frontier commanders, lists of prices, receipts, and complaints about unscrupulous settlers and contractors. Materials of this type may not be of great interest to many readers, but for those who are interested in studying the realities of army life on the frontier, they are invaluable. Indeed, the entire series of *The Papers of Henry Bouquet* is unexcelled in revealing the army as a social institution. Documents in Volume 5 shed light on the quality of British troops, on problems of drunkenness and indiscipline within the ranks, and on the nature and shortcomings of any medical services. Even the religious side of the military receives some notice. Lord Barrington’s letter to John Calcraft, August 29, 1760 (enclosure; p. 23), points up the indifference to duty of the regimental chaplains — an attitude that did much to undermine religion in the army.

Three more volumes will serve to complete *The Papers of Henry Bouquet*. It has been more than four decades since the inception of this effort. The first volume to come into print was published in 1951, while the last four have appeared since 1972. One can only congratulate the editors for their perseverance. Lesser scholars might have cut corners in order to speed publication, or might even have abandoned the project entirely. Historians should be grateful that the editors have chosen to see the series through and to take pains in preparing it. Theirs is a major contribution to scholarship.

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**Cornwall: The People and Culture of an Industrial Camelot, 1890-1980.** By Carl Oblinger.

(Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1984. Pp. vi, 123. $3.50.)

This brief volume is part of an oral-history series on industrialization in Pennsylvania communities and its impact upon the inhabitants. The series is targeted toward the general public, to convey in the residents’ own words the experiences, the way of life, and the events which they considered important. Oblinger’s study focuses on life in the iron ore mining town of Cornwall. An introductory chapter quickly surveys the town’s corporate history. A legacy of benevolent company
paternalism persisted from founder Peter Grubb to the twentieth-century owners, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, which acquired the operation from 1916 to 1921. To many of the inhabitants, Cornwall was a harmonious community with a history of benign company-worker relations until the Great Depression and the later closing of the mines in 1972.

Fourteen long-time Cornwall residents were interviewed for this study, and each topical chapter ("The Depression," "The Company," for example) is a collection of vivid interview excerpts. The residents frequently emphasized the domination of the steel company in virtually all aspects of community life. The company controlled the labor supply, importing Mexicans and blacks to work the open pit mine while recruiting underground mining engineers and workers to begin a slope mine. Mrs. Warner Franklin’s comments on the erosion of racial prejudice and Mrs. P. L. Steffensen’s recollections as the wife of a mining engineer indicate the community’s diverse elements and apparent harmony. Other interviews denoted the company’s influence beyond that of basic employer: the control of housing, the willingness to discourage additional businesses except low-paying shirt factories hiring only women, and, as major taxpayer, the almost total support of public schools and civic improvements. While the interviewed residents acknowledged the formidable company presence, they all were quick to note the company’s paternalistic spirit: the use of company tools and supplies to improve homes, the low purchase price of company housing, the low taxes, and the excellent public schools. Oblinger observed that this almost singular dependence on the Bethlehem Steel Corporation misled the inhabitants of Cornwall. The interviews also disclosed a strong sense of community. The residents recalled that entertainment such as bands and baseball teams and "Tip" Karinch’s public-spirited desire to build new housing helped maintain a sense of community.

However, company paternalism could not control the dissatisfaction and insecurity that emerged from the Great Depression. The workers, demanding more safety in the mines as well as higher wages, began a unionization effort. A sense of desperation was evident among the workers, but significant difficulties, particularly the conservative nature of the American workers, were overcome and the company reluctantly recognized the union.

Corporate paternalism did not adequately prepare Cornwall inhabitants for the mine closure. In the short run, they lost jobs and could not find new employment. Long-term problems were also manifested:
an inadequate sewerage system, a low tax base to support schools and city improvements, and an inability to attract new businesses to the area. The closing of the mines, which began almost imperceptibly in the late 1950s with the selling of company houses and the company policy of devaluing corporate property, brought, according to Oblinger, “the end of a whole way of life.” Cornwall residents now faced the difficult transition from company paternalism to self-reliance.

There are some problems with this study. Foremost is the relatively small number of interviewed residents. A larger sampling of inhabitants would better help depict life in Cornwall, especially the readjustments made after the mines were closed. Furthermore, no Bethlehem Steel Corporation officials were interviewed regarding company policies, particularly the paternalistic practices and the decisions to devalue property and eventually close the mines. Since the company so effectively dominated the townspeople, it would be beneficial to note this point of view. Another problem is the complete reliance upon interviews to portray life in Cornwall. Some attempt should have been made to corroborate and/or supplement interview comments with other sources. A list of additional works could have been provided to perhaps stimulate further reading. A brief comparison with other mining communities in Pennsylvania would indicate how Cornwall’s situation differed from other company towns. Despite these shortcomings, Oblinger has made a solid contribution to oral history in Pennsylvania and has provided a valuable source of information on life in Cornwall.

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Otis K. Rice’s West Virginia: A History will inevitably invite comparison with John Alexander Williams’ West Virginia: A Bicentennial History (Norton, 1976). However, they are comparable in only one respect — both are first-rate. The Williams book is essentially interpretive and analytical, concentrating on major themes in the state’s development. Rice, on the other hand, has chosen an approach which