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BOOK REVIEWS

Tories, Dons, and Rebels: The American Revolution in British, West Florida. By J. Barton Starr. (Gainesville: University Presses of Florida, 1976. ix, 278 pp. Preface, notes, maps, tables, conclusion, bibliography, index. $8.50.)

"I may say with safety I am now in the worst part of the world; nothing to be had but lean beef and pork except poultry-which is extravagently dear-and it is so damned hot fish stinks before it can be boiled. The only thing this pleasant place abounds in is a beautiful white sand which circulates freely." Thus, a subordinate officer recorded his impression of the 320 miles of coast extending from the Apalachicola River westward to Lake Ponchartrain, denominated as the province of West Florida. His likeminded superior, General John Campbell, repeatedly used the expression "ruin and desolation" to describe the country and the two settled places of any consequence, Pensacola and Mobile. This was the coast with a hinterland extending some 130 miles inland that General Campbell had come to defend for his sovereign lord George III during the rebellion of Americans against his authority. As a British dominion West Florida had a life span of less than twenty years, from 1763 when England acquired it by cession from Spain until 1781 when Bernardo de Galvez seized the last military stronghold and held it for Spain to the war's end in 1783.

In a sense West Florida has hitherto had no history, or very little. A minor Spanish possession, it surfaced briefly as a British colony for two decades before returning to Spanish dominion until 1819, when the area and its people came back into the stream of Anglo-American history only to be swallowed up by four southern states and thus to lose both name and identity. The roster of previous contributors is not entirely blank, nor the record they sketched barren of incident. Half a dozen names come immediately to mind: Janus A. James, John M. Caughey, J. Leitch Wright, Cecil Johnson, Robert V. Haynes, and Robert R. Rea. But it has remained for Professor Starr to mine the treasures of the Public Record Office and the Clements Library (among other repositories) and to present the full-bodied account

suggested by his subtitle. In short, for the important years, 1776-1783, he has given West Florida a history.

The story he tells is one of a neglected, largely unsettled, and not very important outpost of the British empire before 1776. The War for American Independence changed this posture somewhat. West Florida was still an outpost, still of second importance, but now vulnerable and growing in population as Tories from South Carolina, Georgia, New York, and Pennsylvania flocked in for refuge. Throughout the war General Campbell premised his defense of the colony on this vulnerability, particularly to the Spanish Dons. Similarly Governor Peter Chester administered civil government with an eye to the political instability of a province lacking both residents with deep roots or traditions that grow from long attachment.

War, of course, dominated the history of West Florida. Some of the strongest chapters treat military affairs, among them the expedition of James Willing down the Mississippi in 1778 to plunder British settlements in the western reaches of the province. Frustrated British authorities watched helplessly as the Spanish governor in New Orleans gave in to a petition from Willing's troops for quarters in the city, "feeling humanity demanded it, especially as the petitioning men held guns," as one observer put it with dead-pan humor. Nevertheless the author awards the long term benefits to the British-before the plundering, either neutral or mildly pro-American-who became thereafter thoroughly suspicious of Americans and stronger in their loyalty to the crown. But "the late rascally transaction of Mr. Willing" was merely a prelude to the Galvez conquest of Manchak, Mobile, and Pensacola, which takes up almost four chapters.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Florida, a notable contributor to the national celebration, may justly take pride in *Tories, Dons, and Rebels,* sponsored as part of its distinctive program of state historical publications. The author combines descriptive, military, and political chapters to construct a satisfying general account. In a subtle way, too, he contrives a *mise en scene* for the tensions forty years in the future when West Florida became a part of the United States and the name vanished from current usage.

University of Georgia AUBREY C. LAND

Zora Neale Hurston: A Literary Biography. By Robert E. Hemenway. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1977, xxiii, 371 pp. Foreword, preface, acknowledgments, abbreviations, introduction, notes, illustrations, appendix, index. $15.00.)

Zora Neale Hurston was the most important black writer in Florida in the 1930s and one of the most important Florida writers of all time. Only in the last few years has she begun to be studied in much detail-an oversight due to the general apathy shown toward black writers, especially black women writers from the South. The literary biography of Miss Hurston, which is chronologically organized from her birth in central Florida to her death sixty years later in Fort Pierce, Florida, is arranged around her major works, especially her six novels, her collections of folklore, and her many essays and short stories. It traces her slow rise to fame, her unsuccessful attempts to become a college teacher, her constant struggle to eke out a living, her tragic love affairs, and her usually successful attempts to picture in fiction the life of the southern black.

There is a foreword by novelist Alice Walker, the woman who found Miss Hurston's unmarked grave and put up a memorial stone at the site. There is copious documentation in the footnotes, a long checklist of Miss Hurston's writings, and a good index. This is a well-written biography that will be of use to anyone interested in either Zora Neale Hurston, the Harlem Renaissance, or twentieth-century black writers, although it is, in the words of Dr. Hemenway, not a "definitive book" because "that book remains to be written, and by a black woman" (p. xx).

This is the story of a complex writer, a woman who was raised and who died in poverty, who was graduated from Barnard College, received support from a wealthy white woman, actively participated in the literary circle of the Harlem Renaissance, traveled throughout Florida and Haiti collecting folklore, did archeological searching in Honduras, and wrote some important fiction. She was a woman who often emphasized the uniqueness of Afro-American music and culture, but who also criticized the 1954 Supreme Court anti-segregation ruling as an indictment of the black's ability to learn without assistance from whites. She wrote the "first scholarly treatment of hoodoo by a black American folklorist' (p. 77), but went on to deemphasize the academic treatment

of folklore in favor of incorporating this folklore into fiction. She used her Eatonville, Florida, folktales, first to establish herself as a folklorist, but then she sought to better herself and to pursue her own ambitious goals. She was a woman caught between opposites, who spent her life trying to find her particular niche in the literary world.

Unlike many of the important blacks with whom she associated in New York she could trace her background and upbringing to a small, all-black town that prided itself on its segregation. It was this ability to empathize with the poorer blacks and her knack of totally immersing herself in a culture that enabled her to become both a successful collector of folktales and hoodoo practices and a writer who provided fictional models and stylistic varieties to writers who would follow her. In the end though she will be most widely known for her fiction, especially the successful *Dust Tracks on the Road, Their Eyes Were Watching God,* and *Jonah's Gourd Vine.* She seemed less successful when dealing with history *(Moses, Man of the Mountain)* or white Southerners *(Seraph on the Suwanee).* Zora Neale Hurston's fiction has established her as an important regional writer and a distinguished novelist of this century.

University of Florida KEVIN M. MCCARTHY

The Living Dock at Panacea. By Jack Rudloe. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1977. ix, 272 pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations, index. $10.00.)

Some of the best writing of the last fifty years has been done by persons who were not primarily professional writers but were professional naturalists, persons like Rachel Carson, N. J. Berrill, Aldo Leopold, who not only knew their subject well but had an intense, personal, almost passionate love for it. Jack Rudloe has earned an honest place among them.

Rudloe's work-both as a writer and as a professional collector of marine specimens-centers around what Rachel Carson called *The Edge of the Sea:* the beach, the mudflats at low tide, and behind them the grassy marshes awash when the tide is high. In Rudloe's area the beaches themselves are skimpy, and to the

average visitor the whole place might seem dreary if not downright desolate. To Rudloe it is not only beautiful, it is dynamic, filled and overflowing with multitudinous though often invisible life. And he loves it. He loves every inch of it, everything that crawls, creeps, swims, or burrows through the mud, grass, water, or the pilings of his dock. Happily, he has the ability to communicate this emotion to his reader.

Rudloe was fourteen when his family moved from Brooklyn to Carrabelle, a fishing village on the Florida Gulf coast. Jack took joyously to the shore and water. Later, when his family moved to Tallahassee, Jack took to the university with less enthusiasm. As he once told a reporter, "I had absolutely no money. I felt I was wasting my time. Apparently the university felt the same way." So at eighteen he was a dropout with no saleable skills. But a biology professor studying the neuro-muscular reactions of amphibians told Jack he would buy bullfrogs, and Rudloe began to spend his nights catching them. Another professor wanted "Georgia thumper" grasshoppers, and now Rudloe was employed both day and night. When still another professor needed pink shrimp, Rudloe went after them. With that his life changed. He stuck with the sea. Gradually he built a business supplying universities and research laboratories with marine specimens. He educated himself by intense study. He became president of the Gulf Specimen Company. The company consisted at first of Rudloe and a dog that helped dig for crabs and worms. It has grown. It now consists of Rudloe, his wife Anne (she is currently writing her Ph.D. dissertation on marine biology; she also took some excellent photos for this book), a secretary, and three assistant collectors. All six live dangerously, so far as the company's finances are concerned, but are happy with their work.

The Living Dock at Panacea, as its title implies, deals chiefly with the life on and around Rudloe's dock on the Gulf coast of Florida. From it he watches "the silvery flashes of menhaden minnows feeding on the bushy pink hydroids that were attached to the floating boat stalls . . . the crab corks and lines massed with huge fat clusters of barnacles. I could see them opening and closing their little trap doors, their feathery legs protruding." When a neighboring commercial fisherman remarks, "I'll be damned if I can see why anyone would want to study a barnacle," one of

Rudloe's assistants explains: "'Cause they ain't got no barnacles up in Illinois. They ain't got no ocean. If these professors want to study barnacles, and they got the money, we'll damn sure ship 'em."

Not all Rudloe's work is done from the dock. There is an excellent chapter on collecting a gallon of shark blood for a laboratory. And there is the marsh, probably Rudloe's truest love. He writes: "The best way to see a marsh is to get out and walk around. . . . Walking on a salt marsh is like walking on top of some gigantic living organism, and after awhile you can almost feel it respiring under your feet. You can smell the organic smells of life and death, of living growing things and dying plants, which all furnish nutrients and life to the estuaries. Marshes are not wastelands, as many believe-they are wonderlands."

Rudloe's book is more personal than those of Rachel Carson; his year's work forms the backbone of his narrative. *The Living Dock* may not be quite as poetic or informative as, say, *The Edge of the Sea,* but it is truly an excellent book.

Anna Maria, Florida WYATT BLASSINGAME

Fearless and Free: The Seminole Indian War, 1835-1842. By George Walton. (Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc., 1977. 274 pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. $13.95.)

George Walton states his intent unequivocally in his sub title, *The Seminole Indian War, 1835-1842,* and follows with a concise, step-by-step history of that war. Until recent times that would have been enough. For 100 years since the event little enough was written, history or fiction, of that melancholy struggle while the western adventure supplied material for everything from university presses to the pulps. But the last several decades have brought a change. Novelists as well as writers of history have discovered this southern attic full of more artifacts of violence than a tourist would imagine. From the Spanish armed with sword and cross in 1513, to Americans with rockets and jet planes ready to invade Cuba (again) in 1962, this peninsula has been more battleground than playground. The relatively sudden interest in Flor-

ida history has produced a trickle, then a stream of written work about the past. Interest and a typewriter used to be enough. Now, if one hopes to be read as well as published, a certain ability to recreate the *life* of the past as well as its death is required. Mr. Walton writes well and with style, presenting the people and the war with sound and color. *Fearless and Free* begins with Dade's battle and takes the reader step-by-step through each stage of the war that follows, concluding with Worth's General Order declaring the war at an end. A brief epilogue gives an excellent perspective to the struggle as a whole.

A couple of questions, however, may be fairly raised. Why was not at least one map included? It seems a reasonable assumption that not all of Mr. Walton's readers will carry in their memories a clear picture of the Florida Territory of the late 1830s. To assume that the general reader will be able to follow the military strategy of the war without some visual reference is to propose an unnecessary challenge.

The book contains many helpful portraits of the leading characters, white, Indian and Negro. Interesting lithographs of the period are also included, but their helpfulness is limited since none of them carry a caption. What fort is this? Which troops are these? What battle is being fought? If the artist did not title the work how do we know it relates to this war? If he did supply identification, why not let the reader know?

A more serious problem is accuracy. It is regretable to see errors of fact perpetuated when research has provided the truth. Perhaps even in a work of history the spelling of a man's name is not critical (Lt. Bessenger for Basinger), though it becomes more awkward when Private Joseph Sprague is referred to only as "Private Joseph." He states further that "He (Sprague) subsequently died of his wounds." Perhaps, but he continued to serve in the army through 1839. It seems likely that the author is referring to Ransom Clarke who did die in 1840 from wounds that never healed. Finally, among these smaller points, Ransom Clarke is said to have "incredibly reached Fort Brooke on December 29." The record seems to show that he reached the fort on the 31st which was incredible enough. To travel sixty miles with massive wounds in twenty-four hours would be more impossible than incredible. This reviewer has done some research on Dade's battle which gives him cause to wonder if this not-quite-accurate in-

formation is prevalent in other sections of the book to be noted only by those whose knowledge is more thorough than that of the general reader.

And most unfortunate is the author's perpetuation of a myth that plagued an innocent man through a long life. Louis Pacheco is described once again as "guide and interpreter" to Francis Dade's command. Interpreter, yes; guide, no. The primary sources on this point are unequivocal. As alleged guide the Negro was pilloried as betrayer of the command when in fact he was hired to serve the command solely as interpreter. *Fearless and Free* is a handsome book and a well-written history. Attention to detail would have made it better.

Dade City, Florida FRANK LAUMER

Africans and Seminoles: From Removal to Emancipation. By Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr. (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1977. x, 278 pp. Preface, notes, maps, appendix, bibliography, index. $15.95.)

This account of the blacks who lived with the Seminoles during the periods of Spanish rule, the three wars with the whites in Florida, removal to the West, and final sojourn in Indian territory is well-researched. The author tells about the blacks, mostly fugitives from plantations in South Carolina and Georgia seeking refuge among the Indians of Florida. Due to their knowledge of English and the white man's way of life, a considerable number of blacks assumed positions of leadership among the Seminoles. During the Second Seminole War, 1835-1842, they played an important role in fighting the white armies. In fact, many who took part in the Dade Massacre in December 1835 and in other battles proved to be as good fighters as the Indians.

However, difficult decisions concerning the blacks arose when they were captured. Those that had been slaves of the Seminoles were removed along with them to the West. Many runaway blacks were taken to Indian territory so that they could no longer fight alongside their Indian protectors. Removal of the blacks to the West created problems since the Seminole slave system conflicted with that of their neighbors-Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws, and Choctaws.

Once in Indian territory the blacks became the targets for both Indian and white slave hunters. Titles of ownership were hopelessly confused. Theft, sale, resale, marriage, manumission decrees by chiefs and white officials all contributed to a mixed up problem of property ownership. At first the blacks tried to re-establish a relationship with the Seminoles by helping them build their towns and raise crops. Soon, however, this relationship was disturbed. The Creeks started taking blacks as slaves so that they could work on their plantations. In desperation the blacks turned to the military when the Seminoles failed to oppose these raids. Some moved onto the Fort Gibson Military Reserve and to other protected areas. A few settled in towns, retaining their arms and controlling their own affairs. In 1850 the Creeks, with the consent of the Seminoles, captured some 180 blacks and forced them into slavery. As a result, a few Negroes, seeking a place of refuge, migrated to Mexico.

During the Civil War blacks fled to Kansas where Union troops provided some protection, but others were seized as slaves by the Seminoles and transported south to the Chickasaw Nation. After 1865, the army was assigned the duty of "regulating the relations between the Freemen in the Indian Territory and their former masters." When some Seminoles tried to dominate the blacks, the army stepped in to enforce their rights as free persons.

Africans and Seminoles depends mainly on materials in the National Archives. More non-Federal sources should have been used, however, to give "body" to the characters in the story. Federal records are excellent, but only rarely do they present enough insight, particularly into such matters as possible betrayal of the Indians by black interpreters in treaty negotiations. One such illustration is found in the June 12, 1858, issue of *Harper's Weekly*. According to the writer Ben Bruno, Billy Bowlegs's interpreter had "more brains than Billy and all his tribe and exercises almost unbounded influence over his master. The negro slaves are in fact masters of their red owners who seem fully conscious of their own mental inferiority." Throughout this book outstanding figures like Abraham, Gopher John, and John Cavallo seem to have little warmth or any sense of authority.

University of Tampa JAMES W. COVINGTON

Religion in the Old South. By Donald G. Mathews. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977. xx, 274 pp. Foreword, preface, notes, note on sources, index. $10.95.)

Religion in the Old South could well be required supplementary reading with any book on Evangelical Protestantism in the American South prior to 1860. It provides the theological and ideological bases which many denominational histories and biographies lack. The distinguishing marks of Evangelicalism, as recognized in the Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian denominations are remarkably similar, yet are underlaid with some differences. In all there is the religious perception that the Christian life is essentially a personal relationship with Christ achieved by a profoundly emotional conversion experience.

It is from this definition that Professor Mathews establishes his theory that southern society has been uniquely affected by Evangelical values and institutions. "As a social, historical process, Evangelical Protestantism in the Old South enabled a rising lower-middle class to achieve identity and solidarity." The next step was to "create the moral courage to reject as authoritative for themselves the life-style and values of traditional elites." By establishing academies, colleges, seminaries, and denominational publications, these converts acquired in their own minds a high degree of refinement and respectability.

These twice-born were characterized by piety, concern for persons, and a profound sense of social responsibility. They assumed the role of guardians of society, courts of justice, and boards of censure. Moral surveillance and self-discipline laid strong bonds on the free spirits in the expanding West.

The emphasis on personal worth was challenging to women; new doors opened to them-idealistically if not realistically. The southern woman with a religious conversion had a multi-role in family and church- life, and she dared to assert her individuality at home and leadership in congregational affairs. Women were in the majority of church membership, and, by number alone, created new attitudes.

Among these provoking attitudes was a rising consciousness of slaveholding. The Evangelicals never successfully identified slaveholding with sin. The Negro responded easily and emotionally to a spiritual conversion, and in his "changed life" expected some of

the liberties promised to white Evangelicals. In order to develop empathy with slaves, the churches ventured into the Mission to Slaves, a project which abolitionists condemned as a plot "to perfect the slave system." The Mission's first goal was to demonstrate that whites had the best interests of slaves at heart and secondarily, to preach the gospel to them. Eventually the Mission failed since it became "as much an assertion of Evangelical power and prestige, as an honest effort to make southern society into an integrated whole." When Evangelicals reenforced their position by justifying slavery through divine interpretation, the abolitionists drew away from professed Christian faith and sought refuge in reason, speculation, and human equality.

Professor Mathews has produced a provocative study. The reader cannot lay it aside with any degree of disinterest. The book is essentially a series of essays, some of which have been expanded into chapters by too much repetition of materials and excessive explanatory sections. The author is indeed in fresh areas of interpretation. This reviewer, however, wishes that Mathews had permitted some converts to have experienced the pure joy of a spiritual turn-around without a tinge of guilt concerning slavery or a touch of personal ambition. He writes well, with an enriching vocabulary and a convincing surety of direction. The book is a creditable addition to the Chicago History of American Religion series edited by Martin E. Marty.

Atlanta, Georgia WALTER B. POSEY

Adams and Jefferson: A Revolutionary Dialogue. By Merrill D. Peterson. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1976. xiv, 146 pp. Foreword, preface, notes, index. $7.00.)

The friendship of Adams and Jefferson remains among the most compelling and inspiring of American national stories. It affords us a rare glimpse of Founders behaving like *Founders.* It is a drama of virtue and patriotism, of great deeds and bitter dispute, of friendship and politics vindicating our claim to a founding by men of more than ordinary stature. Professor Peterson has retold this story in his 1976 Lamar Lectures, delivered at Mercer University. His is that rare Bicentennial contribution which justi-

fies the occasion with something of genuine historical interest that also satisfies our patriotic and moral tastes.

Professor Peterson brings a special authority to his subject. He is a distinguished historian of Jefferson, and this study reveals his particular admiration for the Virginian. One senses almost his relief in the opportunity to compare the two men. There is something like a confession in the sure and lively way in which he presents Adams, a certainty about Adams the man, his opinions, and his motives which must elude the Jeffersonian scholar.

Peterson chronicles the friendship of Adams and Jefferson through the American and French Revolutions and "The Revolution of 1800." His organization subordinates anecdote and personality to the dialogue between the two men. Introducing his subjects, he gives the basis for their collaboration in seeking to achieve the goals of the Revolution. He also suggests the things, substantive and personal, that tended to divide them. It was during this period, when their hopes for America were fresh and high, that their rivalry was less obvious. In later years they sought to return to the moderate temper of these times, but this was not possible. There were sharp disagreements resulting in their dramatic break during the election of 1800. Peterson's concluding essay examines the submergence of their disaffection in the correspondence they carried on in retirement.

As Peterson emphasizes, Adams and Jefferson's disagreements reflected the divisions and conflicts within the nation. There were different points of view about liberty and order, about relations with France and England, and about aristocracy and democracy. Compacted in their controversies were basic American issues. Both men realized, as does Professor Peterson, that they were exploring, sometimes originally, the grounds of American opinion. Peterson wisely does not insist that their views be constant or consistent, and he examines both their changing positions and those general tendencies which remained steadfast.

Professor Peterson is alive to the complexities of his subjects. The emergence in Europe, for example, of the image of the Yankee and the Virginian and their very different attitudes towards the Old World are well detailed. The democrat Jefferson loved luxury and Enlightenment, but he was little moved by the political fears which seemed so common among his European colleagues. On the other hand, Adams, like many European intellec-

tuals, was somewhat apprehensive of popular government. Peterson presents an exchange of views in which there is more than one ironic shift of position.

Peterson has provided a useful commentary on the Adams-Jefferson correspondence. He explains why Adams wrote so much more than his counterpart, and he notes for us the instances when the writers grew relaxed, where they retracted, and where they stood firm. His Adams is all mellow and his Jefferson unusually grim. The irony of their lives, so poorly rendered in their reputations, is suddenly clear. Peterson offers as his key to Adams that he thought of himself as a counterweight, a man born to hold corrective opinions and able to stand the guff which such attitudes caused. Jefferson too had flexibility and ambition which allowed him to relate to Adams both in friendship and in dispute. The dialogue between these two great Americans explored the range of possibilities of American political theories and practice. In presenting this story, Professor Peterson has written with authority and fairness. He has written of Adams as Jefferson might have, and of Jefferson as Adams might have written.

Claremont Graduate School and University Center ROBERT DAWIDOFF

Toward a Patriarchal Republic: The Secession of Georgia. By Michael P. Johnson. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1977. xxiv, 244 pp. Preface, maps, notes, appendix, bibliographic note, index. $15.00.)

This book says nothing about the events of the era 1848-1860, when the hearts of Southerners were being fired by growing fears and a sense of outrage against northern "fanatics". It does not even say anything about southern reactions to John Brown's attack at Harper's Ferry. After a hasty five-page survey of the presidential election of 1860, the author comes speedily to the crisis of November-December 1860 and to the campaign in Georgia for the election of delegates to the state secession convention-a campaign made not merely exciting, but even frenzied, by the secessionists.

The author now summarizes the main themes of the secession-

ists: the glorious heritage of the American Revolution, standing in great jeopardy by 1860; the tyrannous and menacing conspiracy of the "Black Republicans" against southern rights; the imperative necessity of southern unity against northern aggression; and the imminent threat of racial equality and all the horrors it would bring if Georgia submitted to dishonor by remaining in the Union. Yet all these arguments were mere rhetoric, says Dr. Johnson. Even the secessionists were unconvinced by them. The danger that actually frightened the secessionists (or the slaveholders, for they were identical, says Dr. Johnson)-the danger that impelled them to swift action-was what he calls "the long-developing internal crisis of the South." What he means is that by 1860 the non-slaveholding whites of the South were challenging "the social and political dominance of the slaveholders." The slaveholders themselves, he says, realized that the crisis facing them came, not so much from northern Republicans, as from undependable whites in the South. Eagerly, therefore, the slaveholders seized upon secession as the safest and surest means of perpetuating their dominance in the South. "Many slaveholders fear[ed] nonslaveholders so intensely that, in their view, secession was essential to the protection of slavery. . . . The internal crisis of the South necessitated secession" (p. 87). In Georgia the slaveholders managed not only to get a secession ordinance passed in January 1861, but also to rewrite the state constitution in April 1861; and they did the latter for the express purpose of perpetuating and assuring their control. These two achievements, the one following the other almost immediately, Dr. Johnson calls a "double revolution."

All this is a very ingenious explanation of secession, and owes much of its inspiration to Eugene Genovese (although Dr. Johnson's book was done as a Ph.D. dissertation at Stanford, not under Genovese). The trouble with this interpretation is that the evidence supporting it is pitifully meager. Of course, the slaveholders themselves could not afford to acknowledge publicly that they had any such motives as Dr. Johnson ascribes to them. Did they acknowledge these purposes to each other in private? If they did, they did it strictly in conversation. They certainly left no record of it. In the fifty-five pages devoted to developing his thesis (pp. 79-135), Dr. Johnson offers only two Georgia citations that reflected even faint suspicions about non-slaveholding whites. One

of these (p. 130) was an anonymous letter of February 9, 1861, to the editor of the Augusta *Chronicle & Sentinel;* the other was a resolution presented in the secession convention at Milledgeville (p. 133)-and there voted down. Furthermore, it is not even possible to demonstrate conclusively that the changes made in the Georgia constitution by the secession convention in April 1861 were meant to perpetuate, or would actually have perpetuated, the dominance of slaveholders in state government. True, Dr. Johnson *thinks* that the purpose of those changes was to ensure the permanent control of slaveholders. But thinking does not necessarily make it so.

After the convention had passed its secession ordinance, it adopted a strong 3,600-word report, written by Robert Toombs, explaining to the world why Georgia had seceded. Dr. Johnson does not think this report worth even mentioning.

Emory University JAMES RABUN

Rank and File: Civil War Essays in Honor of Bell Irvin Wiley. Edited by James I. Robertson, Jr., and Richard H. McMurry. (San Rafael, California: Presidio Press, 1976. 164 pp. Preface, notes. $8.95.)

Of the nine contributors to this festschrift all were graduate students of Professor Wiley at Emory University, and all have successfully established themselves in the historical profession. Their mentor's personal life, as well as the manner in which he pursued his scholarly interests, are delightfully reviewed by Henry T. Malone in the opening chapter. Entitled "Bell Wiley: The Uncommon Soldier," this essay might well be judged the best of the lot, yet all are remarkably high in quality. Malone's essay will be of unusual interest to hundreds of Professor Wiley's friends both within and outside the historical profession. Fully as significant as his accomplishments in research and teaching is the gracious manner in which he lives. This is described by one of his former students as characterized by "intelligence, charm and charisma."

Of seven other essays, three deal with military figures, one tells the story of a Confederate chaplain, and the remaining three treat some of the broader aspects of the Civil War. All are ade-

quately researched and presented in good literary style suggestive of that for which their teacher is noted. The final contribution (Chapter IX) is a compilation by John Porter Bloom entitled "Bibliography of Bell Irvin Wiley" in which are listed the titles of twenty-seven books, most of which he is the sole author or editor. In addition, more than seventy articles are listed.

Michael B. Dougan's essay on Thomas C. Hindman portrays that Arkansas "political general" as deserving more attention by historians than he has received, largely because he was an advocate of total war. This included the use of guerillas, a scorched earth policy, and the total mobilization of the population under central control.

Richard McMurry presents some little known aspects of General John B. Hood's early career. He concludes that the general's early life in the Bluegrass and his contact with the idea of chivalry as embodied in Robert E. Lee made him the Southerner personified. His greatest virtues were physical bravery and the ability to lead and inspire, although he was unable to command an army in the sense of using it to the best tactical advantage. William H. Seward and the Declaration of Paris of 1861 are discussed by Norman B. Ferris. He considers the idea of Seward's bellicosity toward England to be a myth and explains that the precarious Anglo-American relations in the first year of the war may have been largely a result of distorted reports transmitted to London.

Willard Wight's essay entitled "Colonel Cyrus B. Harkie: A Troubled Military Career" outlines the most unusual military career of the incompetent colonel of a Georgia infantry regiment. Although constantly in trouble with his superior officers and the men he was supposed to command, Harkie succeeded in retaining his commission to the end of the war. An essay on "A Copperhead Views the Civil War" by Arnold Shankman centers around the career of George W. Woodward, a Pennsylvanian who believed that Lincoln was an arbitrary despot and that the South could not be defeated by force. An unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1863, Woodward is convincingly presented as a noteworthy figure needing additional study.

James I. Robertson, Jr. gives a rare portrait of an unusual Confederate "Soldier of the Cloth" in a sketch of William E. Wiatt who served throughout the war as the only chaplain the Twenty-

sixth Virginia Regiment ever had. His efforts to bolster the morale of combat soldiers and to provide spiritual guidance and Christian leadership made him the ideal minister of the Civil War.

Straying farther afield than the others is Maury Klein's essay on northern industrialists and the Civil War. These are essentially men whose lives were largely untouched by the fires of war and they took advantage of the economic opportunities which it afforded to achieve great business success. The author's sample list of sixty men who in 1861 were between the ages of seventeen and thirty includes such names as Andrew Carnegie, J. P. Morgan, and John D. Rockefeller. While many on his list became titans of industry in the post-war years, there were few military heroes who later excelled in business on a national scale. While these essays were not designed to provide important new or penetrating insights on the Civil War, they are informative and useful to students of that epoch. The work deserves an index.

Milledgeville, Georgia JAMES C. BONNER

Military Necessity and Civil Rights Policy: Black Citizenship and the Constitution, 1861-1868. By Mary Frances Berry. (Port Washington, New York: Kennikat Press, 1977. x, 132 pp. Acknowledgments, preface, notes, bibliographical essay, index. $8.95.)

It is not clear whether the thesis of this volume is the highly controversial one that emancipation and citizenship for blacks were forced upon the nation by the need for large numbers of black troops in order to win the Civil War or a much less tendentious one: namely, that there was an intimate linkage between black military service and the establishment in law of equal civil rights. Recognition of the latter relationship, though not novel, merits elaboration and emphasis. Reconstruction historiography will undoubtedly give it more weight in the future with the appearance of Mary Berry's work following so shortly that of Herman Belz, which makes the same point though less centrally.

The Militia Act of 1862, which gingerly reversed a long-stand-

ing restriction of militia service to whites only, the passage of a conscription act without racial distinctions, the Lincoln administration's energetic effort to raise black troops in 1863 and 1864-all were important milestones, as Dr. Berry contends, along the path toward citizenship for Negro Americans. When blacks by law shared the obligation to perform military service, and when in fact they did so to the number of roughly 180,000, "their claims to the privilege of citizenship" did indeed gain "momentum and credibility" (p. 104). Also unexceptionable is the statement that "war created the conditions in which the issue of the legal status of blacks could be resolved" (p. 102).

On the other hand, it is not at all self-evident, as Dr. Berry appears to assume in many passages, that pressing military necessity constituted the key causal element in the abolition of slavery and the establishment of equal civil rights for blacks. Her account of policy during colonial, Revolutionary, and pre-Civil War years seems to negate the general proposition that need for manpower would call blacks to arms and thereby lead to an expansion of their rights. When acute need arose, blacks served even in the militia, but Dr. Berry concludes that their contribution did not bring any extensive improvement in status. This might suggest that the crucial variant affecting blacks in the 1860s was something other than the need for fighting men. The author, however, holds that the critical difference was in the numbers of blacks who shouldered arms.

The pressing military necessities relating to blacks which Dr. Berry perceives were not always equally apparent in the nation's capital. Against charges that he had acted illegally and in bad faith when issuing the Emancipation Proclamation and arming blacks, Lincoln used the argument of necessity. The author is clearly mistaken, however, in attributing his March 1862 proposal for compensated emancipation to a desire "to find a way to free the slaves for large-scale military use." In the letter used as evidence, Lincoln wrote that he had not believed military emancipation or arming blacks "an indispensable necessity" in March, May, and July 1862, and that even as he issued the proclamation he was not confident that it would result in greater gain than loss. The letter to A. G. Hodges of Kentucky, April 4, 1864, is erroneously identified (p. 57).

The congressional actions treated at some length are question-

able support for the manpower thesis. The wording of the Militia Act of 1862 blurred its significance as an opening for large-scale use of blacks not merely to construct barricades but to storm them. In response to the accusation that Republicans had obscured "their purpose to arm blacks and make them equal," Thaddeus Stevens, as quoted by Dr. Berry, admitted deviousness. "We had to wrap it up in such a way that the gentleman from Indiana [Holman] could not use it before his constituents" (p. 69). The Conscription Act of 1863, "Despite the necessities of the hour," passed only after a hard struggle and a determined attempt by the Democratic minority to deny service to blacks (p. 51). Efforts to insure freedom for slave soldiers' families and to equalize pay and bounty for blacks, both measures here presented as essential to black morale and enlistment, floundered in Congress for months on end.

In explanation of the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, Dr. Berry correctly states that the bill arose "from a majority concern that freedom for blacks not be a sham," but then intimates that it was enacted as a response to black militancy, to the "ominous," "threatening" presence of black soldiers in the occupied South (p. 90). Southerners who feared and protested black troops were certainly not suggesting equal citizenship as a remedy, nor did Republicans pass the historic first civil rights bill out of an apprehension of race warfare. President Johnson, who vetoed the measure, viewed citizenship for blacks neither as an obligation nor as a necessity.

The conclusion of the final chapter entitled "Implications for the Future," read together with the generalizations of the Preface, might suggest that improvement in the status of American blacks is dependent upon crises of white need or white fear. It is to be hoped that as assistant secretary for Education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the author will contribute substantially to the disproof of so cynical and ominous a conjecture.

Hunter College and Graduate Center CUNY (Emeritus) LAWANDA COX

A Right to the Land: Essays on the Freedmen's Community. By Edward Magdol. (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1977. xiv, 290 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, introduction, notes, appendixes, bibliographical note, index. $16.95.)

A Right to the Land addresses the post-Civil War struggle of freedmen against insurmountable odds to acquire land and social security for themselves. Using some original sources and much of the recent literature on the subject, Professor Magdol briefly traces the steps of African blacks from their tribal homes, through the crucible of slavery, into the early years of their freedom. In the manner of John Blassingame's work, he suggests that slaves preserved remnants of their African traditions during generations of bondage and developed a community for themselves within the southern system of racial slavery.

As the Union army took to the field early in the Civil War, freedom-seeking blacks flocked to the Union lines. Many of them eventually served in the armed forces of the United States, while others proclaimed their ability to care for themselves even as the Freedmen's Inquiry Commission, the Union army, and the benevolent societies sought ways to provide this service. In the wartime contraband camps and the cooperative efforts at Davis Bend and in the Sea Islands, the community spirit began reasserting itself as blacks found their own leaders and began organizing their own religious and social institutions.

Led on by promises of "forty acres and a mule," blacks eagerly awaited the apportionment of land which would provide for them the means of economic freedom as well as the basis for a way of life which they cherished. When the United States government reneged on this promise, blacks sought land in other ways. Some tried to obtain homesteads, others tried to purchase individually, but most became tenants on land owned by white men. Unable to find a place in southern society, many blacks ultimately attempted to form groups and purchase land collectively. Lack of funds, unavailability of suitable land, and unwillingness of white landowners to lose their supply of cheap labor largely thwarted such efforts. Even those remarkable exodusters who attempted to migrate to Kansas found formidable obstacles in their way.

Professor Magdol's *Essays* depict a failure, but a magnificent one. Holding on to their African heritage and resisting the de-

bilitating forces of slavery, black freedmen emerged during and after the Civil War imbued with a sense of community derived from their tribal backgrounds and determined to make their own way as self-reliant citizens. The odds were simply too great.

This reviewer agrees with his assessment of the freedmen, but Professor Magdol attempts to make it say too much. The freedmen's sense of community may have resulted from their being Africans, but it may just as well have been derived from their being humans. Others in both similar and different circumstances in other times and places have shown similar habits. Magdol spoils his story by the repetitive assaults on the belabored Elkins thesis. Those familiar with the arguments surrounding Stanley Elkins's writings will recognize the significance of Magdol's work in this connection without being continually told to do so; others will not care. Readers of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* will be amused at his claim that such black leaders as Emanuel Fortune, Robert Meacham, Calvin Rogers, and Oscar Granbury are appearing in print for the first time.

Florida Technological University JERRELL H. SHOFNER

Place Over Time: The Continuity of Southern Distinctiveness. By Carl N. Degler. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1977. xiv, 138 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, notes, index. $8.95.)

Carl N. Degler's *Place Over Time* is the latest in the distinguished series of works on the history of the South published by the Louisiana State University Press in connection with the Walter Lynwood Fleming Lectures delivered annually at Baton Rouge. Because Fleming lecturers are all eminent scholars the small volumes based on their lectures have generally been of higher quality than is typical of most historical series. Professor Degler's contribution not only maintains the tradition of excellence but will also surely enhance the overall reputation of the Fleming series.

Professor Degler begins by examining those characteristics of southern society which have caused Southerners to believe that they are different from other Americans, and which have caused

inhabitants of other sections of the United States to regard Southerners as being unlike themselves. Among the qualities contributing to southern distinctiveness, Degler singled out the region's nearly sub-tropical climate, the preoccupation of Southerners with agriculture, the relatively low level of urbanization, a peculiar population mix of blacks and WASPs unaffected by the late nineteenth century waves of immigrants from Asia and southern and eastern Europe, a conservative variety of evangelical religion with an exceptionally large percentage of the population as adherents, and a greater tendency toward personal violence than is usual among inhabitants of other regions of the country.

Next, Dr. Degler focuses upon the role played by plantation slavery in developing a distinctly different South. While noting that slave-worked plantations clearly antedated the emergence of a sense of common identity among white Southerners by more than a century, Degler found Southerners making common cause politically for the first time during the Missouri controversy. At about that same time, Southerners in the emerging Cotton Kingdom became convinced that slave plantations were vital to their region's economic development. Subsequently, the unusual efficiency of cotton, rice, and sugar plantations made possible a rapid rate of economic growth in the lower South. The very success of the plantation system, however, created enormous social problems, which in turn profoundly affected every aspect of southern life. Prosperity in the Cotton Kingdom led to overemphasis on re-investment of profits in the production of agricultural staples to the detriment of industrialization and urbanization. Immigrants, unable to make the heavy investment required for engaging in plantation agriculture, avoided settling in the South. As a result, the South fell behind in growth of population and industrial power, while apparently becoming wealthy. The agricultural pattern of southern life survived the Civil War and the abolition of slavery to become an almost permanent characteristic of the southern people.

In a penetrating third chapter Degler disproves Eugene Genovese's thesis that southern slaveowners accepted a world view different from that of Americans of the North and foisted their ideas upon non-slaveowners. Degler maintains that Southerners, paradoxically, subscribed to almost all of the common opinions of Americans, including a strong belief in democratic ideals.

Dedicated to the preservation of slavery as vital to their society and imbued with faith in a democratic form of government, Southerners resolved their dilemma by fabricating a new theory that the black race was inherently inferior to the Caucasian race. Consequently, democratic rights and individual freedom could be extended to all whites while denying them to black slaves. This racist doctrine survived emancipation and gained almost universal acceptance among post-war southern whites, becoming a major factor in the survival of southern distinctiveness into the twentieth century. Despite their espousal of the doctrine of white supremacy, however, Southerners shared far more ideas with their northern counterparts than they rejected. Hence, according to Degler, southern distinctiveness can easily be exaggerated.

In his concluding chapter, Dr. Degler differs with C. Vann Woodward by arguing that the Civil War did not produce more than a minor discontinuity in the stream of southern development. Abolition of slavery failed to end the domination by whites of the continuing bi-racial society, and did not even terminate the cotton plantation worked by blacks.

Professional scholars and literate Southerners alike will profit from reading *Place Over Time.* Not since the publication of Wilbur Cash's *Mind of the South* has anyone interpreted southern life with such insight.

Florida State University JOHN HEBRON MOORE

The City in Southern History: The Growth of Urban Civilization in the South. Edited by Blaine A. Brownell and David R. Goldfield. (Port Washington, New York: Kennikat Press, 1977. 228 pp. Acknowledgments, tables, notes, index, contributors. $13.50; $6.95 paper.)

The purpose of this volume is to draw together the scholarship on the urban South and to establish a framework for further study. Consisting of a historiographical essay and five others describing southern urban development in chronological periods, the book emphasizes the role of urban leadership, the relationship of southern cities to the national economy, and urban race relations. The dominant theme is that the development of south-

ern urban centers was greatly similar to that of the North and the remainder of the United States.

The authors, however, almost overlook the diversity and uniqueness of the South. They point out that the region's cities reflected the heterogeneity of the South, but they find that they differed less from each other in any single period than southern rural communities differed from each other. The generalization that cities became more uniform and consistent in character as time passed is likely more accurate for regional centers than for secondary cities and smaller towns.

"The Urban South: The First Two Centuries," makes a case for examining urbanization in a time when few, if any, urban communities existed in the South by describing the English commitment to towns and the persistent but largely unsuccessful early efforts to force the establishment of towns as a basis for colonization. Despite such efforts, in the seventeenth-century Chesapeake, the commercial, social, and cultural activities usually performed by towns were conducted in a decentralized pattern. By the 1740s, recognizable urban places existed, and sustained urban development in the South began. By the closing years of the century, there was a horseshoe pattern of cities oriented from northeast to southwest with an open end in the Carolinas and an empty core on the shoe's inside.

The remaining four chapters: "Cities in the Old South, 1820-1860," "Continuity and Change: Southern Urban Development, 1860-1900," "The Urban South Comes of Age, 1900-1940," and "The Southern Metropolis, 1940-1976," trace the gradual transformation of the South's urban landscape over the last 150 years. Southern cities, like their northern counterparts, sought economic prosperity and growth through railroads, whose patterns more than any other factor probably determined the concentrations of population, and by diverse trade and manufacturing industry. Throughout the period, southern regional cities repeated the developmental patterns of northern cities but with differences that are indisputably "southern," including the persistent problems of race relations, economic dependence upon the North, and a continuing primary reliance upon commercial and service-based industry, but in a "style" reflecting southern institutions and history. The South's older river and port cities, located on the perimeter east of the Mississippi River, including Charleston,

Mobile, New Orleans, and Savannah, were challenged during the period by interior cities like Atlanta, Birmingham, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. Other older river ports like Memphis, Richmond, Nashville, and Norfolk kept pace only because of their railroad connections.

Since 1900, like the hundred years before, southern cities generally lagged behind the North but followed many of the same stages, "maturing" by 1940. They struggled with the problem of providing urban services, police and fire protection, sanitation and public health, education, and transportation in the early stages, and then with social and cultural improvements. They, too, became metropolitan although suburbs and decentralization usually occurred earlier than in northern cities, and they tended to exhibit greater irregularities in spatial differentiation.

For most of the 150 years since 1820 there has been an influence by cities in the South disproportionate to their size and number, a domination by the commercial-civic elite in urban influence and decisions, and distinct southern values relating to race relations and religion. Boosterism has been constant; political bossism and "machines," in the style of northern cities, arrived later and in fewer southern cities, and reform in city government was a recurring theme.

The work is a timely one, perhaps somewhat overdue, and could, if examined carefully, stimulate alternative approaches to southern urban history. The chapters are a bit uneven in contribution and occasionally a case study city used as an illustration becomes more descriptive than interpretative. More thematic interpretation and more attention to literary and social aspects would have been helpful. The book contains probably the best bibliography on the subject and in itself makes it a significant contribution.

University of Hawaii DURWARD LONG

South Carolina: A Bicentennial History. By Louis B. Wright. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1976. xiv, 225 pp. Map, invitation to the reader, preface, notes, illustrations, epilogue, suggestions for further reading, index. $8.95.)

James Morton Smith, general editor of this series, wrote that

the authors of the state histories were asked for "a summing up-interpretive, sensitive, thoughtful, individual, even personal-of what seems significant about his . . . state's history." Given these guidelines, Professor Wright has produced a very personal history of South Carolina. A native of Greenwood, South Carolina, Wright studied South Carolina history under the late David Duncan Wallace at Wofford College. Since 1923 he has made only "sporadic visits" home. His Bicentennial history of the state reflects his childhood memories of the South Carolina upcountry, the indelible imprint of Professor Wallace, and his own feelings after more than fifty years in exile.

Wright notes that he has been waiting fifty years to answer Ludwig Lewisohn's 1922 essay in *The Nation*, "South Carolina: A Lingering Fragrance." The essay, he found, to be "supercilious, arrogant, and derogatory." Lewisohn's lingering fragrance was one of social decay; Wright's is a vivid memory of the sights and smells of his youth. It is disappointing, however, that he limits his ocular and olefactory memories to the piedmont, for his scenic descriptions are a reader's delight.

Pride is the unifying theme of this book. Pride, the deadliest of the Seven Deadly Sins, he finds as the state's chief weakness throughout the 300-plus turbulent years of its history. This keen insight into the state's past gives Wright a thread around which he could have woven his story-if only he had used it. Pride spawned violence and gentility, two other important characteristics of South Carolina society since the 1670s.

The first three chapters reflect the strong influence of David Duncan Wallace's *History of South Carolina*, most notably his condescending attitude toward the redman and his distaste for the Anglican establishment. After describing the Cherokees as an extremely cruel people who went to war for sport, Wright notes that "Despite these aberrations, the Cherokees were a highly intelligent people." Like Wallace, Wright makes the Dissenters the heroes and the Anglicans the villains of the colonial period. This simply was not so. His theme of pride could have been used effectively to explain the contentious nature of the factionalism that was rife in colonial South Carolina, especially under proprietary rule. Although Wright asserts that violence began in South Carolina with the coming of the American Revolution, it had begun almost as soon as there were settlers.

Once Wright moves into the Revolutionary and antebellum periods, the book improves considerably in both style and content. Here he uses his theme of pride most effectively, particularly in describing the fire-eaters of the pre-Civil War years. His long residence in the Washington, D.C., area led him to make too many unnecessary references to Virginia. In commenting on secession and the Civil War he wrote, "In Virginia, the decisions were perhaps hardest." He then retells the oft-told tale of Robert E. Lee's decision to go with Virginia instead of the Union. In a South Carolina history, the agonizing decisions of Wade Hampton, James L. Petigru, James L. Orr, and Benjamin F. Perry would have been more appropriate.

The last 100 years of the state's history are condensed into twenty-two pages. These years provide numerous examples of pride, violence, and gentility on which Wright could have elaborated. For, South Carolina today is the product of its history. And, the last 100 years have been just as important as the first 200 years, perhaps more so, in shaping the South Carolina of the 1970s.

University of South Carolina WALTER B. EDGAR

Louisiana: A Bicentennial History. By Joe Gray Taylor. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1976. xi, 194 pp. Map, invitation to the reader, acknowledgments, illustrations, epilogue, suggestions for further reading, index. $8.95.)

There has been a need for a short, popular volume about the history of Louisiana. Professor Taylor, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Association for State and Local History have supplied that need.

The book is composed of twelve chapters which trace the fascinating history of the state from its inception under the French through the Spanish period and purchase by the United States to the administration of Governor Edwin Edwards. One interesting item is the fact that the Spanish were much better administrators than the original colonizers. However, they supplied only a caretaker government. The book is populated with romantic figures, but there is enough romance and adventure in

Louisiana's past to provide materials for many volumes. The characters are all here: St. Denis, Bienville, Iberville, Lafitte, Jackson, Warmoth, Huey Long, and many others.

The author, a native of Tennessee, was able to view the state through the eyes of an outsider and yet to express his vast knowledge of the area through the experience of long association. He is well-known for his many scholarly works about the region, and he well delineates the unique qualities which he finds in the area. Whereas this particular work was not intended to be a textbook, it is now used as such in some of the state universities. Such use is a tribute both to its scholarship and its readability. However, this is not a volume for the professional historian and it was not intended to be so. Professor Taylor remained within the guidelines established by his editors, and he composed a very readable and interesting history of Louisiana. Many of its events have had a major impact on the history of West Florida. There is a short bibliography, and the index is adequate. Sixteen pictures of typical Louisiana scenes will enchant the camera buff. When compared with the other Bicentennial histories, Professor Taylor's work represents well the aspirations of the Bicentennial to provide the reader with information about Louisiana's past.

Southeastern Louisiana University DUDLEY S. JOHNSON

Georgia: A Bicentennial History. By Harold H. Martin. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1977. xii, 212 pp. Map, invitation to the reader, acknowledgments, preface, notes, illustrations, suggestions for further reading, index. $8.95.)

Harold Martin, for thirty-five years a newspaper writer and editor for the Atlanta *Constitution*, has written an interesting, generally well-balanced, objective, and thoughtful history of his native state. Reviewing some 250 years of Georgia history, from the colony's founding in 1733 to the election of a Georgian as president in 1976, Martin demonstrates that, as a veteran journalist, he can tell a clear, common-sense and entertaining story. Written with good judgement and good humor, this book will make, for many people, a much better introduction to its subject than other more academic works. This book has two other great

virtues: the author devotes as much time to Georgia's modern history as he does to its romantic antebellum past, and he has been able to examine the state's disappointments, failures, and recent history with objective eyes.

This book, however, is a very brief treatment of a complex subject, the work of a journalist rather than an historian. Serious students of Georgia history will recognize that Martin has constructed his book from standard references, articles, newspaper files, and his own experience as a newspaperman. The greatest virtues of this book-humor, good sense and entertaining writing -are most obvious when the author deals with remote history, where he turns academic research into a clear and interesting story. But when the author deals with the recent past, the period of his own personal experience, he fails to identify certain people and events which are mentioned in passing, he gives impressionistic statistics without dates and details, and he devotes too much attention to local Atlanta politics during the 1960s which are not essential to the statewide survey.

Without much apparent original research, the author continues the gaps in our knowledge of Georgia history. We still need to know more about life in Georgia during the years of the royal governors between 1752 and 1776, more about the real social and cultural developments ouside politics during the first half of the nineteenth century, and more about the broad trends, not only the details, of our own era. Writing of the Civil War, the author tells much about General Sherman, but very little about war mobilization or the effects of the Civil War at home.

The book's peculiar and inconsistent footnotes, which reference only a few direct quotations and statistics while leaving other material undocumented or unacknowledged, make clear the author's extensive use of relatively few references. More than one-half of the book's sixty-six footnotes come from only six sources, and ten footnotes-all of the footnotes in one chapter-come from a single source! In a short book, one would expect little space to be devoted to presonal biography. But when his research gets thin, the author devotes more than one-fifth of his book to two personalities, twenty-two pages to Tom Watson, leader of the Populist movement in Georgia, and thirty pages to Eugene Talmadge, four-term Georgia governor. In the absence of detailed information about the complicated eras during which they

lived, the author pads these parts of his book with personal biography.

This book is one of fifty state histories which were commissioned by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Association for State and Local History. They were admirably intended to celebrate the contribution of the separate states to our national history on the occasion of our 200th birthday as a country. The Association and the Endowment have been criticized by regional historians and publishers throughout the country for selecting a large New York publisher to oversee, produce, and distribute these books. Inevitably, supervised and packaged in New York, these books have taken on a stale sameness, a formula repeated fifty times by remote control. Had state university presses, state historical societies, or regional publishers been given an opportunity to help produce these books, then perhaps more interesting authors would have been selected, more concern evidenced in their editing and contents, and more original books with more lasting value produced.

Savannah, Georgia MILLS LANE

Alabama: A Bicentennial History. By Virginia Van der Veer Hamilton. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1977. xv, 189 pp. Map, invitation to the reader, preface, notes, illustrtions, suggestions for further reading, index. $8.95.)

Alabama and Florida, particularly West Florida, share much history, especially in colonial times extending into the nineteenth century. The emphasis in this volume by Professor Hamilton, however, is on recent times and a subjective evaluation of this period with supporting facts marshalled from the past. The here and now standpoint is frankly explained by the author at the onset: "those readers who want a comprehensive treatment of Alabama history must look elsewhere" (p. xiv). Nevertheless with only 189 pages to cover nearly 500 years of history the reader may be surprised to discover how successful Dr. Hamilton has been in presenting some little known facts and individual opinion in always interesting prose. Readers of the history of Florida, Louisiana, and indeed other southern states may read this interpretation

of Alabama's history with alert interest because much of it applies far beyond the state's boundaries.

What are the Alabama interpretations of Wilbur J. Cash, Carl N. Degler, Herman C. Nixon, or of C. Vann Woodward? Properly Dr. Hamilton's examples focus upon Alabama, but Florida historians may often find Florida applications in addition to those dealing with Alabama. To these are added the criticisms and acclaim of nineteenth-century travelers, as well as some off-beat natives, such as James G. Birney, the Alabamian beloved by the Liberty Party. The Hamilton volume focuses upon major elements of the population: blacks and yeoman farmers (the latter the most significant topic in the book) and de-emphasizes traditional themes of southern history. "Other Voices, Other Cultures" include Indians, Mobile's unique history, and in passing, Baldwin County, Huntsville, "Cajuns," Demopolis, Cullman, and even Fruithurst, a Scandinavian experiment before it became a speed trap.

Even so, a short book could not cover all of Alabama's recorded history, and omissions are many. The omission most regretted by this reviewer is critical comment on the agrarians and the theme of latter day colonialism. Two pages of bibliography might appear too scant until it is noted that there are footnotes and critical evaluation of books appearing throughout the volume. Students interested in southern history should read this well-written book. The photographic coverage is effective and indeed imaginative, but more than two maps could have helped.

The University of Alabama CHARLES G. SUMMERSELL

BOOK NOTES

In the effort to populate Florida, Britain, after acquiring the territory from Spain in 1763, instituted a generous land grant policy. One of those who received property was Denys Rolle. His grant was on the St. Johns River near present-day Palatka, and his plan was to develop an agricultural colony. After much indecision, which greatly irritated Governor James Grant, he established his plantation in the fall of 1764. Rolle suffered many setbacks, and blamed his difficulties on the governor's obstructive

conduct and the absence of proper law and order in Florida. His plans to develop the colony and his frustration over his failure were described in great detail in his "*Humble Petition*" which he forwarded to the King's Privy Council in 1765. This document, setting forth Rolle's "Hardships, Inconveniences, and Grievances," contains valuable information about life and conditions on the East Florida frontier during the British period. This volume has been edited by Professor Claude Sturgill of the University of Florida, and it is published in the Bicentennial Floridiana Facsimile Series by the University Presses of Florida. It sells for $6.50.

De Luna, by John Appleyard of Pensacola, is a popularly written account of the Tristan De Luna expedition which attempted a Spanish settlement along the Gulf coast at Pensacola Bay in 1559. It was not successful, and this, Florida's first colony, was destined to last only two years. *De Luna* is based upon letters, journals, and contemporary records. The novel's narrator is Cristobal Ramirez y Arellano, a nephew of De Luna. The book may be ordered from John Appleyard Agency, Box 1902, Pensacola, 32589; the price is $5.95.

The Palmers are one of Florida's most distinguished medical families. Thomas M. Palmer was a member of the Florida Secession Convention in 1861 and was director of the Florida Hospital at Richmond, Virginia, during the Civil War. His portrait hangs in the Confederate Museum in Richmond. One of his assistants was Mrs. Robert Raymond Reid, whose husband had been governor of Florida during the territorial period. John D. Palmer was practicing in Fernandina at the time of the yellow fever epidemic in 1877 and cared for many patients during that tragic time. Information on the Palmer physicians and other members of their family are included in this volume compiled by Theresa Yeager Palmer of Jacksonville. Family wills, military and naval records, and other genealogical data is included, along with talks delivered before the Florida Medical Association which contain valuable information on the early medical history of Florida. Hugh Archer Palmer is editor of the book. Copies may be ordered from Mrs. Palmer, 1819 Goodwin Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32204.

Florida has been fortunate in the large number of community histories published in recent years. They provide valuable information gathered from local records and from talking to oldtimers in the community. Hitherto unpublished pictures are also made available. Such a volume is *Hallandale* by Bill McGoun. Named for Luther Halland, Hallandale was established by a group of Swedish immigrants. It began to expand after the construction of Flagler's Florida East Coast Railroad into South Florida. Mr. McGoun, who has written articles and books about Broward and Palm Beach counties, describes the history of Hallandale from its early beginnings to the present. He has included brief excerpts from interviews which he conducted with surviving pioneers, four biographical essays, and a number of pictures. Published by the Hallandale Historical Society, 101 North Federal Highway, Hallandale, 33009, the book sells for $5.00.

Lake of the Hills, Its History, as told to Mildred Kaucher, briefly describes this small, unincorporated community, which is located on Starr Lake, three and one-half miles north of Lake Wales. It began in 1914 when the Howey Land Company acquired property there. Some of the original settlers still live in the vicinity, and Ms. Kaucher relates their histories as she describes people and buildings on her "tours" of the area. The book is available from the author, Route 6, Box 361, Lake Wales, Florida 33853. The price is $5.00.

The History of Zephyrhills, 1821-1921, is by Rosemary W. Trottman, a retired schoolteacher and a native of the community. She gathered her material by talking to oldtimers, examining city and county records, and checking newspapers. The author begins her narrative with America's acquisition of Florida from Spain in 1821. She provides information about lumbering, railroad development, early education, citrus, government activities, and the social life of the people living in and around Zephyrhills. This history was published by Vantage Press, Inc., 516 W. 34th Street, New York, New York 10001; it sells for $8.50.

A Century of Banking in Jacksonville, 1877-1977, is an illustrated booklet detailing the history of the Barnett Bank, one of the country's major financial establishments. The Bank of

Jacksonville opened May 7, 1877, in the old Freedman's Bank Building at the corner of Main and Forsyth streets. Bion Barnett, its founder, recalled that "our capital . . . was $43,000." A century later, the corporation has banks all over Florida. Richard A. Martin of Jacksonville is author of the booklet's narrative. For information write Barnett Bank, 100 Laura Street, Jacksonville 32202.

From Cabin To Campus, by Nancy W. Kenaston, is a history of the Okaloosa County school system. When Okaloosa County was carved out of Santa Rosa County by the legislature in June 1915, it received the school properties that were within this designated area. No one knows just how many institutions were involved, but it included Baker School, one of the newest and best-equipped in the area. Ms. Kenaston's book includes information on school health, building construction, curriculum development, and finances. The teacher's strike of 1968, black education, and biographical sketches of the superintendents of schools and education board officials are included. Lance C. Richbour, one of the early superintendents, had been a professional baseball player, playing outfield for the New York Giants, before he became a school administrator. *From Cabin To Campus* was published by the School Board of Okaloosa County, Administration Building, Fort Walton Beach, 32548. It is being distributed to all libraries.

Voices From the South: Recollections of Four Foresters are the published oral history interviews with Inman F. Eldredge, Elwood L. Demmon, Walter J. Damtoft, and Clinton H. Coulter, conducted by Elwood R. Mauder. They all deal with the history of forestry and the manufacture of paper and other tree products throughout the South. The interview with Clinton Coulter is especially valuable to Florida historians. As a state forester, he was known as an innovator of fire-protection techniques. Austin Cary (for whom an experimental forest near Gainesville is named), the Florida Forestry Association, Florida Forest Service, and the University of Florida's Forest School are some of the topics touched upon in this book. Published by Forest History Society, Inc., Box 1581, Santa Cruz, California 95061, *Voices From the South* sells for $5.45.

Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, a member of one of America's wealthiest families, can be aptly described as diplomat, businessman, sportsman, traveler, and society leader. He served as assistant secretary of the Air Force after World War II, was one of the founders of Pan American Airways, and he played a part in the production of the motion picture *Gone With the Wind.* His best know Florida enterprise is Marineland which opened near St. Augustine in 1938 and which has since become one of the major tourist attractions in the state. In cooperation with the University of Florida, he also launched the Whitney Marine Research Laboratory which was dedicated in 1974. In his autobiography, *High Peaks,* a chapter is devoted to these Florida activities. Published by the University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, *High Peaks* sells for $7.50.

Massacre! by Frank Laumer is an account of the attack on Major Francis L. Dade and his military detachment on December 28, 1835, by Seminole Indians. Dade was traveling along the military road from Fort Brooke to Fort King when he came under Indian fire. This was one of the incidents which touched off the Second Seminole War. Published by the University of Florida Press in 1968 (reviewed in the *Florida Historical Quarterly,* XLVIII, No. 1, 79-80), it has now been republished as a paperback volume. It sells for $4.75.

Thomas Alva Edison was intrigued with what he saw in Florida on his first visit, and he decided to build a winter home at Fort Myers. On this estate, he developed a replica of his West Orange, New Jersey, laboratory and utilized it for a number of experiments and in his research for a new source of latex which was needed to produce rubber. After examining some 14,000 plants, Edison decided that a variety of goldenrod offered the best solution. Edison's Florida home and estate where many worldwide personalities visited are now open to visitors. A new biography, *Edison, The Man Who Made the Future,* by Ronald W. Clark, notes his activities in Florida. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, it sells for $12.95.

To Die Game: The Story of the Lowry Band, Indian Guerrillas of Reconstruction, by W. McKee Evans, is now available as a

paperback published by Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge (reviewed in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. L, No. 2, 207). It is the history of the Lumbee Indians living in Robeson County, North Carolina, after the Civil War. The price is $4.95.

Index to Book Reviews in Historical Periodicals, 1976, compiled by John W. Brewster and Joseph A. McLeod, includes reviews from the *Florida Historical Quarterly* and 100 other scholarly journals and historical society organs. It contains an author/title listing for approximately 5,000 book reviews. There is also title and publication information along with review citations. Earlier published volumes in this series cover the period 1972-1975. The 1976 volume, published by Scarecrow Press, Metuchen, New Jersey 18840, sells for $18.50.

A Coat of Many Colors: Jewish Settlement Communities in the United States, edited and compiled by Abraham D. Lavender, includes extensive historical and contemporary data on Jewish life in the southeastern part of the United States. Jews were residing in Charleston as early as 1695, and the first Jewish settlement in the South was in Georgia (1733). Since 1939, Jewish population has declined in eight of the twelve southern states; although Florida is one of the exceptions. There has been a major growth in this state during the past forty years, and particularly since World War II. In the area from Palm Beach to Miami there is one of the major concentrations of Jewish population in the United States. One chapter in this book is entitled, "Is Miami Beach Jewish?" *A Coat of Many Colors* also contains material on the economic, political, and intellectual activities of Jews living elsewhere in Florida. Published by Greenwood Press, 51 Riverside Avenue, Westport, Connecticut 06880, the book sells for $17.95. It is one of the volumes in Greenwood's Contribution to Family Studies series.

Shiloh-In Hell Before Night, by James Lee McDonough, was published by the University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville. Among the Confederate forces participating in this battle on April 6-7, 1862, was the First Florida Battalion, which was part of the Second Brigade with Brigadier General Patton Anderson in command. Robertson's Battery, with Captain Felix H. Robertson

commanding, was another Florida unit involved. Shiloh was one of the greatest battles of the war and of American history, and one of the bloodiest ever fought up until that time. The commanders-Confederate and Union-included Beauregard, Bragg, Forrest, A. S. Johnston, Sherman, and Grant. This paperback sells for $5.00.

Fighters-for Independence: A Guide to Sources of *Biographical Information on Soliders and Sailors of the American Revolution* is in the Clement Library's Bicentennial Studies series. It provides sources for biographical data on Revolutionary soldiers, sailors, and marines, and will have special value for historical researchers and genealogists. Compiled by J. Todd White and Chester H. Lesser, the book was published by the University of Chicago Press. It sells for $8.00.

Mothers of *the South, Portraiture* of *the White Tenant Farm Woman,* by Margaret Jarman Hagood, was first published in 1939. It provides valuable information about the changes that took place in the agricultural South during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The study was based upon sixteen months of travel to 254 tenant houses in the Carolina Piedmont and in Georgia and Alabama. Mrs. Hagood contributed valuable data for the regional profile then being developed by Howard Odum and his associates at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. *Mothers of the South* has been republished as a paperback by W. W. Norton & Company, New York, with an introduction by Anne Firor Scott. It sells for $3.95.

The History of Louisiana by Francois Barbe-Marbois is one of the volumes in the Louisiana Bicentennial Reprint Series for which Joseph G. Tregle, Jr., serves as general editor. Barbe-Marbois conducted the sale of Louisiana to the United States, and years later, in 1829, he published this account of the transaction and outlined the motives that had led Napoleon to dispose of the territory. It is one of the best contemporary reports available. Published by Louisiana State University Press for the Louisiana American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, this volume was edited with an introduction by E. Wilson Lyon. It sells for $14.95.

Louisiana Cajuns is a photographic essay by Turner Browne which depicts the people who live in and around the bayous of southern Louisiana. The introduction is by William Mills and the French text is by James and Elizabeth Spohrer. Published by Louisiana-State University Press, Baton Rouge, *Louisiana Cajuns* sells for $14.95.

The Waring Papers, The Collected Works of Antonio J. Waring, Jr., has been published in a new edition by Peabody Museum, Harvard University. Edited and with an epilogue by Stephen Williams, the amply illustrated and footnoted volume contains twenty-one articles authored or co-authored by Waring from the late 1930s to 1960. Most had not been published prior to their selection for the first edition published in 1968. The bulk of the articles deal with coastal Georgia archeology and with the Southern Cult, a pan-Southeastern United States archeological complex of distinctive ceremonial paraphenalia and art motifs which developed after A.D. 1200. *The Waring Papers* may be ordered from Publications, Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.