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Book Notes

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BOOK NOTES

Twelve Black Floridians, the new book by Professor Leedell W. Neyland of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, is an interesting and enlightening volume. It includes sketches of Jonathan C. Gibbs, Florida's secretary of state during the Reconstruction era; Matthew M. Lewey, one of Florida's first Negro lawyers, who served as postmaster and mayor of Newnansville, Florida, and who became editor and publisher of the Gainesville *Florida Sentinel*; Mary McLeod Bethune, the noted educator; John R. E. Lee, Sr., who was born a slave in Texas and who became president of Florida A.&M.; Eartha M. White, one of Florida's great humanitarians; Zora Neal Hurston, author and folklorist; Abrams L. Lewis, founder of the Afro-American Life Insurance Company; Dr. George Henry Starke of Sanford; Coach A. S. "Jake" Gaither; Robert Lee "Bob" Hayes, who, when he established the world's record in the 100-yard dash at the National AAU Championship meet in St. Louis in 1963, was dubbed "the world's fastest human," and who is also an outstanding football player; Harry Tyson Moore, head of Florida's NAACP, who was killed in a bomb explosion in Mims, Florida, in 1951; and Father John E. Culmer of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Dr. Neyland's work points up the need for full-length scholarly studies of many, if not all, of his subjects. It also emphasizes the need for additional research and study of Florida ethnic history. Published by Florida A. & M. University Foundation, Tallahassee, the book sells for \$1.75.

Andrew Jackson and Pensacola, edited by Professor James R. McGovern of the Faculty of History, University of West Florida, is a commemorative volume celebrating the 150th anniversary of the transfer of Spanish West Florida to the United States. It was published by the Jackson Day Sesquicentennial Committee of Pensacola. In addition to a chronology of Jackson's three "visits" to Pensacola, a listing of Pensacola's mayors, beginning with José Noriega, and a selected bibliography of Jackson and Pensacola by James A. Servies, director of University

of West Florida's libraries, this monograph contains several articles about Florida's first American governor. Several of these are excerpted from the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. E. W. Carswell has a short description of Jackson's 1818 Florida campaign; Pat Dodson describes "Jacksonia in Pensacola"; and Professor William S. Coker has written on "Andrew Jackson, the Spanish Floridas, and the United States." The monograph may be ordered from the Pensacola-Escambia Development Commission, 803 North Palafox Street, Pensacola 32501, and the price is \$1.00.

When Federals arrived in Fernandina, Florida, on March 3, 1862, Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, United States Navy, was in command of the Union flotilla. It was also gunboats from his squadron that captured Jacksonville and occupied St. Augustine shortly afterwards. As commander of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, Du Pont was in charge of naval operations off Florida's east coast until July 6, 1863. The ships which patrolled the St. Johns River and which operated at Mosquito Inlet were under his jurisdiction. Admiral Du Pont's *Civil War Letters* have been edited by John D. Hayes, and the three volumes have been published by Cornell University Press. Many of these documents, particularly in volumes one and two, relate to Florida, and Florida persons and places are referred to in other communications. Students of Federal naval activities in Florida during the Civil War will find these letters useful. Volume one contains a biographical study of Admiral **Du Pont** and a description of the Du Pont manuscript collection. The three volumes sell for \$45.00.

Cross Creek Cookery, by Marjory Kinnan Rawlings, is one of the best known Florida cookbooks. It has been reissued in a paperback edition by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. The illustrations by Robert Camp, Jr., which appeared in the original 1942 edition, are also included. The price is \$2.95.

On the morning of March 7, 1868, four prisoners aided by a guard escaped from Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas and headed a small, open fishing boat into the Gulf of Mexico. The

men were never seen again. One, Colonel George St. Leger Grenfell, was a British soldier of fortune who had come to America in 1862. A dedicated Confederate, he played a unique role on behalf of the southern cause. He served first with cavalryman John H. Morgan and later with Braxton Bragg and J. E. B. Stuart. He was involved in an abortive plan to free imprisoned Confederates, take over the city of Chicago, and establish a Northwestern Confederacy. As a result of his involvement in the "Chicago Conspiracy," as it came to be known, he was condemned to hang. The British minister in Washington was able to get his sentence commuted to life in prison, and he was sent to Fort Jefferson where he shared a cell with Dr. Samuel Mudd and three of the others who had been convicted of their connection with John Wilkes Booth in the assassination of President Lincoln. When Grenfell escaped from Fort Jefferson, he left behind his papers, including a diary which came into the possession of Captain T. P. McElrath who evidently used it to write "Annals of the War . . . Story of a Soldier of Fortune," which appeared in the *Philadelphia Weekly Times*, May 3, 1879. *Colonel Grenfell's Wars: the Life of a Soldier of Fortune* includes the story of Grenfell's incarceration at Dry Tortugas. Written by Stephen Z. Starr, and published by Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, it sells for \$10.95.

The California Agricultural History Center, Davis California, which has published previously several important agricultural bibliographies, has now released *A List of References for the History of Agriculture in the Southern United States, 1865-1900*. It was published as a cooperative project with the Agricultural History Branch, United States Department of Agriculture. Compiled and edited by Helen H. Edwards, the bibliography lists books and articles relating to land resources, land policy, farm production and management, economics, farm organization, politics, agricultural improvement, and rural people and life. There are many Florida entries. There are sixty-three Florida studies listed in the states category and many of these are from the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. There is also an author index that is very useful. Copies may be ordered from the Agricultural History Center, University of California, Davis.

Since *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, by Dee Brown, is a documented account of the systematic plunder of western Indians during the second half of the nineteenth century, there are only scattered references to the Indians of the Southeast. However, the story of Indian decimation, battle by battle, massacre by massacre, broken treaty by broken treaty, is, of course, not isolated to the Indian tribes west of the Mississippi. One needs only to examine the nineteenth century saga of the Florida Seminoles to find a similar story of the destruction of Indian culture and civilization. The author of this volume utilized oral history as it was employed before the age of electronic recording devices. Isaac Pitman's stenographic system came into vogue after the Civil War, and when Indians spoke at council meetings, usually freely and candidly, a recording clerk was usually present. Their first-person statements, long buried in the official records, have been fashioned into a fascinating narrative. This volume, published by Holt, Rinehart, Winston Publishers, New York, sells for \$10.95. There is also a paperback edition.

To Die Game: The Story of the Lowry Band, Indian Guerrillas of Reconstruction, published by the Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, is the history of North Carolina's Lumbee Indians. After the Civil War Henry Berry Lowry led a group of his followers in attacks against the Ku Klux Klan and the white political establishment of North Carolina. During the war, the Confederate government had forced the Indians to work alongside black slaves. Outraged, a number of these conscripts had fled into the swamps, formed a guerrilla band, and emerged after the war to exact their vengeance. They had hoped for some degree of justice under a Republican government, but instead they were harassed, hunted down, and branded as outlaws by the North Carolina legislature. This nineteenth-century history of the Lumbees, by W. McKee Evans, is valuable for a full knowledge of Southeastern Indians. It sells for \$8.95.

Indian Oratory are the speeches by noted nineteenth-century Indian chieftains. Collected by W. C. Vanderwerth, there is

also a short biography of each orator, a description of the conditions under which the speeches were made, and a photograph or portrait of the speaker. Published by University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, the price of the book is \$8.95.

From the Fresh-Water Navy: 1861-64, The Letters of Acting Master's Mate Henry R. Browne and Acting Ensign Symmes E. Browne was edited by John D. Milligan. This is the third volume in the *Naval Letters Series* published by the United States Naval Institute. Volume Two, *Aboard the USS Florida: 1863-65*, was reviewed in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, July 1969. The *Naval Letters Series* is making available hitherto unpublished naval history manuscripts, official and private. The present volume contains letters written by the Browne brothers while they were serving in the unique navy built by the Federals to wrest from Confederate control the great inland rivers in the Mississippi Valley. The book may be ordered from the United States Naval Institute, Annapolis, Maryland; the price is \$13.50.

Estaban, a Moorish slave and member of Pánfilo Narváez's expedition, was the first black man known to have set foot on Texas soil. He arrived with Cabeza de Vaca in 1528, just two years after the group had first landed in Florida near Tampa Bay. Three centuries later, thousands of other Negroes entered Texas, coming first as slaves and then as free men. *The Negro In Texas, 1874-1900*, by Lawrence D. Rice, concentrates on the gradual decline of the Negro's status in the post-Reconstruction era. The author describes the blacks' tragic fight for political, economic, and social equity. Published by Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, the book sells for \$10.00.

Yankee Cavalrymen, by John W. Rowell, is the history of the Ninth Pennsylvania Cavalry, one of the few eastern regiments to serve with the western armies and the only cavalry from the East to make the final campaigns through Georgia and the Carolinas. While it was never involved in Florida, it did fight in many of the battles, including Perryville and Chickamauga, against Confederates from Florida. In November 1864

the Ninth Pennsylvania moved into the area south of Macon, Georgia, and on December 12, it reached Midway Church, just a few miles north of the St. Marys River and the Florida border. This history was published by the University of Tennessee Press and it lists for \$7.50.

Explorations in the Black Experience is a new series of anthologies presenting significant scholarly works relative to American black history. Some are "problem" oriented, presenting conflicting interpretations, and others are purely "thematic." *Blacks in the Abolitionist Movement*, edited by John H. Bracey, Jr., August Meier, and Elliott Rudwick, falls into the second category. Historians have disagreed on the nature of the participation of blacks in the abolitionist movement. In the past, whites have been given the major share of credit for carrying on the work of the movement, and Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass were regarded as exceptions. Recent scholarship is changing this view. This volume describes the activities of leading black abolitionists, it examines the role blacks played in the abolitionist movement, and it directs attention to the involvement of blacks in John Brown's Raid at Harper's Ferry. *American Slavery: The Question of Resistance*, also by Professors Bracey, Meier, and Rudwick, focuses on the specific problem of the nature of chattel slavery in the South, and discusses the nature and extent of Negro resistance to bondage. It presents a variety of points of view, from Ulrich B. Phillips and Stanley Elkins to Woodson, DuBois, James, Brawley, Aptheker, Wish, and Stamp. These paperbacks are published by Wadsworth Publishing Company, Belmont, California.

Recollections of Alexander H. Stephens, the diary kept by the former vice-president of the Confederacy while he was imprisoned at Fort Warren in 1865, was published originally in 1910. It has been republished by Da Capo Press, New York. The biographical study by Myrta Lockett Avary, which also appeared in the original edition, is included. The reprint volume sells for \$17.50.

Da Capo Press has also republished *Camp-Fire and Cotton-Field: Southern Adventure in Time of War. Life with the*

Union Armies and Residence on a Louisiana Plantation, by Thomas W. Knox, which first appeared in 1865. Florida was little noticed in this volume, although the author thought the climate “very healthy, and . . . highly beneficial to invalids.” There were few other attractions for settlers, the author thought, except “men born with fins and webbed feet might enjoy themselves in the lakes and swamps, which form a considerable portion of Florida.” This reprint volume sells for \$17.50.

Of special interest to Floridians in the pamphlet *North Carolina and the War of 1812*, by Sarah McCulloh Lennon, is the section dealing with the war against the Creek Indians which was climaxed by the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in 1814. The outcome of this battle had a major impact on the Florida Indians living in the area between the Suwanee and Apalachicola rivers. This pamphlet may be ordered from the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, Box 1881, Raleigh, North Carolina; it sells for \$50.

The Monroe Doctrine: An American Frame of Mind, by Charles Morrow Wilson, examines the Doctrine and the men who shaped it and attempts to shed new light on its relevance to present-day foreign policy decisions. This is the first of a series of books by Auerbach Publishers, Princeton, New Jersey which will seek to “probe trigger events in history.” It sells for \$5.95.