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## Book Reviews

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Society: Book Reviews  
**BOOK REVIEWS**

*Audubon in Florida, With Selections From the Writings of John James Audubon.* By Kathryn Hall Proby. (Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1974. Foreword, acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, chronology, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$12.50.)

Some eight years ago this reviewer, in connection with an assessment of a splendid new biography of John James Audubon, noted that no serious Audubon scholar had yet satisfactorily examined the Florida segment of his life and travels. In the book here under consideration, Kathryn Hall Proby has addressed herself to that task and has produced a volume which is sure to receive a cordial welcome from many Audubon followers, especially those who are interested in his Florida experiences. Audubon in Florida is precisely what its title implies. It is a collection of Florida materials gleaned from the writings of the ornithologist, copiously illustrated with half-tone reproductions of drawings from *The Birds of America*, introduced by two informative chapters by the author.

Mrs. Proby's approach and method are practical and logical. First, she devoted countless months to the Audubon lore and literature, extracting most of the Florida-related portions. She then reconstructed Audubon's Florida itinerary, which began in St. Augustine on November 20, 1831, and continued until March 5, 1832, leading him through much of the territory from Jacksonville to the environs of present-day DeLand. A second journey took him in late April 1832, to the Florida Keys, the Dry Tortugas, and Cape Sable at the southwest tip of the peninsula, and ended May 31 when he sailed away from Indian Key. With the routes thus established, Mrs. Proby engaged the services of persons (among them a civil engineer and a National Park Service employee) familiar with the areas through which Audubon had trekked, and with them, she and her husband retraced Audubon's steps. Her account of these searches, carried out by foot, jeep, boat, and amphibious plane, constitutes a pleasant and highly personalized section of her book. She found some of the terrain comparatively unchanged.

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After acknowledging her debt to Audubon's leading biographers, Francis Hobart Herrick and Alic Ford, Mrs. Proby has wisely elected to restrict the biographical portion of her book to a single lengthy chapter in which she emphasizes the Florida adventures. Herein she has included some information which had escaped the notice of earlier biographers.

The major portion of the book is composed of fifty-two "ornithological biographies," followed by a series of eleven "Audubon Episodes," all taken from the monumental *Ornithological Biography*. Each "biography" is accompanied by a reproduction of the appropriate drawing from *Birds of America*. All items are completely annotated as to plate and page numbers of the originals. Besides these, the text is liberally sprinkled with Mrs. Proby's own photographs, which add value and beauty to this handsome book. Errors appear to be few and of no great consequence. One might wish it had been possible to reproduce the Audubon plates in color, a luxury most university presses must use sparingly. It would have added greatly to the cost of the book.

It augurs well for the book that it has the blessing of the eminent Florida ornithologist, Alexander Sprunt, IV, who has written the foreword. His remark on the timeliness of *Audubon* in Florida bears repeating:

Florida is presently grappling with problems more complex than any that Audubon could conceive. Tremendous growth, shortages of water, loss of wild areas vital to both wildlife and man, and massive pollution all loom on the horizon. It is a good time to look back at the Florida that was and see it through the eyes of a perceptive and sensitive naturalist, to catch a glimpse of parts of it as they are today, and to think seriously about what it will be like tomorrow.

*University of Florida*

E. A. HAMMOND

*The Florida Phosphate Industry: A History of the Development and Use of a Vital Mineral.* By Arch Frederic Blakey. (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Wertheim Committee, Harvard University, 1973. xxi, 197 pp. Glossary, foreword, acknowledg-

ments, author's preface, illustrations, tables, maps, appendixes, notes, index. \$13.00.)

Florida's remarkable growth in the twentieth century is associated in the minds of most Americans with sunshine, citrus, and tourism. Knowledgeable Floridians might add agriculture and timber to the list of assets, but not many would think of Florida as a producer of industrial raw materials, as the first thoroughly urbanized southern state, or as a center of organized labor agitation. It is precisely this focus that makes *The Florida Phosphate Industry: A History of the Development and Use of a Vital Mineral*, so significant a book.

This volume touches many issues. The importance of the industry in the world's supply of phosphate (Florida produces one-third of the total), the role of black labor, the ecological impact of the industry on Florida's environment, the significance of technological change on the industry, all are treated thoroughly and skillfully. The book contains a perceptive though brief essay on the labor unrest of 1919-1920 and a balanced treatment of the conflict between the rights of the public sector and private business.

Blakey divides the industry into three historical eras: experimentation, mismanagement, and inefficiency which prevailed from the 1880s to 1920; scientific advance and financial stability from 1920 to 1940; and technological sophistication and unparalleled growth from 1940 to the present. The author depicts the early years as boom times, with cycles of great profits and equally sudden "busts." The Polk County phosphate region resembled a western frontier area during these years. New technology, which is critically important to the book, brought stability in the 1920s. The last section of the study places the industry in a modern context unusual for a history book, and reminds us all that the past is not disassociated from the problems of our own times: the quality of air and water, the tax structure, severance taxes, the necessity for a business to make profits if it is to survive growing competition.

The chief problem the book has is technical. Sometimes the reader loses control of the technological processes described in such great detail; even the glossary contributes to the problem by switching the reader back and forth so that the sense of the

changing technology is often lost in the search for an explanation of some obscure technical term. The reader might be better advised to read straight through, skimming lightly technical explanations and looking instead for the significance of such processes. An excellent one page summary of technological changes on page 87 gave me all the basic information needed to make sense out of the book. A tendency to over-document compounds this problem; one paragraph will often contain six or seven footnote references, and chapter four, twenty-five pages long, contains 113 footnotes. Professor Blakey, however, is a skillful enough writer so that what might be a fatal problem for most scholars is only an annoyance in this work. This book adds a vitally important dimension to the study of recent Florida history.

*Samford University*

WAYNE FLYNT

*Crowder Tales*. By Nixon Smiley. (Miami: E. A. Seemann Publishing, Inc., 1973. 169 pp. Introduction. \$5.95.)

Nixon Smiley was seven years old when in the fall of 1918 he was sent to live with his grandparents in Crowder, Florida. Crowder was— maybe it still is; Mr. Smiley swears the place is real and I agree with him it would be difficult to invent— somewhere near the Georgia-Florida border between Jacksonville and Tallahassee. Certainly it was one of those places that used to be referred to as Plum-Nelly, meaning “plum” out of the city and “nelly” out of the country.

Some of the *Crowder Tales* appeared first in the *Miami Herald* in the 1950s. Now they have been revised and enlarged to make a nostalgic account of Crowder revisited in memory. There is no attempt at a central story, but each chapter is, more or less, devoted to one character— and in a place the size of Crowder all the characters of necessity are related to one another. If Boisey cooked chicken foots (“The best part of any chicken that ever lived, ‘cept maybe the gizzard.”) then the foots were left over from the Kicklighters’s Sunday dinner, and young Smiley ate his share of them. If the reader wants to cook his own chicken foots, Smiley tells him how Boisey did it. The reader

may also learn how to make sweet potato banks, operate a Delco plant with a one-cylinder engine, and how to lose his taste for spinach forever.

The tales are uneven. Some may glow a little brighter in Mr. Smiley's memory than they do for the reader. But there is an excellent turkey hunting story, and others that have a true Mark Twain flavor. There was Skunk Mathis who got his nickname not because he seldom bathed, though this was true, but because he had once volunteered to get rid of a skunk that had taken over a lumbercamp bunkhouse. Mathis simply walked into the bunkhouse, and "When that skunk got a whiff of Mathis he come running out with tears in his eyes like he had been gassed."

And there was Pa who feared neither man nor beast, but lived in terror of being buried alive. Once Pa came home drunk and passed out on a bench on the front porch. Later there was a loud thump followed by a wild scream. "Don't get excited," said Smiley's grandmother. "It's nothing, 'cept Pa waking up under the bench in the dark and thinking he's been buried alive."

*Anna Maria, Florida*

WYATT BLASSINGAME

*Proceedings of the Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference, Volume IV, Gulf Coast Politics In The Twentieth Century.* Edited by Ted Carageorge and Thomas J. Gilliam. (Pensacola: Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, 1973. v, 98 pp. Introduction, notes, illustrations. \$7.95; \$4.50 paper.)

This little book will probably receive much less attention than it deserves. It consists of the papers and commentaries presented at the fourth annual Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference, held at Pensacola in November 1972. The papers were all of good quality, and two or three appear better than the majority offered at most national scholarly conferences. Some of the interpretations offered are new; others are clarified restatements of long-held positions.

In the first paper, "The Agrarian Inheritance: An Affirmation," Professor Melvin E. Bradford of the University of Dallas strongly defends the position of the Vanderbilt "agrarians" in their famous manifesto of 1930. Bradford, a conservative scholar,

believes the principles enunciated in *I'll Take My Stand* "are yet marketable," and even exportable beyond the boundaries of the South. Paul M. Gaston of the University of Virginia next presented his analysis of "The New South Creed and the Southern Future." Gaston, a liberal, agrees with Bradford to the extent that he also is repulsed by the fatuous optimism of those who would have transformed the South into an economic replica of the North. However, Professor Gaston seems much more aware than is Bradford of the ironies and contradictions that have permeated the troubled history of the New South.

William F. Holmes of the University of Georgia next examined "The Politics of White Supremacy: Disfranchisement in the Lower South." Holmes takes issue with the idea that the denial of the right to vote to Negroes was a phenomenon which developed in the last decade of the nineteenth century. He argues, using Mississippi as the prime example, that "whites had largely disfranchised blacks" prior to the adoption of new constitutions in the 1890s. Which is to say, that disfranchisement steadily evolved; it was not sudden.

In "The Politics of Violence: Race and the Twentieth Century South," David M. Chalmers of the University of Florida posits that "collective violence has been the instrument of all . . . in the American South"—for the oppressed and the privileged classes, as well as those in between. He is convinced, with good reason, that the political defenselessness of blacks in the past encouraged violence against them; a situation which has changed considerably after blacks began voting in large numbers. The Chalmers paper led naturally into a case study of increasing political participation on the part of Southern Negroes: a paper by Melton A. McLaurin of the University of South Alabama, "Mobile Blacks and World War II: The Development of a Political Consciousness."

The most difficult of all topics at this conference was that undertaken by William C. Havard of Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Havard surveyed the recent politics of the coastal states from Florida to Texas in "Statics and Dynamics: Gulf Coast Politics, 1948-1972." Historians usually fear to tread in such unsettled waters, but Professor Havard is a political scientist, and a very good one indeed, and is less reluctant to engage in spec-

ulative generalizations. He believes that the Deep South presently remains largely polarized on racial issues, and is in a condition of factional and party confusion.

The only disappointments to be found in this collection of papers and commentaries are the two panel discussions presented at the close of the conference. The program committee invited two discussants who represented differing points of view, but their choices— former Governor Ross Barnett of Mississippi and Charles G. Gomillion, formerly of Tuskegee Institute— provided disappointing commentaries. In particular, Barnett's simplistic observations and his irrelevancies about Chappaquiddick added nothing to the conference. But the scholarly papers presented were outstanding. The book itself is attractive in appearance, and Professors Carageorge and Gilliam are to be commended for their care in editing.

*Georgia College*

WILLIAM I. HAIR

*Contributions of the Florida State Museum, Anthropology and History, Number 18, Excavations on Amelia Island in Northeast Florida.* By E. Thomas Hemmings and Kathleen A. Deagan. *Appendix: Some Human Skeletal Remains from Amelia Island, Florida.* By Adelaide K. Bullen. (Gainesville: Florida State Museum, 1973. 87 pp. Preface, introduction, tables, illustrations, references, appendix. \$2.10.)

This report describes pre-development excavations on Amelia Island in northeast Florida where archeological work by the Florida State Museum was supported by the Amelia Island Company of Fernandina Beach in 1971.

A major excavation at the Harrison Homestead site tested part of the Indian village associated with the Spanish mission Santa Maria (1675-1702). The mission was not located. The report includes related ethnohistorical data and both the European and aboriginal artifacts confirm the dating of the site. Spanish ceramics, aboriginal pottery, iron nails and wire, clay pipe stems, and a few bone and shell artifacts were recovered and are described.

At the Walker Point site (A.D. 700-1200) both burial mound



and sub-mound midden deposits were excavated. The central portion of the mound and its presumed tomb had been gutted by untrained excavators, but good stratigraphy was found in the 1971 excavation area. The final mound covering of pink sand is interpreted as having cultural significance because of its high visibility. Six of an estimated thirty human burials were excavated. Adults of both sexes were found in a variety of burial positions, but few artifacts were placed with the dead. A detailed description of the skeletal remains, including data on cranial deformation, pathologies, and information from earlier work on the island is presented in the appendix. Artifacts recovered from the site are described, and the main focus of the report is on pottery and dating of the site.

Faunal and plant remains are utilized to reconstruct subsistence patterns at both major sites. Brief summaries of minor excavations at Piney Point and Drummond Point conclude the report. The illustrations include general views of the excavations, artifacts, and skeletal specimens.

The report can best be described as a descriptive culture-history. The Walker Point mound affords new data on the stratigraphy of sand mounds. The Harrison Homestead site illustrates the minimal culture changes in material objects used by the Indians after 200 years of Spanish contact and the value of historic sites archeology in the investigation of such problems.

As more archeological sites are destroyed by modern development such salvage work and reports are of increasing importance. Unfortunately the excavations at the Harrison Homestead site were insufficient to explore fully the nature of the settlement. The Walker Point mound has been preserved by its inclusion within a green belt in the development. This desirable approach not only preserves the site for possible work in the future, but it will also serve to help increase public understanding of the significance of archeological resources and thereby generate increased support for pre-development salvage archeology.

*University of South Florida*

ROGER T. GRANGE, JR.

*Held Captive by Indians, Selected Narratives, 1642-1836.* Edited by Richard VanDerBeets. (Knoxville: University of Tennes-

see Press, 1973. xxxi, 374 pp. Introduction, notes, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$12.95.)

Among the many current titles dealing with some aspect of native American studies is *Held Captive by Indians, Selected Narratives, 1642-1836*. Edited by Richard VanDerBeets, this volume of captivity tales reproduces ten texts which may be termed representative of the genre. From the New England of King Philip to the early nineteenth-century Southwest come these relations of Euro-Americans held prisoner. Described by the author as America's first "literature of catharsis," these accounts relate the adventures, sufferings, and Providential sustenance of the captives until restored to their white brethren. The editor has provided helpful comments on the developments of these narratives as early editors "improved" them.

As representative selections of a literary type and as part of the developing story of the literature of adventure, these pieces have their greatest usefulness. Since editions of them are rare and often available only at specialized libraries, a word of appreciation should be expressed to the author and his publishers for this effort.

It should be noted, however, that there are weaknesses in the ethnological information. Since most of these narratives focus on the existential predicament of the captive, the information about the captors is often secondary. In order to obtain useful ethnological data, these selections must be examined with care. Take for example the "Narrative of . . . John Marrant, a Black." A youthful convert to Christianity, Marrant is apparently most concerned (as would be expected of a "new" Christian) with writing of his life as it was analogous to wandering Israel, Jesus in the wilderness, Daniel among the lions, Nebuchadnezzar eating grass, St. Paul's shipwreck, and sundry other instances of the Judaeo-Christian experience. Marrant should not be trusted as to dates or places, and the editor is on shaky ground in his attempts to identify some of the towns which Marrant says he visited (p. 193). While these are possibly Creek towns, it is unlikely that he visited the Choctaws and Chickasaws. Indeed, since Indians were accustomed to seize blacks as slaves and return them for rewards, the entire account may be apocryphal.

Most troubling of all, however, are some undocumented edi-

torial identifications. From what source came the etymologies of Cherokee (p. 178) and Choctaw (p. 193)? Even more puzzling are references to Cherokee government as "near-anarchy" (p. 190, fn. 7) and religion as "private, unorganized for public expression" (p. 192, fn. 9). Even the most cursory examination of Gearing's *Priests and Warriors* and Reid's *Law of Blood* would have corrected such comments.

The author and his publisher are to be thanked for preparing this volume providing easy access for the modern student to what was standard fare in early American adventure literature. From them both we look forward to future critical texts with fuller ethnological annotations.

*Marietta College*

JAMES H. O'DONNELL III

*The Loyalists in Revolutionary America, 1760-1781.* By Robert McCluer Calhoun. (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 1973. xviii, 580 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, abbreviations, notes, bibliographical essay, index. \$17.50.)

This is a too-ambitious book which sets out to do more than it accomplishes in its 500 pages of text. Most of its emphasis is on the pre-1776 period. Here personal and intellectual biographies of twenty-one people who became leading loyalists are given in brief chapters, usually based on good secondary accounts. There are "summary" chapters at the end of each section which seldom really summarize. This approach takes up roughly half of the book. The last half of the book is devoted to surveys of the New England, middle state, and southern state areas immediately before and during the war. This half is more concerned with happenings than ideas.

Completeness of treatment throughout the book is rather uneven. Some matters of not very clear connection with loyalists are given in detail, while others which seem to this reviewer more closely related to the subject are treated very lightly. As is almost inevitable in a work which tries to cover so much territory, the author is restricted in the secondary works which he uses. Frequently he must rely on works of which the main emphasis is not on loyalists but on some other approach to history.

Sometimes the author does not go beyond these works; then loyalism suffers. At times the author misreads or over condenses so that he comes out with a factual statement which the original secondary work did not make or with a misplaced emphasis. This reviewer has noted this in areas that he is most familiar with through his own researches, especially Georgia and South Carolina.

The main trouble with the book is that the author never really decided what its purpose is. There is a great deal of good material in it about many loyalists and their beliefs, but a clear focus or approach is never found. There is no real treatment of what led one to become a loyalist. The first half of the book, loyalists ideas, is superior to the second half, the war years, in material presented and in secondary works used.

Obviously a great deal of work went into the book. The author writes well, but he does not always make his meaning entirely clear in his sometimes too-brief condensations. Had the author confined himself to either half of his study, he could have written a more manageable and more valuable book.

*University of Georgia*

KENNETH COLEMAN

*Southern Indians in the American Revolution.* By James H. O'Donnell III. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1973. xii, 171 pp. Preface, prologue, maps, notes, epilogue, abbreviations, selected bibliography, index. \$8.50.)

Since the American Revolution is one of the most treasured moments in the American drama, and since it has gained the attention of a legion of historians on many continents, it seems impossible that after 200 years of analysis and thousands of volumes another historian can uncover something fresh and new to write about America's fight for independence. And yet, James H. O'Donnell has done exactly that in this excellent volume on the role played by southern Indians in the American Revolution. He has resurrected white Americans and Britishers long since forgotten, such as George Galphin, John Campbell, and Alexander Cameron; even more important, he has woven their activities on the southern frontier into a clear and concise narrative about selfish efforts to use America's most forgotten citizens—

Native Americans— to serve different national purposes from 1775 to 1783. This volume not only adds immeasurably to a growing Indian bibliography, but it also adds a new dimension to a significant event that began the downfall of European colonialism and inspired other colonists the world over for more than a century thereafter.

If most historians of the Revolution even mention that on May 8, 1781, General John Campbell surrendered his garrison and Pensacola to the Americans, it is usually hurriedly passed over or relegated to a footnote. Yet, O'Donnell rightly sees significance in that event; it ended for all time British influence among southern tribesmen. Even more important, the surrender of Pensacola preceded total British capitulation by only a few months and helped secure eventual American victory. Though some have wept over British defeat and many more have rejoiced over America's successful emergence as a nation, few previous historians have interpreted America's victory as the beginning of the end of Indian domination over most of a vast continent. Many white Americans, as O'Donnell correctly points out, believed completely that victory included the right to Indian land whenever it was desired by future westward-moving generations. While the end of British colonialism was desired by white American colonists, their moment of victory included the strange belief that America could replace colonialism with colonialism by launching a national policy that foresaw total control over hapless Indians who were free either to capitulate or to suffer the consequences.

*Southern Indians in the American Revolution* is a book worth reading and contemplating. The author offers a fair and well-written assessment of the role southern Indians played in a watershed period of American history. His thesis is based on a thorough understanding of major primary source materials. He uses these sources almost to the total exclusion of secondary materials because, unfortunately, few previous historians of the Revolution included Indian problems and aspirations in any significant way. Lastly, the University of Tennessee Press has enhanced the author's labors by offering the public a handsome volume tastefully and professionally done.

*East Tennessee State University*

ARTHUR H. DEROSIER, JR.

*Independence on Trial: Foreign Affairs and the Making of the Constitution.* By Frederick W. Marks III. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1973. xvi, 256 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$10.00.)

If the study of foreign relations in the Confederation period has scarcely escaped the notice of historians from John Fiske to Merrill Jensen, it is nonetheless true that an in-depth analysis has been lacking. Indeed, it may be that the subject is too large to be treated definitively in a single volume. Recently a dissertation on the diplomatic establishment of the Confederation was completed at Notre Dame, and another on John Jay's tenure as Secretary of Foreign Affairs is well underway at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The objective of Frederick Marks's study, under consideration here, is to focus on the particular difficulties of the Confederation government relating to external affairs and to show how they became factors in the movement for constitutional reform in America in the latter half of the 1780s. Marks's book contains few surprises, but it does provide a useful summary of the subject. The research is sufficient on most points, and the prose style is adequate if undistinguished.

Although Marks mainly traverses familiar ground in his chapters on foreign policy problems of the decade, he makes a number of thoughtful observations on the Constitutional Convention and the battle for ratification. For example, he argues persuasively that the Federalists, in and out of the convention, were at their best in explaining the need for the central government to possess greatly expanded jurisdiction in the realm of diplomacy and international affairs, and so much so that the Antifederalists rarely responded at length on those issues, preferring to build their case for rejection on domestic concerns.

Did the Constitution in fact strengthen America's hand in dealing with the outside world? Quite obviously, the answer is "yes." Now for the first time the national government had the effective power to levy taxes, bolster the military establishment, control commerce, and enforce treaties. This is not to say, however, that the Constitution revolutionized the nation's effectiveness on the world scene; the wars of the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era offer proof to the contrary. Even so, America

could act; there was room for flexibility and maneuverability, without which no country can seek and find respect among the family of nations.

*University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill* DON HIGGINBOTHAM

*The Navy Department in the War of 1812.* By Edward K. Eckert. (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1973. vii, 77 pp. Acknowledgments, preface, notes. \$2.00.)

This brief monograph should, perhaps, have been entitled "William Jones and the War of 1812," for it is primarily a study of Jones as secretary of the navy during the second war with Great Britain. In a topical arrangement the author discusses the coming of the war, growth of the navy before the war, naval strategy, personnel, ships; plus a chapter entitled "The Navy Department at war." The first two chapters merely summarize information that can be found in most books on the war. In the third chapter the author concludes that Jones had no part in formulating strategy during the war. Evidently the few recommendations that he made were ignored by President Madison. On the other hand, Jones was much more successful in administering the navy's needs so far as ships, men, and material were concerned. He was a "competent manager." His background as a former sea captain and successful manager not only gained him the respect of his officers, but it also enabled him to initiate a number of important reforms. "Everyone who handled funds or naval stores, agents, pursers, and warrant officers, was required to provide accurate monthly reports . . . Captains were no longer permitted to alter vessels at whim, but were required to have their ships conform to . . . strict geometrical standards . . . a file was kept on all officers . . . warehouses were built . . . hospital facilities were improved."

Generally, the book is well researched and adequately written. In spite of its length, I do think that an index should have been included.

*East Carolina University*

WILLIAM N. STILL, JR.

*The Journal of George Townley Fullam, Boarding Officer of the Confederate Sea Raider Alabama.* Edited by Charles G. Summersell. (University: University of Alabama Press, 1973. liv, 229 pp. Introduction, acknowledgments, illustrations, appendices and log, bibliography, index. \$8.00.)

George Townley Fullam, an Englishman and an officer of the CSS *Alabama* from the time she left England until she sank in battle two years later off the coast of France, kept a journal. Its value lies in the expression of personal knowledge and participation by Fullam rather than any new or significant theme concerning cruiser warfare during the Civil War.

Although this work demonstrates a very detailed research into all sources which could broaden and enlighten the remarks in Fullam's *Journal*, Professor Summersell decided this book should be made as readable as possible, and he accomplished this by merging the journal and footnote material into one narrative essay with Fullam's *Journal* printed in boldface and the editor's explanation interposed in standard print. This made the research material as inconspicuous as possible. As a further concession to readability, he worked his citations into the text. Unfortunately, this concern for minimizing mental interruptions to reading has led to the omission of many citations which would have been valuable aids to scholars, i.e., a footnote on p. 81 states that a John Latham and six others deserted at Jamaica and later Latham supplied the United States government with information on individual crewmembers which proved useful in editing the Fullam *Journal*. Not one of these crewmen is listed in the index, nor is Latham in the bibliography, thus leaving the curious reader wondering where the editor got his information.

The major weakness of this work is the index which has no rhyme nor reason for the items selected or omitted from it: *Journal* entries for the *Judith* (p. 36) and the *Heron* (p. 39) are not included; whereas, the entry concerning the *Lamplighter* (p. 37) is in the index. Likewise, some vessels mentioned in footnotes are in the index while others are not; within the same footnote (p. 134), the *Sea Bride* and the *Valorous* are discussed, yet only the first vessel may be found in the index.

An editorial note (p. 177) records that "Fullam earlier described Mars' attack on the shark at Arcas and his cracking the



whip with snakes at Pulo Condore." Arcas is not in the index but Las Arcas is (although how the reader is supposed to know this is puzzling). From the limited information contained in the index it is not possible to find either story told in Fullam's *Journal*, and the shark story is found only in the editor's footnotes. Pulo Condore is in the index, but none of the four pages listed under this item relate to any adventure with snakes.

In summary, the obsessive desire to create a smooth, easy-reading book without scholarly appendages, plus the totally inadequate index, destroys most of Professor Summersell's research labors for other scholars. So little information may be found with certainty that others may well have to rework Summersell's sources. However, the end result is, as the editor desired, an easy-to-read, fully-developed narrative of the shipboard life of George Townley Fullam, master's mate of the CSS *Alabama*, and it is enjoyable to read.

*Jacksonville University*

GEORGE E. BUKER

*Reunion Without Compromise, The South and Reconstruction: 1865-1868.* By Michael Perman. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1973. 376 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, sources, index. \$17.50.)

In looking at post-Civil War America, historians have differed significantly in interpretation. The pro-southern school of Reconstruction cast President Andrew Johnson as a Sir Gallahad and the vengeful Radical Republicans as opposing black knights. In turn, revisionists reappraised these ideas during the 1950s and 1960s, arguing that Johnson failed to consider adequately the views of Republicans in Congress, and thus ineptly directed his program for Reconstruction. Now Michael Perman has taken exception with both schools because neither, as he put it, was able "to scrutinize carefully the political calculations and strategies involved in the maneuvers of the Southern leaders . . . from 1865 until 1868 when Washington was devising its terms for readmission and reunion" (p. 11).

With such bitterness and hatred prevalent in the United States, with political and economic realities omnipresent in

Congress, and with a dearth of statesman-like thinking in both North and South, any number of historians have been amazed at the benevolent treatment accorded ten conquered states and their unrepentant, sometimes arrogant citizenry. That Southerners obstinately opposed federal laws, that they wanted neither to submit to nor cooperate with the national government is almost mind-boggling. And that Congress was not any more vindictive and punitive may be quite understandable but somewhat contrary to human behavior. Yet even under such circumstances Southerners fared unbelievably well during Reconstruction, that is, in comparison to previous suffering by people who rebelled and lost.

In *Reunion Without Compromise*, therefore, Perman has added to post-Civil War historiography by investigating southern leadership from 1865 to 1868. And, overall, he has produced a worthwhile study. Through exhaustive research of newspapers and manuscript materials he has traced southern political thought and actions. By dividing his work into four time periods – conciliation and conflict; encouraging southern loyalty, 1865; seeking southern cooperation, 1866; and demanding southern acquiescence, 1867-1868– he has shown the thinking of Americans during these critical three years, their anxieties and aspirations, their alternatives and decisions. Even though the writing style is somewhat pedantic and verbose, historians will find the material valuable and the interpretation catalytic.

*Texas Christian University*

BEN PROCTER

*Thomas County, 1865-1900.* By William Warren Rogers. (Tallahassee: Florida State University Press, 1973. xiv, 486 pp. Preface, introduction, map, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$15.00.)

In this, the third volume of his series on southwest Georgia's Thomas County, William Warren Rogers chronicles the years between the close of the Civil War and the turn of the twentieth century. In these years, the agriculture of the county diversified somewhat. The whites accommodated to the free labor system forced on them by the war. The county became a favorite stop-

ping place for wealthy Northerners seeking a warm winter haven – and it achieved a measure of national renown when soon-to-be Republican Presidential candidate William McKinley swung South with Mark Hanna, lining up delegate support for the 1896 convention. Like all southern counties, Thomas experienced in these years the agonies of agricultural depression— though here, as Rogers indicates, the crisis lacked the urgency or severity it assumed elsewhere. Blacks and whites made abortive moves toward political cooperation in the farmers' revolt, then drifted apart as Bourbon Democrats hoisted the banners of white supremacy and triumphed in a series of victories which paved the way for black disfranchisement and for the legalized segregation of the twentieth century.

All these things, and more— the history of local social clubs and athletic teams, the organization and activities of volunteer fire companies, the activities of local physicians and attorneys, the attitude of local courts, the crime and lynching which happened here as elsewhere— Rogers recounts with a thoroughness which does credit to the vast research he has done on Thomas County. In the scope and competence of its coverage, this volume (like its earlier companions) ranks far above the general run of local histories.

What is missing is analysis of Rogers's wealth of data. After 453 pages, the author confesses that the complexity of events defies any effort to sum up what happened in Thomas County in the last thirty-five years of the nineteenth century. Yet the data is clearly available— for studies of black leadership, for more analysis of the white social structure and the role of the institutions Rogers chronicles so thoroughly, for more sophisticated study of the effects of social and economic dislocation on family structure, occupational and residential patterns, education, and life styles. Such analysis was not Rogers's purpose: *Thomas County 1865-1900* is a chronicle, not an effort to analyze events or institutions in any sustained fashion. And perhaps this book had to be written before the analysis could be done. Professor Rogers is so obviously the master of all he has surveyed in Thomas County. However, it seems a shame he chose not to go beyond the surface story.

Duke University

ELIZABETH STUDLEY NATHANS

*Black New Orleans, 1860-1880.* By John W. Blassingame. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1973. xvii, 301 pp. Preface, illustrations, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$9.95.)

*The Negro in Savannah, 1865-1900.* By Robert E. Perdue. (Jericho, New York: Exposition Press, Inc., 1973. xii, 156 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$7.50.)

The adjustment of black Americans to freedom is one of the unique and more poignant chapters in American history. In these two books the authors describe this important development and the social, economic, and political concerns of the freedmen in a southern urban environment.

Robert Perdue's study of Savannah supports the view held by his former adviser, Charles Wynes of the University of Virginia, that Negroes enjoyed a measure of equality and freedom in the South from 1865 to 1890. "To be sure, racism was a consistent feature of race relations in Savannah both before and after 1875," Perdue argues, "but the racism of the nineties was more extreme and more uncompromising." He suggests that the breakdown in race relations was a gradual deterioration which culminated in the segregation of the 1890s, rather than a result of the Populist revolt.

Next to racism, Perdue contends that blacks suffered most from an unstable family structure caused by slavery and a lack of economic skills. As a result, he says, they were handicapped severely in their social and economic adjustment to life in post-war Savannah. These are Perdue's most important observations; the remainder of the book is considerably less illuminating. In particular, Perdue has failed to provide the reader with a sense of the black experience in Savannah. Furthermore, his analysis of politics and black politicians is superficial and uninformative. The reader remains ignorant of what roles Savannah's Negro politicians played in state and local politics and why they opposed universal suffrage in the 1866 Negro convention on civil rights.

John Blassingame's *Black New Orleans* is a more enlightening and sensitive study of Negro life during the Reconstruction era. The black experience in New Orleans, he says, was unique. Because of its racial heterogeneity, New Orleans permitted blacks

greater freedom than most American cities. Indeed, there had developed prior to the Civil War a sizable free Negro class which was skilled and literate.

Blassingame notes that blacks readily accepted the responsibilities of freedom. They registered to vote, attended schools to learn to read and write, and vigorously fought discrimination in public facilities. Blassingame agrees with Perdue that slavery undermined Negro family stability, but he finds a distinct patriarchal family structure evolving during Reconstruction. Under this structure a male was present although he might not be the father.

Blassingame's work is well-written and persuasive. Only two lapses mar this scholarly study. First, he asserts, without documentation, that black women joined their white sisters in demanding equality with men. The available evidence suggests that black women were preoccupied with more immediate problems than women's liberation. Second, his comparison of Negro colleges to contemporary junior colleges is poorly conceived. Despite these flaws, however, this book is a very important and an insightful contribution to the literature on the black experience.

*University of Florida*

DAVID R. COLBURN

*The Spanish-Cuban-American War and the Birth of American Imperialism, Volume I: 1895-1898.* By Philip S. Foner. (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1972. xxxiv, 338 pp. Map, preface, introduction, notes. \$11.50.)

*The Spanish-Cuban-American War and the Birth of American Imperialism, Volume II: 1898-1902.* By Philip S. Foner. (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1972. 377 pp. Map, notes, index. \$11.50.)

This important work by Philip S. Foner, the author of multi-volume studies on the history of organized labor, Afro-Americans, and Cuban-American relations, provides an extraordinarily comprehensive and perceptive treatment of the "Spanish-Cuban-American war" and its aftermath. These two volumes, covering the period from the outbreak of the "second war for Cuban in-

dependence" in 1895 to the end of American occupation seven years later, rest upon meticulous research in a wide variety of archival as well as published sources. Of especial significance is the use which Professor Foner has made of Cuban materials. The result is a highly readable account which challenges, often convincingly, the interpretations of Julius Pratt, Ernest May, H. Wayne Morgan, and other students of American expansion.

These scholars, according to Foner, have either ignored or misinterpreted the military activities as well as the political aspirations of the Cuban rebels prior to 1898. To compensate for such deficiencies he provides detailed descriptions of the Cubans' exploits on the battlefield and their struggles to establish a civil government and fund-raising campaigns, especially among the cigar workers in Florida. The Cuban effort, he maintains, was decisive in bringing about the ultimate defeat of Spain, and American intervention, which had been consistently feared and opposed by most rebel leaders, merely hastened what by 1898 was clearly inevitable—the collapse of Spanish authority on the island.

In regard to "why the United States went to war" in that year, Professor Foner takes issue with those whose answers to the question stress political, psychological, and other non-economic factors. He marshals impressive evidence to demonstrate that economic considerations prompted American intervention in Cuba, and persuasively contends that President William McKinley, rather than being pushed into war against his will by popular clamor, disregarded public opinion and "moved resolutely to war, following a course mapped out months before" (p. 307). Responding favorably to the demands of the business community and other advocates of a "large policy," McKinley played a game of deception, one in which a war to prevent Cuban independence was made to appear as a war of liberation. The object was to provide the United States with a springboard for further overseas expansion. No less obvious than the "predominance of economic factors in the sequence of events which led to the outbreak of conflict between the United States and Spain" (p. 310), Foner argues, was the racist attitude of Americans toward Cubans; especially Afro-Cubans who constituted a sizable element in the island's population and furnished much of the manpower

for the revolution. Because anti-imperialists as well as imperialists in United States subscribed to the tenets of Anglo-Saxon supremacy, they viewed Cubans as an inferior people who contributed little to ridding the island of Spanish rule and who were incapable of self-government and unfit for American citizenship. Cuba, Foner concludes, "became the prototype for American imperialism" (p. 671).

The emphasis which these volumes place upon the role of economics and racism in determining the course of the United States in Cuba between 1898 and 1902 will undoubtedly evoke criticism, especially from those who attach significance to other considerations such as strategy and the international power situation of the era. But even such critics are likely to applaud this work as an impressive contribution to historical scholarship. Certainly any future study of the Cuban crisis will have to reckon with Foner's analysis of the economic motivation and racist implications of American policy.

*University of Arkansas*

WILLARD B. GATEWOOD, JR.

*The Man of Letters in New England and the South: Essays on the History of the Literary Vocation in America.* By Lewis P. Simpson. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1973. xii, 255 pp. Preface, notes. \$10.00.)

This is an inclusive yet eclectic and wholly masterful account of the manner of survival— spiritual as well as intellectual— of the serious writer in the United States during the past century and a half. By "serious" I suppose one must mean "consequential" since Professor Simpson concerns himself only with those writers who are more or less universally acknowledged to be bona fide members of our literary establishment— the early New Englanders like Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne, other Northerners like Howells and James, unclassifiables like Mark Twain and Poe, and the great figures of the more recent southern Literary Renaissance— Faulkner, Tate, Brooks, Ransom, Eudora Welty, Robert Penn Warren, Donald Davidson, and the others.

Although the essays on Emerson, Howells, James, and Poe are of great interest, the major effort which Simpson devotes to

“the brilliant Renaissance in Southern letters” of the past forty years is of particular relevance and immediacy to the reader and/or historian in this region. He regards the southern writer as “a kind of priest and prophet of a metaphysical nation,” dedicated to portraying human existence in the South as “a revelation of man’s moral community in history,” for it is a place that is rapidly becoming a reflection of “the controlling image of modern literature: the wasteland of modern industrial, mechanical society.” With William Faulkner as their prophet and leader, the South’s great writers, as its true historians, have seen in this history the prototype of the crisis of modern civilization, and have written it down in some of the best fiction ever produced.

Man’s all too victorious struggle to conquer the world’s wilderness places is mirrored in the southern experience— where man’s rapacity and his dedication to profit at all costs have been far more successful than the Grand Army of the Republic; in degree of desolation, Sherman’s March to the Sea was a Boy Scout hiking expedition. But it was not until after the first World War that the Southern Writer came to realize what was happening in his region— shaken at last out of his euphoric defense of the old Plantation South as a “redemptive community,” a defense he had felt obligated to take part in because the trauma of the American Civil War simply lasted too long.

But Faulkner and his followers changed all that. In his final chapter Professor Simpson offers his explanation of how and why the Southern Writer finally joined the Great Literary Secession — the movement among the best of the modern-day writers to defect from the society that produced them. Made public in 1930 in *I’ll Take My Stand*, the great agrarian manifesto, the southern declaration of union with the New England of Thoreau, Emerson; Hawthorne, and the rest has its ironic overtones. Led by the South’s greatest writer, a Mississippian, it occurred because of the stimulus of “the most intense and coherent literary group in America since the Transcendentalists”— an interesting juxtaposition. Its members sparked the literary flowering that was the Southern Literary Renaissance of the past few decades, a renaissance that has become national— actually international— in scope. They discovered, finally, “the crisis of the literary order, the image of the modern writer as the estranged heroic prophet-



priest-artist," realizing at the same time the necessity of restoring this literary order "as a redemptive force in Western civilization."

One way or another, the Southerners finally joined the club – and are one with their brother aliens– Keats, Beaudelaire, and Dostoyevsky as well as Mailer, Vonnegut, and, indeed, Solzhenitsyn. Let us, here in the South, be glad they did. Whether becoming a part of the great tradition of alienation from a society that seems determined to do away with itself at the earliest possible moment will ever do that society any good is of course an unanswerable question. But at least the Southern Writer– along with a few others of good sense and good will– is trying.

*University of South Florida*

EDGAR W. HIRSHBERG

## BOOK NOTES

*Yesterday's Tallahassee*, by Hampton Dunn, is in the Historic Cities series published by E. A. Seemann Publishing Company of Miami. Mr. Dunn, who has pictorial histories of St. Petersburg, Tampa, and Clearwater already to his credit (each also in the Historic Cities series), has used many photographs from the Allen Morris photograph archives in the Robert Manning Strozier Library at Florida State University. Beginning with the beautiful Castelnau drawings of Territorial Tallahassee, there are pictures marking the growth and development of Florida's capitol city. Residences, business properties, and state buildings are included. Rare photographs showing Harriet Beecher Stowe's visit in 1874, President McKinley's in 1899, and Governor Broward and his family on the porch of the first Governor's Mansion are included. It snowed in Tallahassee, February 13, 1899, and there are pictures of the snowball fight on the Capitol steps; there is also the scene outside the Executive Mansion in 1958 when it again snowed in Tallahassee. *Yesterday's Tallahassee* sells for \$7.95.

*The Atlantic Pilot (1772, London)*, by William Gerard De Brahm, is volume number five in the Bicentennial Floridiana Facsimile Series published by the University of Florida Press under the sponsorship of the Florida Bicentennial Commission.

Professor Louis De Vorse, Jr., University of Georgia, who who edited De Brahm's *Report of the General Survey in the Southern District of North America* (University of South Carolina Press), has provided a sixty-seven page introduction with notes and an index to the book. Professor De Vorse evaluates *Atlantic Pilot*, which along with De Brahm's other work, had a major impact on British Florida. He has also included extensive biographical data on the author. This facsimile sells for \$6.50.

*Red Patriots: The Story of the Seminoles*, by Charles Henry Coe, published originally in 1898, was recognized as the best and most sympathetic treatment of Florida Indians then available. Charlton W. Tebeau has written the introduction and compiled the index for a new facsimile edition of *Red Patriots*. It is volume number six in the Bicentennial Floridiana Facsimile Series published by the University of Florida Press for the Florida Bicentennial Commission. Professor Tebeau has provided biographical data on Coe which he secured by interviewing his son Mayne Reid Coe, who lives at Jupiter, Florida. Others who knew Coe well and participated with him in some of his later Florida interests offered insights and information. Like Helen Hunt Jackson in *A Century of Dishonor*, Coe in his *Red Patriots* attempted to prick the conscience of the nation on behalf of the Indians. This facsimile sells for \$12.00.

*The Florida West Coast Symphony Orchestra*, by Dennis R. Cooper, recounts the twenty-five year history of this remarkable musical organization. Ever since John Ringling established his residence in Sarasota in the 1920s, there has been a special interest in that area of Florida in music and the arts. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Butler and Dr. W. D. Sugg of Bradenton formulated the first plans for a West Coast orchestra and arranged an organizational meeting on January 12, 1949, in the Sarasota High School bandroom. Wagner's *The March of the Meistersingers* was the rehearsal number played that evening. Two months later, on March 12, 1949, the Florida West Coast Symphony Orchestra made its debut, playing the music of Wagner, Bach, and Strauss. The first year's budget was \$1,200. The orchestra quickly became one of the major musical organizations in the state, and its prestige was enhanced when Alexander Bloch was

named its first permanent conductor in 1950. In 1955 the rehearsal hall was completed. Its name, David Cohen Hall, honors the business manager and concertmaster. The Lewis and Eugenia Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall on the bayfront in Sarasota Civic Center is the home of the orchestra, which today consists of ninety members and is supported by an annual budget of more than \$100,000. Mr. Cooper's book is lavishly illustrated. The cover reproduces Julio de Diego's *Symphonic Allegory*, a specially-commissioned painting which commemorates the orchestra's silver anniversary. Mr. Cooper and Mr. de Diego are Florida residents. The book sells for \$10.00; it may be ordered from the Florida West Coast Symphony Orchestra, P. O. Box 1107, Sarasota, Florida 33578.

*Early Naples and Collier County* is by Dr. Earl L. Baum of Naples, who first visited that community in 1922. Dr. Baum was for many years a patron of the Collier County Historical Society, and this book, which includes many interesting photographs, is being distributed under its auspices. Inquiries may be directed to the Society, P. O. Box 201, Naples, Florida 33940.

*Florida True Stories* is a collection of poems, sketches, and anecdotes by Hilda Zaenglein Schaffer, who has lived in Florida since 1931. Her book was published by Carlton Press, New York. It may be ordered from the author, 506 Palm Bluff Street, Corner 1200 Garden, Clearwater, Florida 33515. The price is \$3.80.

*American Diaries in Manuscript, 1580-1954: A Descriptive Bibliography* is an annotated list of American diaries, most of them unpublished, compiled by William Matthews. An earlier volume was restricted to published documents. The present list includes major Florida collections including the Florida Historical Society's, incorrectly shown as being in Jacksonville, Florida. The Society moved its library from Jacksonville several decades ago. Florida holdings in the libraries of Stetson University, St. Leo Abbey, and Florida State University are mentioned. The P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History at the University of Florida, Webb Memorial Library, the McClellan Memorial Room at Sarasota, and the St. Petersburg Memorial Historical Museum are other Florida institutions whose manuscript holdings are in-

cluded in the compilation. Other collections, however, in the Jacksonville Public, University of West Florida, and University of Miami libraries, were overlooked. This University of Georgia Press publication sells for \$12.50.

James Weldon Johnson, who was born in Jacksonville and who spent his childhood there, has been the subject of several biographies. This brief study, titled *James Weldon Johnson*, was written for children. It has been published in the Crowell Biographical series. The author is Ophelia Settle Egypt, and the illustrations were done by Moneta Barnett. The book sells for \$3.95.

*Osceola's Head and Other American Ghost Stories* is a children's book by Walter Harter. It was illustrated by Neil Waldman. Some people claim that they have seen Osceola's head, "wrapped in a turban of many colors, three long feathers hanging from it," floating over the walls of the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine where the chief was imprisoned during the Second Seminole War. Published by Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, the book sells for \$4.95.

*Satan's Back Yard*, by Sam J. Slate, is a novel about Jonathan Ames, a young army lieutenant, who, as a secret American emissary, joined Gregor MacGregor in his 1817 seizure of Fernandina and Amelia Island, "Satan's Back Yard." Jared Irwin and Luis Aury are other characters in Mr. Slate's book. Published by Doubleday and Company, New York, it sells for \$6.95.

*Flora Boreali-Americana*, described as the first book on American botany, was based on the personal observations and collections of André Michaux. Accompanied by his son, a journeyman gardener, and a domestic, Michaux arrived in New York in November 1785, and the next year moved to Charleston. He made a collecting trip up the Savannah River in the spring of 1787. He was interested in Florida, and on February 28, 1788, he arrived at St. Augustine. The next several weeks were spent in collecting seeds and plant specimens at Matanzas Inlet and New Smyrna, and along the Indian, Tomoko, and St. Johns rivers. Later he visited the sea islands off the Florida coast. Michaux died in 1802,

but his son François completed the manuscript for publication. A two-volume reprint of the 1804 edition is now available from Hafner Press, New York. It carries an introduction by Professor Joseph Ewan of Tulane University. The price for the two-volume set is \$42.50.

*Hunting for Fossils: A Guide to Finding and Collecting Fossils in All Fifty States*, by Marian Murray of Sarasota, appeared in 1967, and was reviewed in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* (July 1968, pp. 88-89). It is now available in a paperback published by Collier Books, New York. The price is \$2.95.

*The Cotton Kingdom in Alabama*, by Charles S. Davis, was published in 1939. It analyzes the principal phases of cotton plantation management before the Civil War. It is now reprinted by Porcupine Press, Philadelphia, and the price is \$12.50.

*Blockade Running During the Civil War and the Effect of Land and Water Transportation on the Confederacy* is by Francis B. C. Bradlee. Published in 1925, it is now available in a reprint edition published by Porcupine Press. The price is \$20.00.

*Reference Encyclopedia of the American Indian*, volume II, is a who's who of prominent Indians and non-Indians. Several Floridians are included. The editor is Dan Icolari. Published by Todd Publications, Rye, New York, it sells for \$15.00.