon his daily horseback rides ceased, and diary entries began to suggest a deliberate attempt to preserve health through physical exercise.

Only a small portion of this volume is concerned with public affairs. The privacy rule of the Constitutional Convention prevented its president from recording daily sessions, if he ever had intended to do so. Except for listing the arrivals of state delegates, the Convention period entries are merely a record of where Washington dined and visited. Although only two diary entries have been preserved for the earliest weeks of the presidential household in New York, these with the regular record for November and December 1789 explain much about the emerging executive routine. The account of the New England tour, however, was entered in greater detail. Fittingly, he stopped to observe farm crops as often as he could.

The editors and sponsors of The Diaries are to be commended for providing such a reliable edition of this precious fragment of our early national past. Their literal editorial method is especially noteworthy. Annotation has been kept to a minimum. The book's only flaw may be said to lie in the apparent inconsistency in choice of who and what should be annotated, matters that lie within the judgment of the editors. Puzzling, too, is the assignment in the table of contents of 260 printed pages — all of 1787 — to the Constitutional Convention. Only forty-six pages involve the Convention period.

It is always inspiring to remember that the individual whose life forms the center of our early national history left such a unique documentary record.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Louis M. Waddell


The Homestead Strike of 1892 by Arthur G. Burgoyne is cur-
rently offered by the University of Pittsburgh Press as a reprint of the original. The volume, first published in 1893, was written in response to demands by Pittsburgh district workingmen for a “correct and impartial” history of the strike. The reappearance of Burgoyne’s book should be welcomed by students of American labor history, for its accuracy has withstood the test of time. Inasmuch as this book focuses on skilled English-speaking steelworkers, it complements the recent reprint, Out of this Furnace, which discusses the Slavic experience in the mills. Burgoyne’s book should be required reading for anyone who hopes to understand the tumultuous history of the Monongahela Valley.

The strength of Burgoyne’s work lies not in copious footnotes or extensive bibliography. The author, a professional journalist, did not employ archival research. Nevertheless, this is a record compiled by a keen and sensitive trained observer who understood the events which transpired in Homestead. Burgoyne captures both the flavor of mill town life and the temper of the times. He also integrates the dynamics of steel profits and prices, wages, tariff policy, and partisan politics into his study. Burgoyne conveys the notion that the Homestead men were a sophisticated lot who discussed and understood the forces which affected their livelihoods. Burgoyne also breathes life into steelworkers Hugh O’Donnell and John McLuckie, thus eliminating worker anonymity which so often mars traditional labor histories.

John McLuckie, burgess of Homestead and workman at Carnegie Steel, exhorted his comrades to repudiate a Republican party which brought them high fences, Pinkerton detectives, thugs, and militia. “McKinleyism” was as responsible for the lockout and strike as management. Burgess McLuckie was no mill town lackey for Carnegie Steel. Hugh O’Donnell was a skilled steelworker who enjoyed a comfortable income and owned his own home. Disposed at first toward peaceful solutions, O’Donnell led the Homestead men against the Pinkertons, and later led Frick’s mercenaries through a vicious gauntlet of angry steelworkers to safety. O’Donnell was subsequently party to a deal with Republican party bosses to silence antitax oratory in Homestead in return for a satisfactory settlement of the wage dispute. Even Burgoyne’s “heroes” are capable of duplicity.

The author seemed comfortable with big business, industrialism, and organized labor. However, he was clearly apprehensive about the power of rapacious entrepreneurs, scheming radicals, and the foreign hordes that labored at menial jobs in the mills. His doubts about
those seemingly corrosive elements reflected anxieties which were rampant in America during the final decade of the nineteenth century. Burgoyne characterized Henry Clay Frick as a Bismarckian type, a man of blood and iron. Frick's importation of Pinkertons was proof positive of his commitment to the violent repression of dissident workers in his employ. The unskilled foreign workmen of Homestead remain on the fringes in this book. Burgoyne was clearly uneasy about them and implied that the "Huns" were unreliable. The ominous presence of these faceless shadow figures was magnified in Burgoyne's mind because they were so destitute and seemed vulnerable to exhortations of "return to work." Anarchists were a second alien presence in Homestead of which Burgoyne did not approve. He cheerfully reported the arrest and subsequent expulsion of these "unbidden guests" by the loyal workers of the community. The attempt on the life of Henry Clay Frick by anarchist Alexander Berkman was soundly denounced by Burgoyne. Berkman, Emma Goldman, and their "beer-sodden" circle were no less inimical to Burgoyne's vision of industrial democracy than were Frick and his strikebreakers.

The Homestead Strike of 1892 is clearly written and generally well organized, but Burgoyne does get bogged down in details at times. His discussions of the national guard occupation and ensuing trials are rather tedious. Evidence regarding Carnegie's role in the strike was not available to Burgoyne, but the steelmaker's determination to break the strike is made clear in an afterword written by Professor David Demarest of Carnegie-Mellon University. Arthur Burgoyne's book is an informative introduction to the Homestead strike and industrial conflict in Western Pennsylvania during the Gilded Age.