

1973

Book Reviews

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Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1973) "Book Reviews," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 52 : No. 2 , Article 7.
Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol52/iss2/7>

BOOK REVIEWS

River of the Golden Ibis. By Gloria Jahoda. (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1973. xxi, 408 pp. Foreword, prologue, bibliography, index. \$10.95.)

“The Hillsborough begins in the Green Swamp, nine hundred miles of central Florida wilderness where white ibises drift in the shallows over willow-bordered pools. . . . The stillness is broken by the songs of Carolina wrens in the thickets, by the insistent voices of leopard frogs, by the calling of rain crows on slow summer afternoons. . . . Pileated woodpeckers rap high in the pines in the drier places, where the ground rises a foot or two and bare sand shows under the pinestraw that glistens rusty in a fitful swampland sun.”

Lyric writing such as this is more poetry than prose, an art form rarely seen any more. To find it in a book about a river one has only seen from highway bridges as a poisoned and half dying stream, flowing for almost half its course through the major industrial and seaport city of Tampa and its environs, is like finding an orchid blooming in the ageless ice of a glacier. You revel in the music of flowing words and your throat tightens at their beauty. This is a book about beauty and history— about people, too, but they are the scavengers, the despoilers who, no matter how romantic and exciting their story, always end up as the villains who attack, and too often destroy, the loveliness of nature.

In the half land, half water, paradise of the Green Swamp, whose story this book is all about, neither primitive people nor the animals were the destroyers. They took only what was needed to live. Neither was the turtle, whose fossil skeleton announced its presence as the oldest of Florida’s living things— 120,000,000 years ago— a destroyer, or even the Paleo-Indians, whose legends still spoke of crossing a great ice bridge far to the northwest, did not harm the land or the river, when they came to the land of flowers more than 10,000 years ago. Their stories are here, as are the tragic sagas of the Seminoles and the more exciting but destructive tales of rivalry for the ground encompassing the great bay into which the river pours. Fortunes were made, in land and

the products of the land, dedicated to the name of progress and therefore inevitable, yet inevitably destructive. Here is the entire story of a rich and fertile region, the rise and fall of empire and industry, the fortunes of war, and the men who made fortunes and lost them, sometimes along with their lives.

More than anything else, however, *River of The Golden Ibis* is a word picture, as vivid and as real as any painting on canvas, perhaps even more so, for the author can look into the souls of the people who love it and reveal its meaning to them. Here, in the Green Swamp, is one of the last strongholds of natural beauty in Florida, perhaps in the world. The next century may see canals, dams, bulldozers, and giant road-building machines move inexorably to destroy it. But for this moment in time, and for moments past through millions of years, the author has captured a picture of rare beauty in nature and furnished an inspiration for those who dare to fight that it may be preserved from destruction.

Jacksonville, Florida

FRANK G. SLAUGHTER

Tales of Old Brevard. By Georgiana Kjerulff. (Melbourne: South Brevard Historical Society, 1972. ii, 216 pp. Illustrations, index, bibliography. \$3.95.)

Interesting historical books are written with enthusiasm, and this is one. Mrs. Kjerulff, with a journalism degree from Louisiana State University, began working as a feature writer for the *Melbourne Daily Times* in the mid 1960s. Some of her assignments on historical subjects whetted her appetite for more, and she soon began writing a popular column under the heading which later became the title of this book. She spent more than three years interviewing old timers and researching private and public records— and you can tell by her breezy, readable style that she enjoyed every minute of it.

While the first three chapters are devoted to the geology of the area, the primitive Indians, Spanish, French, and English settlements, ill-fated missionary attempts by the Franciscans, and the Second Seminole War in Brevard, she soon gets into her theme of tracing the beginnings of Melbourne, Eau Gallie, Titus-

ville, Cocoa— today's "Missile Country" around Cape Canaveral whence men take off for space journeys in our time.

She writes of the Indian River as a trade route where schooners and sternwheelers plied before they were put out of business by Henry Flagler's railroad which reached Melbourne in 1894. The railroad station soon became a social center and "meeting the train" a ritual in these early towns. "Youngsters learned to listen to the whistle code, and dreamed of the day when they could be a big important man like the conductor with his very own life-long ticket punch and his railroad watch."

She tells of the early settlers and what brought them to the area, their struggles, successes, and disappointments. This is a book about people, their ambitions and dreams, the disasters they survived like the great freezes of 1894-1895 that practically destroyed the orange industry, and the collapse of the fantastic boom of the twenties with the great hurricane of 1926. There are anecdotes of early lighthouse-keepers, bootlegging days, pirates, and treasure hunting. We are given an insight into the lumbering operations which cut the virgin forests of longleaf yellow pine and giant cypresses.

Mrs. Kjerulff has done an admirable job of recapturing the flavor and spirit of the old Indian River country in some two dozen interviews with old timers, carrying the reader back to a simpler, happy time when "we were jest one big family along the river."

She writes beautifully and sensitively of a natural Florida hammock which has been preserved. "The first gift you receive when you enter the Erna Nixon Hammock of Melbourne Village is silence. This is a rare gift in today's noisy world of rumbling missiles and sound-shattering jets. The silence washes over you in this world of green, of filtered sunshine and shade. . . . The Melbourne Villagers love the hammock as a retreat and as an outdoor church, if you think of a church as a place to thing on God and His wonder, a spot to meditate, a place to seek solace, to look for an understanding of life."

The book includes a large number of historical photographs from the collection of Sterling Hawks, Melbourne, several interesting historical maps, and drawings by Katherine McLamb. *Tales of Old Brevard* is a genuine contribution to Floridiana,

the more so because area historical books help supply "new roots" to our burgeoning population of transplants who left their own back in some other state. It is recommended reading for today's condominium dwellers in their concrete towers to show them how the early settlers built palmetto shacks, then houses of drift boards, and finally with real lumber from a mill. Mrs. Kjerulff tells how they fought clouds of mosquitoes with smudge pots and palmetto switches, struggled to clear the land, plant pineapple patches and orange groves, and built the Florida we enjoy today.

Stuart, Florida

ERNEST LYONS

Hunted Like a Wolf: The Story of the Seminole War. By Milton Meltzer. (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1972. 216 pp. Illustrations, map, bibliography, index. \$5.50.)

This book relates the account of the Seminole Indians who either were deceived into signing a treaty by which they surrendered Florida or foolishly did so, and when they balked at obeying the terms of the treaty were "hunted down like wolves." The book is well-written and traces the story of the Seminoles from their earlier life in Georgia and Alabama to the end of the 1850 outbreak.

At first during the Second Seminole War the whites tried to defeat the Indians in battle and to force them into surrender. This tactic failed when the Indians retreated into the lowlands or scattered into smaller bands. Next, the military tried the tactic of parleying with them and capturing them when they would not surrender. This method resulted in the seizure of many leading Seminoles including Osceola. Next, some leaders and relatives of leaders were captured and threatened with death if they did not persuade others to surrender. Finally, bloodhounds and friendly Indians from other tribes were brought in to track down the Seminoles.

The story of Coacoochee (Wildcat) who escaped from captivity in Fort Marion at St. Augustine and was recaptured under a flag of truce is recalled. He and his men were brought to Tampa, and they were marched aboard the ship which would

carry them to Oklahoma via New Orleans. The Seminoles, bound as they were, could hardly walk, and they hung their heads in silence. Colonel Worth told the Indians that he was their friend. Coacoochee replied: "The white man said he was my friend; he abused our women and children and told us to go from the land. Still he gave me his hand in friendship; we took it; while taking it he had a snake in the other." The white man tried every trick that he knew to remove the Indians from Florida, but 100 or more Seminoles were able to evade him, and their descendants live in Florida today.

University of Tampa

JAMES W. COVINGTON

Florida's Promoters: The Men Who Made It Big. By Charles E. Harner. (Tampa: Trend House, 1973. 72 pp. Introduction, illustrations, index. \$7.95.)

"Until Man came along and fixed it up, Florida was no place to live. These are stories of eight men and a woman who did most of the fixing." Thus begins Charles E. Harner's saga of the "Big Promoters." Mr. Harner, associate editor of *Florida Trend* (where these sketches originally appeared in series), has an affinity for the people he writes about. Eschewing the scholarly encombrances of bibliography and footnotes, he recounts the exploits of the Promoters with literary hyperbole befitting his subjects. He gives them credit for forging development of the state through conscious effort, and, while he readily admits the personal and business failings of his protagonists, he makes only the slightest mention of the sometimes profound opposition engendered by the operations of the Promoters. Since the Independent movement of the 1880s there have been those who did not share the Promoters' vision of a road to prosperity paved with iron rails, asphalt, or binder money. The result is a book which is less than balanced history, but it makes for enjoyable reading.

The opening chapters are devoted to three Gilded Age figures who have secured prominent niches in the pantheon of state developers: Hamilton Disston, Henry B. Plant, and Henry M. Flagler. Added to this well-known triumvirate is Bion Hall Barnett, who started banking operations with his father in Jack-

sonville in 1877, and who guided the growth of the Barnett system of banks the next seventy-three years. The lone woman among the Promoters is Mrs. Bertha Palmer, wife of Chicago real estate and hotel millionaire Potter Palmer, who brought money and national attention to Sarasota in the second decade of the twentieth century. The rest of the book is devoted to four men associated with the 1920s Boom period: D. P. Davis, Barron Collier, Carl Graham Fisher, and George E. Merrick. The photographs on these pages— of William Jennings Bryan touting real estate at the Venetian Pool and imported Italian gondoliers poling along freshly dug canals— capture with particular vividness the atmosphere of the heyday of Florida's developers.

Yet Mr. Harner's book reminds us that the spirit of the Promoter still thrives in the land; a salient theme in the Sunshine State, past and present.

Flagler College

THOMAS S. GRAHAM

Sugar and Slaves: The Rise of the Planter Class in the English West Indies, 1624-1713. By Richard S. Dunn. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press for the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, Virginia, 1972. xx, 359 pp. Preface, tables, abbreviations, illustrations, index. \$11.95.)

The formative period of British West Indian history is currently enjoying a renaissance. Carl and Roberta Bridenbaugh recently published a delightful survey, *The English in the Caribbean, 1624-1690*, and now Professor Richard Dunn of the University of Pennsylvania unveils a scholarly analysis of the smallest but most important social element in the islands. Adhering strictly to "The Rise of the Planter Class," Dunn develops in great detail the tribulations and triumph of the West Indian sugar nabobs. By restricting his political narrative, he is able to provide significant quantitative evaluations, and, following a popular academic pursuit in which he has already made interesting contributions, Professor Dunn offers comparisons between West Indian, New England, and old English socio-economic patterns that are fascinating and instructive.

The adoption of sugar culture in Barbados and the Leewards, and its rapid transference to Jamaica, determined the structure of life in the islands. Sugar meant economic viability; sugar meant large estates and the elimination of small landholders; sugar required a large unskilled labor force, and that meant African slavery. By careful use of the extant records (seldom very satisfactory for the purposes of a quantitative historian), Dunn demonstrates the growth and fluctuations of all these factors. He is more cautious in his use of contemporary documents than many of his predecessors, and his line of argument is thereby the more persuasive.

Cold figures are fleshed with human documentation as Dunn looks at the lives of the planters. His portrait of them is not flattering, and he reminds his reader that the islands were, at this stage, a frontier region in which life was very hard— and often very short— for all. The successful rise of the planter class seems to owe more to the innate economic virtue of sugar itself than to the drive of the planters or their hard-driven slaves. Not only does Dunn dispel any romantic aura which might be thought to surround the planter class, he is unemotionally hard-headed when dealing with the Negro population. Again, his realistic evaluation of slave usage and mis-usage is compelling.

Finally, particular attention and credit must be given to Dunn's comparative passages. A student of colonial New England in his own right, he draws upon studies of Virginia and Carolina to emphasize the varieties of British colonial development and, in the case of Carolina, to demonstrate the contribution of the West Indian colonies to the development of the continental plantations. Dunn's keen awareness of the possibilities of comparative history provides many surprises and much light.

Sugar and Slaves is a welcome addition to the new literature of West Indian history. It will appeal to all students of the seventeenth century Caribbean and the emerging British Empire.

Auburn University

ROBERT R. REA

The Papers of Henry Laurens, Volume Three: Jan. 1, 1759- Aug. 31, 1763. Edited by Philip M. Hamer and George C. Rogers,

Jr. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1972. xxv, 599 pp. Introduction, appendix, index. \$17.95.)

This, the third volume of the *Papers of Henry Laurens*, publishes those documents illustrative of the merchant's life and business during the Seven Years War. The work continues the high editorial standards of the preceding volumes. The editors are to be congratulated for their unearthing new Laurens correspondence in the letterbook of Holsworth, Olive & Newman Co. Another example of the thorough way in which they have handled a problem of a lost Laurens's newspaper essay is to be found on pp. 270-272. In this case Laurens wrote a piece in Robert Wells's *South Carolina Weekly Gazette* of March 2, 1763. The newspaper has long since disappeared. Nonplussed, the editors went to his opponent's reply in an essay by Christopher Gadsden and paraphrased Laurens's work as closely as possible.

This "lost" piece was on the Cherokee War, and the volume contains another unpublished essay in answer to Gadsden's newspaper writings which were critical of the British, and particularly, Lieutenant Colonel James Grant's conduct of the war. In spite of the good research, the introduction on this point, perhaps because of the necessity of brevity, leaves much to be desired. It is doubtful that Colonel Montgomery and Grant defeated the Cherokee and settled the Indian problem. Weren't the Cherokees soundly beaten by Andrew Williamson in 1776? Few South Carolinians, with the exception of Laurens, were pleased with the results of 1762, and it sowed distrust of British authority in the province.

The letters reveal the rise to wealth and prominence of businessman Laurens. He quickly took advantage of British success in the Seven Years' War and was among the first merchants to begin trade in the new areas. He purchased new town sections in Charles Town and plantation land in South Carolina. In addition, evincing interest in the newly-acquired East Florida, he and other South Carolinians began a land rush into the Altamaha region, even though it was even then debatable that the territory was a part of East Florida. Subsequently it belonged to Georgia. In spite of Laurens's property which seemed so tied to British fortunes, he indicates no signs of any future loyalism. In the

heated Boone Controversy, he sided with the provincials' position, though he took umbrage at their methods.

This is a rich volume done under the burden of the death of Dr. Philip May Hamer who began the project and who was greatly admired for his many contributions to history and beloved by all of his colleagues.

Georgetown University

RICHARD WALSH

The British Occupation of Charleston, 1780-82. By George Smith McCowen, Jr. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1972. xi, 169 pp. Preface, appendixes, bibliographical essay, index. \$9.95.)

During the Revolution Britain at one time or another occupied almost every American city. Charleston was under British dominion from May 1780 until December 1782, and Professor McCowen's work, South Carolina Tricentennial Study Number 5, topically analyzes the period of British occupation. His treatment of fluctuating political allegiances, economic policies, Negroes, the Board of Police, social life, and the final evacuation illustrate much of the frustration, patriotism, bitterness, ineptness, and chicanery typical of the Revolution.

Thousands of Negroes, both slave and free, lived in this city, and there was a striking parallel between problems confronting British officials in Charleston during the Revolution and union authorities at Port Royal, South Carolina, during the Civil War. Neither was sure how to treat slaves who escaped from rebel masters asking for liberty, and both debated the wisdom of abolition and whether the exigencies of warfare made it desirable to arm blacks.

The Board of Police, patterned after similar boards in other occupied cities, was designed to play a key role in Charleston's pacification. Appointed by the military and staffed by Carolina loyalists, the board occupied the middle ground between martial law and civil government. McCowen evaluates in detail the role of the Board of Police and the problems it confronted: the minutiae of municipal government, executing Whitehall's confusing instructions, and the bewildering fact that the board, de-

signed as a temporary institution, became almost permanent. This study, based on broad research in British and American manuscript sources, provides an enlightening analysis of the workings of the Board of Police.

McCowen's treatment of social and economic conditions, though not without merit, is less original. It would have been instructive to know more about how British-occupied Charleston compared with Savannah, New York, and other British-occupied cities. The discussion and listing of intransigent South Carolina patriots who were exiled and imprisoned in St. Augustine is of particular interest to Floridians. This compact work makes a modest, though scholarly, contribution to the literature of the American Revolution.

Florida State University

J. LEITCH WRIGHT, JR.

George Washington: Anguish and Farewell (1793-1799), Vol. IV. By James Thomas Flexner. (Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1972. 554 pp. Introduction, illustrations, bibliography, source references, index. \$15.00.)

James Flexner's final volume of this sterling biography portrays George Washington as a human, struggling president of a young nation, rather than as a larger-than-life folk hero. The importance of the interaction of Washington's private and public lives becomes understandable through Flexner's artful prose and skillful analyses.

This work avoids the pitfalls of adulatory biography, although the author's admiration of Washington is constantly apparent. The occasionally vital role of Washington's failing memory, lack of stamina, and decline in decisiveness are duly noted. My respect for Washington's political skill, however, increased after consuming Flexner's detailed descriptions of the President's handling of critical crises, such as the Genet Affair, the Whiskey Rebellion, and Jay's Treaty.

Washington's strength of character and political perception formed his two mainstays, according to Flexner. Washington did not theorize; he responded to specific problems and thus was able

to handle multitudes of conflicting problems while remaining the even-handed leader. Flexner emphasizes Washington's efforts to maintain a balanced administration both in foreign and domestic policies down to the geographic origin of his advisors. After leaving office he began to lose faith in any president's ability to be more than a candidate of a faction. Washington had intended to leave a unified nation, but he relinquished office when the country was badly divided by party spirit— in part, a final failure.

Flexner's insightful treatment of Washington's role as slave-owning plantation gentleman adds new dimensions to scholarly understanding of Washington. The author paints a vivid picture of Washington the struggling farmer, albeit on a large scale, hoping to balance accounts, but succeeding only when his land investments profited. Much of his speculative success, Flexner asserts, rested on his conservative approach and his aversion to Hamilton's financial facilities.

Washington became increasingly intolerant of slavery, according to Flexner, and ultimately concluded that it was immoral. He was, Flexner argues, one of the few political leaders from Virginia or the entire South who became more convinced of the inherent evil and economic bankruptcy of slavery when the revolution was over. Washington endeavored to free his slaves through his will, by allowing slaves to "escape," or remain behind in free states without searching for them. Yet he never extended himself to ameliorate either the mental or physical hardships of Negroes who served as his slaves. Washington realized slavery was uneconomical and immoral, Flexner says, but tradition, fear, and political necessity prevented him from publicizing his views while he lived.

There is very little for which a reviewer might criticize Flexner. The relationship of Martha and George could have been explored beyond such observations that Martha was "obedient" and George did not always find "Martha's company exciting." (p. 436). But overall this final volume is a fitting capstone to the most recent and in many ways the best multi-volume biography of America's most famous man.

Library of Congress

GERARD W. GAWALT

Champion of Southern Federalism, Robert Goodloe Harper of South Carolina. By Joseph W. Cox. (Port Washington, New York: Kennikat Press, 1972. x, 230 pp. Preface, notes on sources, index. \$12.50.)

Joseph Cox's political biography of the Virginia-born, North Carolina-reared, Princeton-educated, South Carolina politician who finally settled in Maryland, is a welcome addition to the works that explore the nature of Southern Federalism.

This sinewy biography is a skillfully and zestfully written account of the life and times of Robert Goodloe Harper, only slightly marred by a defensive tone in sections. Since Harper has been frequently stereotyped as one of the more extreme xenophobic Federalists responsible for the chauvinistically illiberal Alien and Sedition Acts, the chief thrust of this rendering is to rehabilitate Harper. In this attempt Cox succeeds in demonstrating that while Harper veered too far to the right, he was in good company. However, no amount of explaining can alter the evidence that Harper did get carried away, and when he succumbed to the paranoia generated from fears of French invasion and slave insurrection, he embraced whatever measures necessary to secure the nation's defenses against enemies within and without. He was in that "end-justifies-the-means" quagmire from which he could not be extricated when the war scare dissipated. His political career ended trying vainly to elect Aaron Burr over Thomas Jefferson.

Of more value than the rehabilitation of Harper is the light shed into Southern Federalism. In 1968 Lisle Rose's *Prologue to Democracy* sought to recall attention to a neglected chapter by analyzing the political ideology and electioneering techniques of Federalists in the South. Cox's *Harper* is valuable in illustrating by the career of one man how Federalism in the South was transformed from moderate conservatism to rabid patriotism, a development that had no small role in the demise of a majority party.

Jacksonville University

WALKER BLANTON

Napoleon's Soldiers in America. By Simone de la Souchère Deléry. (Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Co., 1972. xviii, 214 pp. Foreword, acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$8.95.)

According to the foreword, written by James Domengaux, president of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, Ms. Deléry is "a Napoleonic scholar of the first rank" whose interest in this subject was stimulated by the discovery of a tombstone in a small Louisiana cemetery which read, "Pierre Charlet, Soldat de Napoléon I." After consulting sources from the public archives to private family collections, the author published the study in French as *A la poursuite des aigles*. It won the Prix de Langue Française of the French Academy, and the author received the Cross of the Legion of Honor for her historical work. Furthermore, the book was accepted as a current selection of the Cercle du Livre de France. With such impressive credentials, plus a career of teaching French at Tulane University in New Orleans, the book promises much.

Unfortunately, to this reviewer the promises were not realized. While many followers of the Corsican emperor fled to the United States after the final exile to St. Helena, this book is not really concerned with those except the ones in and around New Orleans. How disappointing for Alabama historians to find the Société Agricole et Mécanique (Vine and Olive Colony) of Marengo County, near Demopolis on the Tombigbee River, treated with a scant few pages! Other historians working on the same Napoleonic refugees, such as Winston Smith, did a better historical job (e.g., Smith's *Days of Exile: the Story of the Vine and Olive Colony in Alabama*). Camillus J. Dismukes, who wrote "The French Colony in Marengo County, Alabama," *Alabama Historical Quarterly* (Spring-summer 1970, 81-113), utilized the *American State Papers, Public Lands*, to provide valuable genealogical and historical information on the grantees.

What has Ms. Deléry done in her study? She has concentrated on a handful of the exiles, such as Pierre Benjamin Buisson, but she has hardly exhausted the sources on those exiles who settled in Louisiana. There is no listing of the former officers and men, no real analysis of what they did. Instead, the author treats us to fictitious conversations and anecdotes of local color. She does not

use the kind of information explored by Samuel J. Marino in his study of the newspapers and literature of the emigrés, but she makes up for it by substituting imaginative vignettes, based on real persons and, apparently, real events. One doesn't really know which!

French scholars may wonder at her reference to Jean Baptiste de Bienville as founder of New Orleans (Jean Baptiste Le Moyne was Sieur de Bienville, a title!), and linguistic scholars may object to the narrow, racist interpretation of the word, "Creole." This word was originally Spanish – *criollo*– and it referred to people born in the New World of European parents. "It goes without saying," says the author, "that the Creoles were pure Caucasian." (p. 18). Yet, in the eighteenth-century Cabildo Records the word is also used to describe free mulattoes of Louisiana, a meaning which is also accepted by Webster's Dictionary and a century and a half of common usage (the song, "Creole babies with flashing eyes . . . way down younder in New Orleans," refers to free mulattoes, not to the aristocratic Creole Association, dating from 1886).

There are occasional errors in the bibliography (Yakum for Yoakum) and references in historical journals are incomplete. If, however, you wish to taste the flavor of Creole life among the Napoleonic exiles, this book will give it, and it is well-written from a literary standpoint. It just is not good history.

University of Alabama in Birmingham

JACK D.L. HOLMES

The War of 1812. By John K. Mahon. (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1972. viii, 476 pp. Prologue, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$12.50.)

The author set out to write a definitive history that would serve as a reference book and would place the War of 1812 precisely in its setting in the politics and culture of the time. He succeeded substantially in the first objective, less so in the second. What he has produced is a collection of extremely detailed narratives of campaigns as seen with the perspective of commanders in the field but inadequately related to overall strategic

planning, or lack of it. These accounts of campaigns and battles, based on primary and secondary authorities, form a comprehensive compendium which, though coming at a time when books on the War of 1812 seem to appear every few months, will long serve as the first source to which the student must turn for the facts. Copious references, indicated collectively at the end of each paragraph but printed at the back of the book, give access to the sources. There is also a full bibliography.

By contrast with the detail of operations, there is very little about the war as social phenomenon, little to show how it fits into the history of the evolution of warfare, little about its relation to the world conflict being waged in Europe at the same time, and little about its effect on the national development of the United States and Canada except in so far as sectional opposition in the former country is graphically portrayed by the unwillingness of New England to fight.

Because other scholars have recently dealt very fully with the origins of the war, Professor Mahon sketched its causes only briefly here without indication of differences of possible interpretation and of the fact that much more was at stake than seaman's and neutral rights. American expansionism, important though not the primary cause, is almost totally ignored and in the book's conclusion the fact that none of the ostensible American objectives were achieved is passed over lightly. The result is that the book gives the impression that the United States was victorious whereas, President Nixon's recent protest (that he did not want to be the first American President to lose a war) notwithstanding, a good case can be made for the opposite point of view.

The great value of this book, more than that of a reference book or as a lesson how not to fight a war (as was foreseen by the author), will be as leisure reading for many "buffs" who revel in accounts of battles and campaigns. *The War of 1812* makes no attempt to be colourful, dramatic, or literary; but the essential stories are told clearly, reasonably accurately, and in a straight forward manner, and that is what the buff wants.

It is a great pity that by a series of slips, the construction of H.M.S. *St Lawrence* and of U.S.S. *New Orleans*, the grotesque culmination of the ship-building race on Lake Ontario, is put in the fall of 1813 instead of 1814 and that the former vessel was launched by the author again in the fall of 1814, but misnamed

Lawrence. To add to the confusion, the index identifies the Atlantic fleet's schooner, *St. Lawrence*, which grounded in the Leonard's Creek in June 1814, with the Lake Ontario three-decker ship of the line *St. Lawrence*.

Duke University

RICHARD A. PRESTON

The Diary of Edmund Ruffin, Volume I, Toward Independence: October, 1856-April, 1861. Edited by William K. Scarborough. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1972. xlviii, 664 pp. Foreward, introduction, appendices, index. \$20.00.)

Southern historians have long recognized a diary kept by Edmund Ruffin from 1856 to 1865 as a valuable source of information on the secession movement. Using the diary, however, had been neither convenient nor pleasant as it ran into many hundreds of barely-legible pages. Now, thanks to the editorial labors of Professor Scarborough, a leading authority on antebellum southern agriculture, scholars will be able to consult this important document for the 1856-1861 period without over-taxing their patience or eyesight.

When he began to keep a diary Ruffin had completed his work as an agricultural reformer, being then generally credited with having laid the foundation of the prosperity of the old states of the Upper South, and had given his plantations to his children. In retirement he was free to concentrate upon achieving independence for the slave states, and his diary recorded his activities as a secessionist propagandist.

During the years covered by Volume I of the *Diary*, Ruffin traveled extensively through the southeastern states, attending all events in which secessionists were interested. His accounts of the Southern Commercial Convention held at Montgomery, Alabama, in 1858, the Charleston convention of the National Democratic Party, and the South Carolina Secession Convention are particularly interesting. In addition to these, Ruffin left vivid first-hand accounts of the execution of John Brown, and of the siege of Fort Sumter, during which he fired the opening cannon shot of the Civil War.

The *Diary*, however, is most valuable for the insight it gives

into the thinking of a man who was perhaps the most effective of all the secessionist propagandists. In numerous passages he revealed that his obsession with slavery and southern independence arose from a conviction that all other races of mankind were inherently inferior to Caucasians. Consequently, Ruffin was of two minds with regard to southern imperialism. On the one hand, he wanted to bring Cuba, Santo Domingo, and the countries of Central America into his projected southern confederacy. On the other, he objected to adding large numbers of people of mixed African and European ancestry to the free blacks already residing in the southern states. He would welcome the blacks in those lands provided that they remained slaves or were reduced to that status, but he could find no place for the mulatto upper classes. In the same spirit, Ruffin applauded the extension of British rule over Asians, while deploring English abolitionism as extreme hypocrisy.

Because Ruffin focused too narrowly on agriculture, slavery, and secessionism, his *Diary* is less informative than those of Mary Boykin Chesnut, William Johnson, and Benjamin L. C. Wailes. Historians can use it with profit, but the general reader will find little in it to interest him.

Florida State University

JOHN HEBRON MOORE

The Gray and the Black: The Confederate Debate on Emancipation. By Robert F. Durden. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1972. xi, 305pp. Preface, note on historiography, index. \$10.95.)

Prize-winning books in history tend to be special, and Robert Durden's *The Gray and the Black: The Confederate Debate on Emancipation* is no exception. The 1972 Jules F. Landry award winner presents a striking new look at one of the Civil War South's last desperate measures for victory. Appearing nearly sixty years after N. W. Stephenson's pioneer article, "The Question of Arming the Slaves" (*American Historical Review* 1913), Durden is the first to suggest that the stereotypical view of Jefferson Davis— intractable and of limited if determined vision— is unfair, at least in so far as the southern debate whether or not to utilize slaves in combat.

Durden contends that not only the President but the Confederacy at large still believed in victory as late as the winter of 1864-1865. All that remained for the South was to solve its manpower needs before the spring offensive. In November Davis proposed to the Confederate Congress "a radical modification" to cope with this critical issue. He suggested that his government purchase some 40,000 slaves who would be freed at the end of the war. However, Davis also indicated that, for the present moment, he saw no need to arm them.

By turning their attention only to Davis's disclaimer that the slaves were not to be used as soldiers immediately, Durden suggests that historians who have examined this issue have missed its essential significance. Like Lincoln in 1863, Jefferson Davis also had shifted war aims. For his government, preservation of slavery was relegated to a secondary role; southern independence rose to chief importance.

Through extensive use of newspapers and other sources connected by brief narrative passages, the author clearly develops the idea that it was the southern people themselves who lacked "the intelligence, imagination, and moral courage" to abandon the "peculiar institution." Durden concentrates on the Confederate debate that followed Davis's proposal in November 1864. From the multitude of editorial and other public comment—pro and con—Durden traces the major outlines of the various arguments concerning the arming of slaves: it would spell the ruin of slavery; it would incite insurrection; it was foolish to expect slaves to fight as men; white soldiers would refuse to fight alongside blacks. When Robert E. Lee publicly expressed his support for the measure, Durden notes, most of the vocal opposition was stilled. Finally, in mid-March 1865, the Confederate Congress passed a law to organize and train slaves for combat. However, the law was weak and ambiguous, attempting to preserve slavery even as some slaves were to be freed. Only a few were actually organized and began training, and none saw action; the war ended less than a month after the act was passed.

Perhaps the primary virtue of *The Gray and the Black* is its confirmation of a fundamental view of southern racial history. Durden echoes U. B. Phillips's "central theme" thesis about white supremacy. He points out in summation that the Confederacy had come into being because of "the majority's belief that Ne-

groes should, as inferior beings, be permanently kept in slavery, where they were happy and subordinated to whites." There is no question, however, that this work is an important contribution to a new and larger understanding of the black impact on the Civil War.

Daytona Beach Community College

PETER D. KLINGMAN

An Army for Empire: The United States Army in the Spanish-American War. By Graham A. Cosmos. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1972. xii, 334 pp. Introduction, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$11.50.)

This is the kind of book which ought to be written in our time about military history. It is not a glory story, nor a retelling of already well-told combat narratives. Instead it is a history of the military institution of such good quality that even authors who have written books on the war with Spain can learn much from it.

The author states his focus on page 2, and never after loses sight of it: to examine the war from the point of view of the War Department. In doing this he demonstrates that the department and the army did as well as they could, given the culture of the time. He presents several reasons why they could not do better. One was that the military services at the time lacked an institutional brain and nervous system. No element of the land establishment was under concentrated direction, not the War Department, not the army, not even V Corps which fought in Cuba. Another was that the military could not get from the Commander-in-chief or from anyone else a statement of objectives. First the army was directed to plan for a small invasion to land on the south coast of Cuba and make connection with General Garcia's rebel force. Hardly had it begun to work toward that objective, when it was told to prepare to assail Havana instead with 50,000-60,000 men. Once implementation of that strategy was well underway, the objective in Cuba was shifted from Havana to Santiago. At the same time in the spring of 1898 the President turned suddenly toward an expeditionary force to go to the Philippines. He did not, however, inform the military arm whether its mission was to cooperate with the rebels, or to conquer the islands perhaps for the United States to occupy. The

supply bureaus, which worked independently anyhow, were not informed of radical changes in objectives and in movement of troops.

Professor Cosmos handles well the interplay of politics and personalities which did much to shape strategy and the final outcome of the war. He lays before the reader the infighting between those factions which wanted the expeditionary forces to consist only of troops raised and controlled by the United States government, and their opponents who wanted the states, through the National Guard, to play an equal role. A political coalition of southern legislators, Populists, and the National Guard Association defeated the administration's attempt to obtain an all-national force.

The key figure was President McKinley. He soon lost faith in Secretary of War Russell Alger and Commanding General Nelson Miles, and installed General John M. Schofield as his personal military advisor. Miles and Alger so insidiously resisted this bypass that the President turned more and more to Adjutant General Henry C. Corbin for military advice. But as Cosmos puts it on page 102, McKinley had an instinct for power, and he kept the lines of control, both civil and military, in his own hands. He became in effect his own secretary of war and his own commanding general. As such he used appointments to strengthen his administration politically. Nevertheless, the author says he employed the available military talent of the United States effectively.

Cosmos states that the War Department bungled the return of Shafter's troops to the United States, and that this brought about the belief that the conduct of the war was a scandal. General Miles intensified the scent of scandal by allegations concerning what he called "embalmed beef" issued to the troops. He hoped to ride this accusation, the author says, into being elected President. In any case, the principal victim of the inflated charge of scandal was the army itself, for the President with real finesse kept his record clean. Although injustices resulted, the end product was the reform of the military establishment in 1903 and after.

University of Florida

JOHN K. MAHON

The Shadow of Slavery: Peonage in the South, 1901-1969. By Pete Daniel. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1972. xii, 209 pp. Preface, illustrations, bibliographic essay, index. \$7.95.)

When the United States acquired New Mexico, it inherited a system of peonage under which forced labor was extracted from those who found themselves indebted to their employers. Following emancipation, the same conditions came to prevail in various sectors of the South, even though a federal peonage statute was enacted in 1867. Conditions were intensified in the 1890s when labor and other proscriptive laws were enacted against blacks. Included were those which stipulated that if a laborer left his job after signing a contract and obtaining money, he should be punished as if he had stolen it. When some state courts held that "intent to defraud" had to be proven, the legislatures of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida amended their contract labor laws removing this requirement.

Despite intimidation and ignorance, numerous blacks and some whites annually presented their pleas for help to the United States Department of Justice. In most cases only cursory investigations were made, but in others, especially where white attorneys-general and federal judges were concerned, some positive results were obtained. As a result of the *Clyatt Case* in 1905, the 1867 peonage law was sustained, although Clyatt himself escaped punishment. Much national concern was aroused by the Alabama peonage cases of 1903, primarily due to the zeal of District Judge Thomas G. Jones, although as a result only four persons served a combined period of five months in jail and paid an aggregate fine of \$500. Another Alabama case, that of Alonzo Bailey, which Booker T. Washington helped arrange, resulted in the United States Supreme Court declaring the Alabama contract labor law unconstitutional on the basis of its violating the 1867 peonage statute. Unfortunately, the comparable Georgia and Florida laws were not overturned until 1942 and 1944.

Though legal victories curtailed peonage, they did not end it. The ignorance and isolation of the victims, the customs and racism of its perpetrators, and the sectionalism and inertia of the public combined to make the system endemic. It flourished in

three areas: the cotton belt from the Carolinas to Texas, the turpentine belt from northern Florida to Mississippi, and briefly in railroad construction camps, especially in the Keys construction of the Florida East Coast Railroad. After 1910 foreign peonage declined, due, in part, to the vigilance of the Italian government in protesting conditions under which Italian immigrants were worked.

Daniel demonstrates that contrary to the contention of many, including the Justice Department, peonage has been a sectional and racial problem. Many blacks were forced into debt, had a minute debt paid for them, and were held indefinitely as virtual slaves. Unlike slaves, however, they could be abused since they had no monetary value. Improved transportation and communication have made the system more difficult to maintain. Beginning with World War II the Justice Department, aroused by enemy propaganda regarding American conditions and later by the civil rights crusade, has been more vigilant and responsive. Yet, Daniel contends, a number of complaints continue to be received yearly with scant results. The average citizen is unconcerned, and the victims are the most helpless members of society.

Professor Daniel for the first time has thoroughly utilized the Peonage Collection in the United States Department of Justice, whose materials are open only through 1945. His carefully documented work depicts peonage in all of its bestiality and is a challenge to every citizen.

Samford University

HUGH C. BAILEY

Another Look at the Twentieth-Century South. By George E. Mowry. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1972. ix, 90 pp. \$4.95.)

In this book, the published version of his Walter Lynwood Fleming Lectures in Southern History, Professor George Mowry does not attempt a "comprehensive reinterpretation of recent southern history." He chooses instead a more manageable task, "an inquiry into some relatively unexplored corners of southern culture from, perhaps, an angle of vision not ordinarily utilized by the many distinguished historians of the section."

The latter sentence is hardly an overstatement. In his first of three lectures Mowry suggests that southern history— despite the disclaimers of a long line of writers— is hardly unique. Remove the Negro, and that which remains will resemble nothing so much as the history of that middle western area which forms Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, the Dakotas, Kansas, and Nebraska. Ethnic, religious, political, and economic similarities in the two regions abound, Mowry argues, obscured only by the southern presence of sizable numbers of black people. And if one can accept, for purposes of discussion, the idea of an all-white South, Mowry's evidence of regional similarity is provocative. That such a question is historically valid as a technique of inquiry is, however, altogether another consideration.

In his second and third lectures, Mowry turns to the paradox and persistence of southern political conservatism. Arguing that the principal objective of southern politics has been the preservation of the southern economic and racial *status quo*, Mowry shows that in pursuit of that goal southern leaders frequently have followed an ideologically inconsistent path. By examining briefly the careers of three representative southern leaders— John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, Josiah Bailey of North Carolina, and James F. Byrnes of South Carolina, Mowry bolsters his argument that the South has not been steadfastly conservative as an end in itself. For all three men supported the bulk of New Freedom or New Deal legislation, legislation on which the modern national state rests. They supported such programs, paradoxically, to retain the influence which would enable the South to maintain its existing socioeconomic society, and to advance their own personal careers.

Such a paradoxical position, Mowry concludes, brought a high price. Fifteen years of civil rights decisions and the rise of a powerful central government suggest that “the southern conservatives' fifty-year trade off has been disastrous for their most cherished causes,” preserving the racial and economic *status quo*. The nation's conservative mood, however, offers a possible source of solace, writes Mowry, for an era which confirms conservative southern values may well be upon us. If so, Mowry concludes perceptively, the long performance of southern conservatives con-

stitutes one of the most remarkable holding actions in the history of American politics.

University of Florida

AUGUSTUS M. BURNS

Marginality and Identity: A Colored Creole Family Through Ten Generations. By Sister Frances Jerome Woods. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1972. xv, 432 pp. Introduction, tables, appendix, index. \$15.00.)

Since the work of Kurt Lewin thirty years ago, "Marginality" and "Identity" as sociological constructs have been useful tools in any study of ethnicity. Sister Frances J. Woods, professor of sociology at Our Lady of the Lake College (San Antonio), has applied the two concepts to a colored creole family which she has named the "Letoyants." As sociology, this volume stands as a particularistic study in identity; as history, there is little to commend it. While this reviewer is bothered by many instances of sociological simplicity bordering on truisms ("A husband is expected to be a good provider for his family and to enjoy sufficiently good health to do a 'good day's work'," (p. 157)) the study has been well researched through participant observation, extensive interviews, surveys, and by examination of genealogical and other records. Both the research design and the final book are highly structured in a formal manner.

For a marginal people like these colored creoles in "Riverville," Louisiana, there was from their special beginning a need to create and maintain a separate identity. The main hypothesis that Sister Frances tests is that when such a people remain geographically separate and isolated, residentially and religiously a unit, their identity is strongly held and maintained. On the other hand, when such people move to another area and lose ties to the group, the identity weakens and may disappear, creating in them a sense of alienation. This case study explores these hypotheses through a detailed examination of religious, residential ("homeland") attachment, self-image, and other-image factors. Because of the "marginality" of these particular colored people, the chances of losing their identity was, and is, much greater the moment they leave "Riverville," or if they associate in any inti-

mate manner with Negroes in "Riverville." Thus, they must especially guard against being forced to accept the lesser identity of the "pure" blacks. Whenever possible, Sister Frances allows the "Letoyants" to speak for themselves in defining the creole identity. While this leads to some repetition, the direct quotes reveal more of the group's "ethnic" jealousies, prejudices, and fears than any of Sister's narrative.

The subtitle of this volume is: "A Colored Creole Family Through Ten Generations." It might better have been ". . . After Ten Generations," for Sister Frances has given little attention to historical forces and/or conditions as they may have affected the "Letoyants." Beyond the constant (and essential) frame of reference of the original (1767) white (French)-slave alliance, and the issuance of nine children from that common-law arrangement, the absence of such historical factors creates a sociological vacuum. While it was not the author's intention to write an extensive historical account, such omissions as the impact of Civil Rights legislation and/or the black protest movement on the actions and reactions (if, indeed, there were any) of these colored creoles is difficult to understand. The interview instruments did not appear to cover such information. Did these creoles live in "splendid isolation" throughout the time span covered, or were there specific eras (e.g., at the turn of the century) when their "coloredness" or "creole-ness" was less or more of an advantage to possess than any French historical heritage which Sister claims gave them a "psychological security"?

Wow does a "marginal" group (even with a strong identity) survive economic and social pressures which are beyond their ability to control? We are led to believe that those "Letoyants" who migrated out of the "Riverville" area are almost **abbrerrations**, rather than part of major forces such as increased oppression and sensitivity to colored status and statutes, poor economic conditions and increased aspirations, as evidenced by greater educational expectations and integration. Did the "Letoyants" who left "Riverville" find greater freedom and status reward as Negroes? Sister's study seems to imply they did. Such a response would portend a greater exodus in the future— a social factor upon which we cannot speculate from the data given. The study ends with a report of a thesis done on "Letoyant" children whose creole school had been closed. Their integration into Negro or

white schools has deeply shaken their ethnic consciousness. Can the "Letoyants" survive this blow to their separate identity? These are questions not answered by this study.

Bureau of Social Studies Education
Albany, New York

DONALD H. BRAGAW

Churches in Cultural Captivity: A History of the Social Attitudes of Southern Baptists. By John Lee Eighmy. Introduction by Samuel S. Hill, Jr. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1972. xvii, 249 pp. Introduction, preface, acknowledgments, epilogue, bibliography, index. \$11.50.)

The contribution to scholarship made by John Eighmy before his untimely death is a major corrective to the oversimplified treatment of America's largest Protestant church. His book treats Southern Baptists more fully than Kenneth Bailey's *Southern White Protestantism in the Twentieth Century* and with greater continuity than Rufus Spain's *At Ease in Zion*. Eighmy demonstrates how Baptists twisted religion to rationalize the South's secular cultural order, but his principle achievement is to correct the misinterpretation of C. Vann Woodward that the social gospel did not penetrate the South. The author correctly traces the expanding Baptist social awareness to the issue of prohibition. Having once insisted that the state should enforce prohibition, Baptists broadened their vision to include many other social problems.

This study is no apology for pietistic religion. The author exposes the contradiction of a church which on one hand demands that the state enforce norms regarding private morality (sabbath observance, drinking), while insisting that social morality (poverty, race) involves matters of private conscience on which the church must remain silent. Eighmy goes beyond criticism to explain such contradictions. He observes that the Southern Baptist free church tradition left it without hierarchial leadership. The denomination moves only when it can reach consensus, and there is neither bishop nor presbytery to save its courageous voices from execution by local congregations. There

have been pitifully few prophetic leaders, but the denomination has been more democratic and honestly reflective of white, middle class church people than other denominations where liberal minorities control church machinery.

This study will not be the final chapter on Southern Baptists for several reasons. As editor Samuel Hill points out, it is an elitist history of selected denominational leadership and excludes inarticulate Baptists. This causes some substantial interpretative distortions such as Eighmy's conclusion that Southern Baptists supported "Bourbon conservatism" in the nineteenth century; but he ignores the dozens of Baptist Populist leaders who came from ministerial posts, and the fact that predominantly rural, Baptist counties often supplied the heart of Populist voting strength. Eighmy's "Baptist spokesmen" and "denominational leaders" do not equal, as he implies, the "Baptist conscience." Even the author acknowledges this in his discussion of the 1960 presidential election when he notes that John Kennedy's Catholicism produced a "Baptist position" (elitist attitude), but not a "Baptist vote" (attitude of inarticulate parishoners). The problem is compounded by the necessity in such a vast study to selectively use source materials.

Despite such qualifications, this book is presently the most objective and complete treatment of official Southern Baptist attitudes on social problems.

Samford University

WAYNE FLYNT

Peter Pitchlynn: Chief of the Choctaws. By W. David Baird. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972. xix, 243 pp. Preface, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$7.95.)

This volume is a part of a program, begun forty years ago by University of Oklahoma Press, to reconstruct the history of the American Indians. Some 120 books have now appeared in the series, including some of the most distinguished in the literature about Indians.

Several years ago Professor Baird found a vast collection of manuscripts relating to Peter Pitchlynn, who had a Choctaw

grandparent, a circumstance that made him Indian enough to be somewhat alienated from white society and which provided him with an Indian political constituency. It seems possible that the availability of material about Pitchlynn may have gone far toward inspiring this biography. Understandably Baird finds little to admire in this man who often represented the Choctaw in Washington and whose energies were often devoted to pocketing as much as possible of the money the government was supposed to pay the tribe for the loss of much of their lands.

But the talent of scoundrels is not such a rare commodity in American society as to necessarily command a high price. So after spending most of his seventy-five years steadfastly in pursuit of graft, with scarcely a glimmering of a realization that life holds possibilities beyond the immediate object of getting one's front feet in the trough, eagerly awaiting kickbacks thrown to him by the influence-peddling lawyers handling Indian claims, Pitchlynn finally died without leaving behind enough money for his own burial.

This biography is competently researched and written. But was it worth the trouble to tell the story of a petty rascal who aspired to bigger if not better things? Probably so. We certainly know the story of the Pitchlynns who made it in government and business, who founded great institutions, and thus lived to see their sculduggery rewarded with public honor. Perhaps it is well to be reminded of the countless others who also attended the "Great Barbecue" in Washington only to find that their loss of honor had been rewarded with crumbs.

California State Polytechnic University

W. MCKEE EVANS

BOOK NOTES

Side Roads of Florida, by James R. Warnke, is a "look-see" of "the other Florida." All too many visitors visit only the widely-publicized attractions and miss the real Florida, which the author describes as "a land of beauty and serenity." His interest is in the deserted by-ways, swamps, empty keys, caves, old cemeteries, and places in the woods where you can still spot a wild hog or

bear, where turkey buzzards sit hunched in the top of dead pine trees, and where herons, egrets, anhingas, and white ibis soar through the evening sky. Mr. Warnke includes pictures, several in color— showing the places noted in his book. The paperback sells for \$2.95, and it may be ordered from the author, Box 1408, Boynton Beach, Florida 33435.

Trek to Florida is a novel by Broome Stringfellow, who counts among her illustrious Florida ancestors Governor James Broome (1853-1857). She tells the story of a South Carolina doctor and his family who shortly before the Civil War traveled by wagon caravan, south through Georgia and the Okefenokee swamp and across the St. Marys River, to Florida where they planned to live. There is much interesting descriptive material in the book. Published by Great Outdoors Press, St. Petersburg 33714, it sells for \$1.95.

WDAE was licensed in 1922 and was the first Florida radio to begin broadcasting. Hampton Dunn of Tampa, who has been associated with the station for thirty-six of its fifty years, has written *WDAE— Florida's Pioneer Radio Station*. It sells for \$4.95, and it may be ordered from the author, 10610 Carrollwood Drive, Tampa 33618.

The Negro in the Reconstruction of Florida, 1865-1877, by Joe M. Richardson, is considered the best study available on Florida blacks in the post-Civil War period. Published originally in a limited edition, it has long been out-of-print. It is again available from Trend House, P. O. Box 2350, Tampa 33601. It sells for \$10.00.

Osceola, by Marion E. Gridley, is a book designed for children just learning to read. The sketches are by Lloyd L. Oxendine. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, it sells for \$2.97.

Authentic Memoirs of William Augustus Bowles, by William Augustus Bowles, has been reprinted by Arno Press in its First American Frontier series. The price is \$6.00.

The South Since Reconstruction, a collection of primary source documents edited by Thomas D. Clark, is in the American Heritage Series published by Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. The dominant themes of Professor Clark's volume are race relations and economics. The opening chapter, "A Heritage of Change," examines major problems facing the South, and notes the landmark literature that attempted to analyze the forces that have had an impact on this region. All the important southern spokesmen are represented, including Henry W. Grady, Walter Hines Page, Edgar Gardner Murphy, Matthew Brown Hammond, Louis D. Rubin, Jr., W. B. DuBois, and Booker T. Washington. The paperback sells for \$6.50.

The Glory of Covington, by William Bailey Williford, is the history of one of Georgia's loveliest antebellum cities. Newton County was created in 1821, and its first houses were probably log cabins. The Brown-Anderson house was built around such a cabin. The oldest house now standing in Covington dates to 1828. Sherman's forces passed through the area in 1864, but the town and its handsome residences were spared. Many pictures are included in the book which sells for \$12.00. It is available from Cherokee Publishing Company, P. O. Box 1081, Covington 30209.

Alabama: A Chronology & Documentary Handbook is the first volume in a new state series published by Oceana Publications, Dobbs Ferry, New York. William F. Swindler is series editor, and Ellen Lloyd Trover is editor of the *Alabama* volume. It lists major events in Alabama's history from exploration to the present. There is a biographical directory, an outline of the state's constitution, and five documents relating to Alabama's history. *Florida* is volume nine in the series. State editor is Mary Frech. It also lists Florida history events from Ponce de Leon's discovery to 1971, and contains a biographical directory, constitution outline, and five documents. Needless errors need correcting. For instance, Kathryn Hanna's name is spelled Hamm. Each volume sells for \$5.00.

South Carolina Chronology, 1497-1970, by George C. Rogers, Jr., is in the South Carolina Tricentennial Booklet series. It lists

important dates in South Carolina's history, including several that relate to Florida. Published by University of South Carolina Press, Columbia 29208, the paperback sells for \$1.95.

New Orleans Drinks and How to Mix Them, by Jack D. L. Holmes, is hardly what one would expect to find reviewed in a historical journal. This is more than just a book of drinks recipes, however. The title, as the author points out, is misleading. Professor Holmes's fifteen years of historical research were motivated by two axioms: (1) "Man shall not live by history alone," and (2) "Brother drink up, for life is short." The end result is a product of his own two great interests: "history and drinking." Professor Holmes's book contains many historical curiosities. For instance, we learn that Jean Baptiste LeMoyné, Sieur de Bienville, operated a tavern in Mobile between 1706 and 1712, and that he tried to get as much as \$200 for a cask of wine. Gin was not a popular libation in colonial New Orleans and West Florida, according to contemporary accounts, but absinthe was New Orleans's favorite liqueur. Thirty bottles of it sold for \$17.00 in 1777. Six years earlier the lieutenant governor of the colony urged the government to subsidize breweries. Professor Holmes's chapter titles are intriguing: "Fruit Recipes Betty Crocker Doesn't Know," "Absinthe Makes the Heart Grow Fonder?" and "A Day Without Wine Is Like a Day Without Sunshine." This "historical guide" sells for \$3.95, and it is available from Hope Publications, P. O. Box 10062, New Orleans 70121.

"Free persons of color" were found in French colonial Louisiana as early as 1725, where according to the *Code Noir* they had the rights of any citizen of French Louisiana, except for marriage with and legacies from whites. Population grew, and a census of 1788 showed 1,701 free Negroes living in Louisiana and West Florida. These blacks participated in the capture of Baton Rouge and Pensacola in Gólvez's campaigns against the British during the American Revolution. Louisiana's Battalion of Free Men of Color fought under Andrew Jackson in the Battle of New Orleans, shortly after the fall of Pensacola, and during the Civil War the two regiments of "men of color" were the only organized

blacks fighting on the Confederate side. *Our People and Our History*, by Rodolphe Lucien Desdunes, translated and edited by Sister Dorothea Olga McCants, records the lives of some fifty Creoles living in New Orleans during the middle and latter part of the nineteenth century. Published by Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, it sells for \$7.95.

John Brown, edited by Richard Warch and Jonathan Fanton, is in the Great Lives Observed series, published by Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. Selections of Brown's writings and contemporary accounts are included. The volume sells for \$6.95 cloth; \$2.45 paperback.

Latin America, 1492-1942, A Guide to Historical and Cultural Development Before World War II, is by A. Curtis Wilgus, formerly of the University of Florida and the University of Miami. This work, first published in 1941, provides a wealth of factual data relating to the development of Latin America, including a detailed bibliographical essay, an outline of constitutions, a glossary of Spanish and Portuguese terms, and maps. Reprinted by Scarecrow Press, P. O. Box 656, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840, it sells for \$20.00.

Shortly after a doctoral program in history was established at Florida State University in 1958, the decision was made to expand the offerings in the era of the French Revolution. Serious collecting began and from a meager assortment of some 300 books, the collection has expanded so that today it includes over 5,000 titles and more than 700 rolls of microfilm. It is considered one of the major collections on this period available. *The French Revolution and Napoleon Collection at Florida State University, A Bibliographical Guide*, by Donald D. Horward of Florida State University, lists the materials in the Robert M. Strozier Library. Published by the Friends of the Florida State University Library, the volume may be ordered from Florida State University Library, Tallahassee 32306. The price is \$12.50.

The Dawes Act and the Allotment of Indian Lands, by D. S. Otis, was printed originally as part of the hearings before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Indian Affairs in 1934. It is a detailed account with documents of the Dawes Act of 1887 which provided for the allotment of Indian lands in severalty and was one of the most important pieces of legislation dealing with Indian affairs in United States history. The book has been republished by the University of Oklahoma Press in its Civilization of the American Indian Series. The new edition carries an introduction, revised footnotes, and an index by Dr. Francis Paul Prucha, S.J. It sells for \$6.95.

My Life and Experiences Among Our Hostile Indians, by Oliver Otis Howard, is the story of his fourteen years as an Indian frontier commander. After service as a corp and army commander during the Civil War, Howard became head of the Freedman's Bureau. In 1867 he helped establish Howard University and served as its president from 1869 to 1874. In 1872 President Grant sent him on two special peace missions to war-wracked Arizona. His second trip resulted in the famous peace with Cochise and the Apaches. There is a detailed account of this dramatic journey in the book. It also includes a description of the Nez Perse War of 1877 the other outstanding episode of Howard's frontier career. Da Capo Press, New York, has republished the 1907 edition. There is an interpretative introduction by Robert M. Utley. The volume sells for \$15.00.

Our Indian Wards is by George W. Manypenny, commissioner of Indian Affairs from 1853 to 1857 and chairman of the Sioux Commission of 1876. It contains material on the Indians of the Southeast—Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks. Da Capo Press, New York, has reprinted the 1880 edition, which sells for \$12.50.