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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

La población de Luisiana Española (1763-1803). By Antonio Acosta Rodriguez. (Madrid: Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, 1979. xi, 499 pp. Prologue, acknowledgments, introduction, maps, tables, figures, notes, appendices, sources, bibliography.)

Few studies of the colonial history of Louisiana and West Florida have been awaited, both by scholars and now professional historians, with as much interest as has Antonio Acosta's demographic history. Here in 296 pages of text, thirty-five pages on methodology, and 145 pages of tables and graphs (and one map) we have the fruits of his inquiry into colonial demography as it can be studied using aggregate (and aggregated) data drawn from seventy-four full and partial population reports from the sixteen commandancies of the two provinces in question. The result pleases the scholar, but perhaps will disappoint other readers who will not find individual people discussed, although there is a wealth of data for local history. Acosta's prose is a bit heavy because of the interweaving of unnumbered tables, the technical orientation of the study and its vocabulary, and a complicated verbal style. Nonetheless, this book is a major event, setting a new standard in meticulous scholarship addressed to a broad theme with importance beyond the confines of its geographic subject.

Acosta argues that Louisiana's demographic history under the Spanish can be divided into three broad phases: 1763-1777, 1778-1788, and 1789-1803. These phases are determined by the conventional periodization of the Spanish era as much or more than by the demographic record itself, although Acosta finds certain characteristics unique to each phase. During the first, the free as well as the slave population was characterized by a marked numerical predominance of men over women, a resulting low reproductive rate evidenced by the percentage of children, and a heavy dependence on immigration to maintain numbers. (Theodore Corbett has shown in his work published in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* that St. Augustine's population during the first Spanish period had similar characteristics.) During

the second phase, heavy immigration of Acadians and a few other groups produced some centers with more normal sex ratios among the adults and very large populations of children (up to forty-five per cent of the total). The third phase saw growth on this base and the addition of new centers (notably in Illinois) to the list of those sharing this pattern. Slave populations, although growing because of imports, remained predominantly male with low reproductive rates.

Information on West Florida is confined to Acosta's discussion of the second phase, 1778-1788. Most of the data presented were drawn up following the Spanish seizures of Baton Rouge, Mobile, and Pensacola and do not extend beyond the early 1780s. Baton Rouge had a population almost too small to count. It was like Pensacola in that the makeup was predominately male, although the percentage of males was higher in Pensacola. Mobile, by contrast, had a more typical colonial population, heavy in the age group under ten, and nearly balanced by sex and age in the remainder of the population. The book lacks an index, but the following is a listing of the pages on which Baton Rouge, Mobile, or Pensacola are mentioned (the more important references are italicized): pp. 147, 150-51, 179-80, 186-88, 207-09, 211, 215, 219, 245, 440, 453-59, 476, 480, 486-87. This lack of an index is a serious fault. That aside, it is one of the best works on "borderlands" history to appear in the last decade and shows that the field need not be either antiquarian or moribund.

Louisiana State University

PAUL E. HOFFMAN

Fifty Years of Pleasure: The Illustrated History of Publix Super Markets, Inc. By Pat Watters. (Lakeland, Florida: Publix Super Markets, Inc., 1980. ix, 263 pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations. \$5.00.)

This is the story of George W. Jenkins, Jr., and the chain of almost 250 supermarkets he has built and operated in Florida in the last fifty years. The author was commissioned, and the book was published and distributed by Publix Markets, Inc., to record the history of the firm. It is no ordinary public relations puffer. The book gets its quality from the author, Pat Watters,

a professional writer whose books include the story of the Coca-Cola Company. It is a history of a small enterprise grown large, written in human, rather than statistical, terms. It is a story told mainly by the people who participated in it, but the author has also used such sources as the information services of the Food Marketing Institute and other trade organizations.

"Where Shopping Is A Pleasure," the motto of the markets and the source of the title, is an important key to Jenkins's success story. Attractive, uncluttered buildings and grounds, adequate parking area, and more personnel than one usually finds in grocery stores today, make them pleasant places to shop. The company has maintained many of the characteristics of a small business by continuing to emphasize the qualities usually associated with small enterprise, people directly and personally interested in the needs and wishes of the customers. The loyalty and contributions of the store personnel derive from relatively good salaries, employee benefits and stock ownership, and the recruiting of management personnel for new stores and central administration from within the organization. The motto might well read "Where Shopping and Working Are A Pleasure."

The laudatory tone of the author's prose may offend some readers, but the personality of George Jenkins is the heart of the story. His ability to choose able people, hold their loyalty, and get out of them the best they have to offer, and to give them recognition for their efforts is paramount. Jenkins did not invent all of the meaningful practices he put into effect. He was born into the grocery business, leaving the employ of Piggly Wiggly in Winter Haven, Florida, to found his own first store in 1930. Obviously, he has been as good at using fresh ideas and new techniques as he has at choosing personnel. He has succeeded in putting them all together into winning combinations.

Anyone about to open a food store will not find this book a how-to-do-it manual. It is not the detached and critical study that one might expect from an academic historian in the field of business history. The reader will get many creative ideas which can then be implemented from more prosaic sources. Publix Markets and George Jenkins now deserve attention from a critical business historian to complement this human story, told by Pat Watters. The book lacks footnotes, a bibliography, or

index. Watters also raises a number of questions: how could such vast growth be financed and yet Publix remain a family enterprise? What mistakes, if any, were made, and what was learned from them? What did Publix have other than creative ownership and highly motivated personnel that enabled the company to meet rivals in such a highly competitive business?

University of Miami

CHARLTON W. TEBEAU

Archeology and a Science of Man. By Wilfred T. Neill. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1978. xi, 321 pp. Introduction, illustrations, epilogue, bibliography, index. \$20.00.)

Readers of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* will primarily be interested in what a book with a general title such as this has to contribute to an understanding of the human history of Florida. It is indeed rich in data and interpretation in reference to Florida, with such material appearing on about one half of the pages of the volume.

Following an introduction on science and the scientific method, chapters are devoted to the interactions of archeology with ethnology, linguistics, toponymy, physical anthropology, paleoanthropology, the social sciences, and a variety of environmental sciences. The final chapters examine the directions and applications of the approach.

It should be made clear that in using the Florida data Neill does not attempt to present a systematic prehistory or ethnohistory of the state. His aim is to use examples with which he is intimately familiar in his discussions of the possible interactions and contributions of various disciplines to what he sees as an emerging scientific archeology. The degree to which this objective is realized is more properly the subject of review in the professional anthropological journals, and will not be evaluated here. It may be noted, however, that neither "traditional" nor "new" archeologists are likely to be totally satisfied at a theoretical level.

However, Neill's wide-ranging interests in and knowledge of the biological sciences, his command of data from his own archeological field work and the literature, and his familiarity

with the Seminole and the ethnohistorical sources enrich his presentation of aspects of Florida anthropology.

Throughout the volume Neill discusses the archeology of Florida (and other areas) in relation to such factors as environmental change over time, soil types and vegetation, climatic studies, biogeography, and other topics, all of which may be considered to be ecological. There are also good discussions of particular plant and animal species as related both to their biological setting and their use by the aboriginal inhabitants of Florida. It is in these areas of environmental-cultural interaction that Neill is at his best. Students of Florida history will find the chapter on archeology and place names (toponymy) to be particularly interesting and useful.

The reviewer finds himself in agreement with a great number of Neill's interpretations, but there are others with which he strongly questions. This is to be expected, and it should be stressed that Neill considers hypothetical explanations as but tentative conjectures to be tested further. A major annoyance lies in Neill's repeated statements that the approach which he advocates is "new" or "novel," and that many of the questions have "not been asked before." One is inclined to ask "to whom" and "by whom"? Many of his suggestions fit into an archeological mainstream of considerable time depth; Neill may not be as alone as he seems to think.

St. Augustine, Florida

JOHN W. GRIFFIN

Discovering America, 1700-1875. By Henry Savage, Jr. (New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1979. xvii, 394 pp. Editor's introduction, preface, illustrations, maps, notes, bibliographic essay, index. \$17.95.)

Now that the twenty-first century looms less than a score of years away, the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries seem to be fast disappearing into the mists of the past. The new land that was full of mystery has been settled and populated. People hardly note rivers and mountains as they drive the interstates or move about the country via airlines. A nation that has been urbanized is in danger of forgetting the very geography of its land. The

abundant flora and fauna that were fresh as the Garden of Eden are all but forgotten.

For American historians and environmentalists the failure of the present generation to be aware of the natural land over which they live is tragic. How can an unappreciative people be convinced that their land is worth protecting from their own thoughtless, wasteful abuse? Perhaps this superb synthesis, if it can be read by teachers as well as by students, will make a few more citizens aware of the Eden this land once was. Surely some will be fascinated by the travels of such naturalist-explorers as Abraham Wood, Louis Joliet, John Lawson, Mark Catesby, John and William Bartram, Andre Michaux, Lewis and Clark, Pike, Long, and all the other explorers of the American South and West.

This volume, the latest addition to the New American Nation Series, is a distillation of the history of exploration in what became the contiguous forty-eight states. No other book has accomplished the task so well. While a good deal has been done on exploration west of the Mississippi, the East Coast and Trans-Appalachia have been neglected. Henry Savage has now corrected this. The extensive journeys of John Lawson, the Bartrams, Andre Michaux, and other more obscure explorers are here chronicled. Florida is brought to the attention of readers through the activities of the Bartrams, Thomas Say, and Thomas Nuttall.

This book is crammed with excellent short biographies. The essays on Alexander Wilson, John James Audubon, George Catlin, and John Lawson are models of incisive writing. In general, Savage appears to know the men of the East Coast and Trans-Appalachia better than those who explored the Trans-Mississippi and Far West. Certainly he has more errors in the latter half of the book: *Mercid* for *Merced* River, for example. On the other hand, he separates the threads of various Pacific Railroad Surveys as well or better than any other historian. Sometimes his prose is written with the clarity and the tight organization of a brief to be presented to the Supreme Court.

The inclusive dates, 1700-1875, bother us a little for they are mere pegs upon which to begin and end the narration. The year 1875 was of little significance, whereas 1879 was the year of

the founding of the United States Geological Survey. Even 1900 could have been an ending point. Still, the author is able to cover Powell's exploration of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado and the creation of the Yellowstone Park by Congress so that by 1875 he can demonstrate that there was no unknown country left in the contiguous forty-eight states. Perhaps this is sufficient.

It is to the credit of the editors that Savage was allowed to retain in his writing the verve and excitement that he clearly experienced as he did his research and writing. Notwithstanding its excellent documentation, every chapter-to use a terribly over-used cliché-reads like a novel. Sure, there are errors: every work of synthesis has them. But overall, this is one of the finest volumes in the New American Nation Series, a reference book on the exploration of America and an escapist book to read for the sheer excitement it offers. See that your school or college library has a copy; buy a copy for yourself.

Florida State University

RICHARD A. BARTLETT

The Papers of Henry Laurens. Volume Seven: Aug. 1, 1769-Oct. 9, 1771. Edited by George C. Rogers, Jr., David R. Chestnutt, and Peggy J. Clark. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1979. xxviii, 653 pp. Introduction, list of abbreviations, principal dates of Laurens's life, notes, appendices, index. \$27.50.)

This the seventh volume of the published papers of Henry Laurens of South Carolina continues the same excellent editorial style as we have come to expect from those already released. Like all of the papers, beginning in 1746, a rich lode of information is made available, both to the general reader and the scholar, on the history of South Carolina and the South, its institutions and socio-economic peculiarities. There is also a wealth of political information about the approaching Revolution as the volumes progress.

The volumes document the experience of Laurens, at first a conservative merchant, who is moved to a moderate position by the excesses of the placemen, Egerton Leigh and Daniel Moore. In fact, even though Laurens's vindication of himself over Leigh

and Moore was complete, he became increasingly distressed about the parliamentary legislation of Charles Townshend's program and decided finally to join in the boycott of British goods which lasted many months. In the end, December 1770, he objected to the tax on tea which remained after the other acts were repealed so that Parliament could at least retain the principle of the right to tax the colonies. Laurens was not far from the radical position on the matter. The letters of this period are invaluable for political and economic insights into the merchant's revolutionary thinking. While Laurens argued the principle of no taxation, he was not unhappy with growing market shortages in South Carolina rice. This product would be for sale in abundance and at good prices. A boycott on the Negro importations would have the planters clamoring for them with the termination of the nonexportation agreement. But even while he contemplated profits from the slave trade, it disturbed him: "Under cover hereof you will find an Account of Sale for Seven of the Nine New Negroes. . . . One of them died on board the Ship, another you see I was glad to sell at Vendue to save something for you, a third poor pining creature hanged herself with a piece of small Vine which shews that her carcase was not very weighty. . . . [P.S.] Who that views the above Picture can love the Affrican trade" (p. 192).

Laurens expected much money to be made by the planters of Altamaha, where he had interests. He carried on trade with St. Augustine, and there are several letters regarding East Florida. His friend Governor James Grant was his chief correspondent. Business letters also were sent to Patrick Tonyn who succeeded Grant as governor of East Florida. Grant was also critical of customs collection practices which is indicated in his letters to Laurens.

Georgetown University

RICHARD WALSH

Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789, Volume 4: May 16-August 15, 1776. Edited by Paul H. Smith, Gerard W. Gawalt, Rosemary Fry Plakas, and Eugene R. Sheridan (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1979. xxviii, 739 pp. Foreword, editorial method and apparatus, acknowledgments, chronology of Congress, illustrations, notes, index. \$11.25.)

Covering as it does the weeks immediately preceding and following the decision for independence, this volume may well become the most studied and useful of all of the volumes in this new series of *Letters of Delegates* of the Continental Congress. Even as the raw material for historical research, these letters make fascinating reading and suggest a broad framework for organizing the material in these documents. Of the more than 600 letters and other items in this volume, fourteen documents—together with extensive annotation occupying eighty-five pages of text—deal formally with the decision for independence in its political, military, diplomatic, intellectual, and psychological significance. Never before has a single book made the story of that decision so gripping and intense. Here we have Jefferson's first draft of the Declaration, notes for two of John Dickinson's principled speeches opposing independence, and John Adams's taut, passionate, almost grim discovery that he was right and Dickinson wrong on the issue of formation of a sovereign nation. "I assure you this is no gratification of my vanity," Adams concluded in his letter to Joseph Warren on May 20, 1776; "the gloomy Prospect of Carnage and Devastation . . . is too affecting to give me Pleasure. It moves my keenest Indignation—yet I dare not hint at these Things for I hate to give Pain to Gentlemen whom I believe sufficiently punished by their own Reflections."

The remaining letters tell a story of routine deliberation and preparation, the flotsam and jetsam surrounding the hard struggle over independence. The skillfully phrased sub-headings in the index are an excellent guide to this material, and looking under "Howe, Richard, 4th Viscount Howe," I noticed the intriguing entry: "makes concessions on treating with United States." The index could not have been more explicit or helpful for it led to the letter of Abraham Clark to Elias Dayton, August 6, 1776, which states that "we lately sent a flag to his Lordship to settle An Exchange of Prisoners. He received the Officer with great Politeness, manifested a deep concern that he had not Arrived before Independency was declared. . . . He gave Genll. Washington the Title of Genll. and called us *the United States*." Nothing could better underscore Ira Gruber's interpretation of the conduct and dilemma of the Howe brothers during the summer of 1776 nor illustrate more vividly the intricate transi-

tion from political revolution to armed rebellion over which Congress presided during the weeks covered by this volume.

*University of North Carolina
at Greensboro*

ROBERT M. CALHOON

The Idea of a Southern Nation: Southern Nationalists and Southern Nationalism, 1830-1860. By John McCardell. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1979. xi, 394 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, notes, conclusion, appendices, essay on sources, index. \$16.95.)

Revolutionary dogma is almost always shot through with a strong strain of nationalism. Historians have recognized that just as the colonists of 1776 came to think of themselves more as Americans than as Englishmen, so many Southerners in 1860 came to believe that a southern nation could better preserve their way of life-and especially their peculiar institution. As Professor John McCardell has noted in *The Idea of a Southern Nation*, "many Southerners were finding . . . their social situation incomprehensible. And, as a result, they turned to southern nationalism to render their situation meaningful" (p. 4).

The author has essayed the task of tracing the origin and progress of southern nationalism from 1830 to 1860, and he has succeeded admirably. The idea of a southern nation found its first open expression during the nullification crisis of 1828-1832, although Professor McCardell is careful to distinguish between such nationalist extremists as William Lowndes Yancey and Robert Barnwell Rhett, on the one hand, and sectionalists such as John C. Calhoun and Robert Y. Hayne who were concerned with the protection of southern interests within the framework of the Union. Indeed, the young radicals, most of them parvenu aristocrats from the Carolina-Georgia upcountry, were initially regarded by southern leaders as little better than a lunatic fringe.

Professor McCardell, using a wide range of both primary and secondary sources, traces the growth of southern nationalism during the next three decades. He finds its manifestations reaching well beyond the confines of political rhetoric. William Gil-

more Simms urged the development of a southern literature. J. D. B. DeBow's *Review* became the voice of southern economic nationalism. Separation of the three great southern religious denominations from their northern brethren took place fifteen years before secession. Educational leaders urged Southerners to eschew such Yankee institutions as Yale and Harvard and educate their sons in the South. It was no idle choice that led to the name University of the South for the institution that was established at Suwanee, Tennessee, in 1860.

In a work of such broad scope necessitating sweeping generalizations some questions are inevitable. Professor McCardell says, "South Carolina . . . assumed after Nullification the leadership of a newly conscious South, a role for which the homogeneous Palmetto State was peculiarly fitted" (p. 60). Yet the "leader" had few followers. As the author notes, the response of the other states to nullification was negative. Calhoun and the South Carolina Democracy found themselves isolated from the national party, a situation which forced them into an alliance with the Whigs.

There are other questions that continue to baffle historians, including Professor McCardell. For instance there is the paradox of the wave of patriotic fervor that swept the South in the 1840s even as sectional tensions heightened. "All over the South Manifest Destiny seemed to rule. . . . Most [Southerners] . . . were fervent expansionists because of their intense American nationalism and were oblivious to any sectional consequences that the war [with Mexico] might produce" (p. 234, italics mine.). Yet in 1845 these same Southerners were dissolving their religious affiliations with Northern Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians. "The effect of the separation of the churches," says the author, "was powerful and catalytic" (p. 200).

Finally, rebellion occurs when radical extremists convert a resistance movement to a full-fledged attempt to overthrow constituted authority. Thus, the most interesting question that Professor McCardell deals with all too briefly is how radical southern nationalists were able to triumph and impose the idea of a southern nation on such reluctant rebels as Jefferson Davis, Howell Cobb, and Robert Toombs. But this is Professor McCardell's book, and a superb one it is. It should be carefully studied by

anyone who wants to understand the rise of the Confederate States of America.

University of Alabama

JOHN PANCAKE

The Slave Drivers: Black Agricultural Labor in the Antebellum South. By William L. Van Deburg. (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1979. xvii, 202 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, conclusion, appendix, notes, selected bibliography, index. \$16.95.)

The Black Rural Landowner-Endangered Species: Social, Political, and Economic Implications. Edited by Leo McGee and Robert Boone. (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1979. xxi, 200 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, figures, tables, index, about the contributors. \$17.95.)

Both of the volumes under review add important material to the history of the black experience. *The Slave Drivers* deals with a relatively small element in the slave population, while *The Black Rural Landowner* considers the problems of land loss by twentieth-century blacks. These studies show in widely different ways some of the difficulties which both slave and free blacks have undergone.

It has long been recognized that slave drivers or black foremen were very important in the successful operation of southern plantations. They were slaves who had supervisory power over other slaves; possessors of power which gave them a kind of elite status. Students have given varying interpretations of the attitudes, actions, and psychological make-up of the slave drivers, and in this book Mr. Van Deburg attempts to bring together and interpret the various views from both primary and secondary sources. This book is not about the slave driver and his work as an element in plantation management. Rather, it concentrates on how others have viewed this kind of slave and how he viewed himself.

After answering his own question of "who were the slave drivers," Mr. Van Deburg summarizes what major historians from U. B. Phillips to Eugene Genovese have said about slave

drivers. Then, drawing on the records of planters, the accounts of travellers, twentieth-century narratives and reminiscences of slaves and slave drivers, and slave autobiographies, the author draws his own conclusions.

Van Deburg found slave drivers who seemed to fit as many different opinions as there were writers. However, he concluded that most slave drivers did not sell out to their masters for a privileged position, or become a brutal elite in exchange for personal benefits. What is new about this study is the author's evidence that the slave drivers demonstrated a considerable degree of independence and manhood not previously recognized or understood. In some cases, they provided a kind of role model for other slaves. The author has researched his topic well. Since some of his evidence is contradictory, he works through it carefully and does not claim more than his research can support.

In *The Black Rural Landowner-Endangered Species*, editors Leo McGee and Robert Boone have brought together a series of essays which tell the story of declining ownership of land among blacks. Since 1910, when blacks held around 15,000,000 acres, ownership of land by blacks has declined until they retained less than 6,000,000 rural acres in the 1970s. The editors believe that in losing this economic equity in farm land, black economic and political power have been measurably weakened.

Following an introduction by the editors, ten chapters by different authors outline the problems faced by blacks in gaining and retaining land. Four major reasons emerge for the decline in black land ownership. These include voluntary disposal, foreclosures, tax delinquent sales, and dispersion among heirs. The problem of tax delinquent sales receives special attention.

While none of the authors come to grips with this basic problem, one of the underlying reasons why blacks lost their land rapidly after World War I was that most of them never had a sufficient landed stake in the first place. As is pointed out, blacks initially had smaller farms than whites. Most of these were not large enough to provide a base for a decent living as agriculture became more highly commercialized. Moreover, as the total economy was transformed to industrialism and commercialism there was no hope in self-sufficiency, unless a farmer was forever satisfied to live in relative poverty. Thus thousands of blacks quit

farming, or at least their children left for greener pastures in northern and southern industry. Efforts by the Farmers Home Administration and other federal agencies had no effect on slowing this exodus. Some successes, as this book shows, were scored by the Resettlement Administration, but the total black families who became landowners under that program was insignificant in terms of the overall problem.

This study would have been more meaningful if the editors had placed it in a broader context. The basic problems were those of small, unproductive farmers, both black and white. While blacks had special problems in holding land which grew out of racism and special conditions in the South, the overriding difficulty was the lack of acreage on which to build a profitable farm. Considering the direction of American agriculture after 1920, there was little chance that fifty-acre farms which were characteristic of black owners could meet family needs. Black farmers needed to acquire more land if they were to be viable operators throughout most of the South, and their inability to expand left them little real alternative other than selling out, mortgaging the property to live on, or taking other actions that would result in land loss. It would have taken a massive federal effort to change this situation, one for which there was meager political support in Washington or elsewhere.

This book outlines clear enough the reasons why blacks lost their land, and in this respect makes a worthy contribution. Although there is some unevenness in the quality of the different essays, and occasional duplication in ideas and statistics, the volume should stimulate further studies on this important subject.

University of Georgia

GILBERT C. FITE

The Diary of Miss Emma Holmes, 1861-1866. Edited by John F. Marszalek. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1979. xxv, 496 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, frequently mentioned names, index. \$35.00.)

“Solid” is the adjective which best describes this Civil War diary and the work of John F. Marszalek in editing the volume.

The Diary of Miss Emma Holmes, 1861-1866 provides the day-to-day observations and reflections of an educated, well-to-do, young woman upon events momentous and mundane in Charleston and Camden, South Carolina, during the era of Civil War and Reconstruction. Miss Holmes was an enthusiastic Confederate and of a social circle which included numerous well-placed men and women. Thus her insight is interesting and even her misinformation and misinterpretation of military events are significant to the extent that they were typical of informed Southerners.

This work is no "threat" to the popularity and usefulness of Mary Boykin Chesnut's *Diary from Dixie*. Mrs. Chesnut travelled in the same social circle and lived in Charleston and Camden as well. Yet there the similarity ceases. Mrs. Chesnut also observed life among Confederate luminaries in Richmond during the war. And more importantly she was considerably more gregarious and vivacious than Miss Holmes. Consequently *Diary from Dixie* is more lively and readable.

The Diary of Miss Emma Holmes is an excellent complement to Mrs. Chesnut's work, however. Miss Holmes wrote her diary while still in her twenties; yet even then she was an old maid schoolteacher. Because she was, her diary balances that of the bon vivant Mrs. Chesnut. Editor Marszalek has done an admirable job of presenting the diary and identifying or explaining people or events mentioned in the text.

University of Georgia

EMORY M. THOMAS

1866: The Critical Year Revisited. By Patrick W. Riddleberger. (Carbondale, Illinois: Southern Illinois University Press, 1979. xiii. 287 pp. Preface, illustrations, appendix, notes, selected bibliography, index. \$18.95.)

It has been almost a half century since anyone has attempted a booklength reevaluation of what Howard K. Beale has labeled the "critical year." For Patrick Riddleberger, as it was for Beale, 1866 marked the year in which the battle was enjoined between the Congress and the Executive to determine the destiny of the Reconstruction process. We all know the outcome, but scholars differ on its significance. The author maintains that we can profit

from another look at the tactics of the battle and the strategies of the participants. And indeed we could. But this volume is not it.

Riddleberger treats us to a meandering journey through the political and constitutional battlefield in immediate postwar Washington. A clear narrative of the motivations and machinations of the Congressional Republicans is skillfully drawn, but the reader is left with a sense of *deja vu*. Though this treatment is certainly more fair-minded than that offered by Beale, it lacks the thoroughness and sense of drama supplied by Les Benedict's dissection of the postwar Republications. Andrew Johnson fares little better. An attempt is made to lift the president from the depths to which recent historians have condemned him. Yet even here some of the best evidence has been ignored. Riddleberger, the author of a fine biography of George Washington Julian, offers little in *1866* that is new. He stakes out the middle ground between the traditionalists and the revisionists. Yet the author ignores just about all of the more refined revisionist arguments of the 1970s. In fact the bibliography cites only three of the dozens of Reconstruction monographs published since 1971. The recent studies of Benedict, Trefousse, and Mantell have been ignored. These scholars have questioned whether there was anything especially "critical" about 1866. Benedict offers 1867 as the true "critical year," while Mantell dismisses both dates in favor of a more complete dissection of the final two years of Johnson's tenure. Here again we are treated to a hackneyed assessment of an enfeebled northern Democratic party weakened by the badge of treason and the specter of internal fractionalization. The recent arguments of Joel Silbey's concise study of the Democracy in the war years may be questioned, but can they simply be ignored?

Riddleberger is on surer ground when testing Beale's interpretation of the behavior of the Congressional Republicans. Here he persuasively argues that Eric McKittrick erred in downplaying the value of the tariff, banking, and the currency as viable campaign issues in the off-year election. The author is correct in maintaining that Beale's assessment should not be dismissed without a careful examination. Thus, Andrew Johnson could have profited from a thorough airing of the economic

issues while the Republican press exploited media-events such as the "massacres" at New Orleans and Memphis. Yet Riddleberger ignores his own evidence and draws back from the conclusion that Johnson was establishing a strong case with which to indict a stubborn Congress. Following the "indecent orgy" thesis, the author repeats uncritically McKittrick's observation that the president severely damaged his own cause with his ill-executed "swing-around-the-circle." But an analysis of the 1866 voting returns by Everett Swinney, again ignored by the author, shows just how effective the president was in persuading the "silent majority" in the northern cities. Thus what the president needed was not less two-fisted stump-stirring harangues but more of his Tennessee down-home wit.

Finally Riddleberger is saddled with the time framework designed by Beale. If only it could be said to have served him well. Presidential Restoration was proposed, implemented, challenged, defended, and superceded by Congressional Reconstruction in a tidy chronological package highlighted by the 1866 election. Such periodization ignores the running battle for control of the readmission process that culminated in the impeachment efforts. Ample proof of such continuing conflict can be found in the subverting influence exercised by the president in the conduct of the southern occupational forces after the summer of 1867.

The Critical Year Revisited will be of use to those students seeking a concise rendition of the outlines of the major political debates of 1866, but as an interpretive essay this volume must be adjudged a failure. Those looking for new insights and a fresh rethinking of these much discussed issues would do better to consult the bold efforts of Albert Castel and James Sefton.

Florida State Archives

DAN J. KRASKA

To Set the Law in Motion: The Freedmen's Bureau and the Legal Rights of Blacks, 1865-1868. By Donald G. Nieman. (Millwood, New York: KTO Press, 1979. xvii, 250 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$19.95.)

Donald G. Nieman defines his book, *To Set the Law in Motion*, as a "systematic analysis of the legal aspects of [Freed-

men's] Bureau operations." In it he "explores the policies that Bureau officials adopted to guarantee blacks equal rights, protection against white violence, and redress against unscrupulous employers." Therefore his book is concerned with two main topics: the Bureau's attempts to secure due process of law and equal protection of the laws for freedmen, and its efforts to establish in the South a free labor system which would provide planters with reliable labor and assure freedmen of receiving fair wages.

Nieman's analysis is excellent. He adds much meaningful detail to what has previously been published about the Freedmen's Bureau, and he puts it together in a well-reasoned and well-written argument. He concludes that the Bureau was "a little more successful" in its labor policy than it was in its efforts to secure equal rights for blacks. It did effect an orderly transition from slavery to freedom. It provided labor for the planters and a livelihood for the freedmen. But it was a bare subsistence livelihood, and the freed laborer had little security against exploitation, deceit, and violence at the hands of his employer. As it worked out, the Bureau's labor policy, as Nieman says, "served primarily to provide planters with reluctant labor and to perpetuate blacks' dependence on planters."

Nothing the Bureau tried, whether it be using its own courts, referring cases involving blacks to military commissions, or trying to assist freedmen in presenting their causes in state courts, did much good at all in the matters of securing the freedmen's legal rights. Congress did not provide the Bureau enough of either manpower or military support to protect the former slaves from violence or to guarantee them equal treatment in the courts. President Johnson consistently blocked Bureau attempts to expand its judicial activity, because he wanted state governments and state court systems reestablished as soon as possible. Military commanders in the South frequently gave only limited support to the Bureau, because they were reluctant to interfere with state officials. "In the face of massive resistance from white southerners," Nieman concludes, "a temporary and poorly staffed agency which possessed only limited authority could not perform the herculean task of providing blacks with a firm basis for freedom."

Since I am reviewing *To Set the Law in Motion* for a Florida

historical journal, I must voice one serious criticism of the book: it gives Florida very scanty treatment. The state-level records of the Freedmen's Bureau constitute a major segment of the bibliography. They are listed alphabetically by states: Alabama, seventeen items; Arkansas, twenty; Georgia, fifteen; Florida is not included. The index refers us to nine Florida items in the text of the book. Georgia has twenty-two, Alabama twenty, Mississippi twenty-three, Virginia seventeen. Citations for the Florida material presented are about evenly divided between secondary sources and records in the Washington office of the Freedmen's Bureau. I feel that Florida is badly slighted, but that is the only disappointing thing I find in this book.

University of Florida

GEORGE R. BENTLEY

From the Captain to the Colonel: An Informal History of Eastern Airlines. By Robert J. Serling. (New York: Dial Press, 1980. 535 pp. Prologue, illustrations, acknowledgments, index. \$12.95.)

Serling does not dwell upon mundane facts and figures in his intensely interesting history of Eastern Airlines. The history is there, chronological and accurate, but it rapidly becomes the background of his fascinating drama of the important men who over the years wrested for control, strove mightily for the airline's success and at times survival, and who fought competition tooth and nail and, sometimes, fought each other the same way.

The book's central character and durable hero is Edward V. "Captain Eddie" Rickenbacker, who more than anyone else breathed life, success, and profitability into the struggling little airline he took over in 1935. Rickenbacker's colorful earlier life is briefly related. Serling then recounts how Rickenbacker's personal charisma and leadership with all employees, and his bold route expansions and fleet modernizations became the basis for his enormous contribution to Eastern.

While Serling unstintingly credits Rickenbacker for Eastern's great growth, he also analyzes his often paradoxical performance during the declining years of his presidency and during the infighting which occurred after Malcolm A. MacIntyre was named

president while Rickenbacker continued as board chairman. That four-year period ended with Eastern on the brink of insolvency, and in 1963 the board brought in Floyd D. Hall from TWA, giving him complete authority to turn the airline around.

Hall was responsible for the uplift of employee moral, and for the imaginative programs which saw a return to profitability, but Serling discloses that in 1967 the seeds of trouble were again being sewn by executive clashes. Hall continued as chairman for eight more years after, and was followed by other presidents. Serling analyzes the continuing problems which once more rendered the airline's position precarious. In 1975 Eastern's executive vice president, Colonel Frank Borman, a former astronaut, was elevated to the presidency, with Hall retaining the title of chairman. A few months later that title too was also conferred on Borman.

Executive maneuvering and back-stabbing, and tough boardroom showdowns are laid out for all to read, perhaps for the first time, and Serling discusses them with the objectivity and fearlessness that have made him the airline industry's leading writer.

Eastern Airlines is important to Florida as one of the state's largest commercial employers, and as the oldest surviving airline linking the state to the rest of the nation. Over its fifty-two year history, Eastern has transported more tourists and other passengers into the state than any other common carrier. Florida happenings occur throughout the book-operation of the world's first airline across Tampa Bay in 1914, Rickenbacker's involvement with Florida Airways in 1926, and airmail service from Atlanta to Miami in 1928 by Pitcairn Aviation, Eastern's predecessor. The role of Eastern in developing south Florida as a year-round vacation destination is related, as well as the firm's big service build up in Orlando as the official airline of Walt Disney World.

Business Week magazine reviewed the book at length and highlighted Rickenbacker's famous week-long staff meeting at Miami Beach in which he regularly regaled his some 300 local managers and department heads alike with small measures of individual praise and strong doses of caustic criticism to complete their education in all aspects of the airline's operation. *Business*

Week wound up praising Serling's book as the best of his several airline histories. I agree with that assessment and add that the book will give one a remarkably accurate picture of Eastern Airlines, both public and private.

Jacksonville, Florida

JOHN P. INGLE, JR.

Southern Music/American Music. By Bill C. Malone. (Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1979. x, 203 pp. Editor's preface, introduction, photographs, notes, bibliographic notes, index. \$9.95.)

This volume, published in the *New Perspectives on the South* series, edited by Charles P. Roland, is a delightful work. Bill C. Malone has produced an exemplary study which traces the impact of southern folk music on popular forms of American musical expression. Malone develops his study chronologically, demonstrating the evolution of southern music and its gradual spread from the South to the entire nation.

Southern music, writes Malone, has grown from a varied mixture of national and ethnic traditions. The dominant sources, of course, have been African and British, but, as Charles Roland points out in his preface, southern music is also the product of influences from most of the nations of Europe. All of the sources of southern musical expression, moreover, were transmuted by the conditions of southern life: the juxtaposition of black and white races, the region's poverty, and its rural isolation.

Southern music, the author asserts, has been one of the South's great natural resources. It has, in addition, influenced the whole of American music in two ways: first, by providing images to inspire the imagination of composers and musicians; second, by producing entertainers and musical styles which have shaped significantly the entire realm of American popular music. Malone's focus, therefore, is on the varieties of southern folk music and the popular forms of musical expression which emerged from these folk styles.

Northern industrialization in the nineteenth century lent to the South and its music special appeal, the author suggests. Images of pastoral existence, of a simpler time, were themes with a

powerful attraction, and northern songwriters drew freely on these themes. Heightened interest in southern folk music led to a period of "national discovery" of southern song, spurred by the early twentieth-century development of ragtime, blues, and jazz, all musical idioms distinctly southern in their origin. By the 1920s, as recording devices and radio developed a mass listening audience, the stage was set for the first full-scale commercialization of southern rural folk music. Consequently, "hillbilly," "cajun," and "gospel" music all greatly enlarged their listening public. A national market for a variety of southern music had developed.

Interestingly, the Depression years did not impede the advance of the commercial forms of American popular music. Although many recording companies curtailed operations, Malone characterizes the era as a transitional time, notable for the "evolution and maturation of southern regional folk styles to more professionalized forms possessing greater national recognition and acceptance." Moreover, as the migration out of the South continued, Southerners "took their musical preferences with them, and permanently implanted them in the new southern enclaves around the United States." Thus was the stage set for what Malone calls the "nationalization" of southern music in the 1950s, symbolized by the rise of such disparate artists as B. B. King, Hank Williams, and Elvis Presley. Malone's discussion then leads him into an examination of popular music in the sixties and seventies, concluding with an insightful chapter exploring the reasons for the resurgence of country music in the sixties and seventies.

A brief review can scarcely do justice to the nuance and subtlety of Malone's work. His interpretations of the cross-currents of southern music are balanced and sophisticated. In addition, the excellent bibliographical essay which Malone includes clearly substantiates the depth of his research. Finally, the author's ability to weave his narrative and insights around the lives of American musical artists, from Louis Armstrong to Willie Nelson to Dolly Parton, makes the book as entertaining as it is instructional.

University of Florida

AUGUSTUS M. BURNS III

Foxfire 5. Edited by Eliot Wigginton. (Garden City, New York: Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1979, 512 pp. Introduction, illustrations, index. \$12.95; \$6.95 paper.)

Readers of the *Foxfire* series, which after thirteen years and four volumes comprise a large following, will welcome this newest addition to the library produced by Eliot Wigginton and his Appalachian high school students. *Foxfire 5* demonstrates conclusively that their subject matter has not been exhausted. Using their pioneer methods of photographic and artistic illustration and oral history recording, they document the activities of residents of the lower Appalachians, an area particularly rich in history.

The contributions of this book are not limited to new topical considerations. Additional experience has enabled the editor and his assistants to become more sophisticated in their approach to the subjects and more thorough and precise in documenting them. Divided into three different but related sections, the book deals with a set of techniques involved in the ancient desire to produce effective weapons and use them successfully in the hunt. The three sections of this volume provide detailed information about activities which were once vital to living in the South and in America.

The first section of this book is concerned with the elemental matters of taking iron ore from the earth and converting it into ordinary utensils of early American technology. So precise and well illustrated are these directions that it would be possible for a society to follow them in moving directly from a bronze age to an iron age. In the second section the editor and his assistants proceed into matters of greater complexity—the making of black powder and flint-lock rifles. Illustrated by the actual work of master gunsmiths, the book leads the reader through all the steps involved in creating weapons of precision and beauty from iron, wood, and flint. Attention is given in considerable detail to the practical use of these weapons in the organized ritual of the turkey shoot and the activities of a growing subculture represented by the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association. The last section of this volume deals with bear hunting, one of the practical tests of the weapon makers's skill. It is also an aspect of Appalachian life that contains an extensive collection of folklore,

which is excellently documented from the accounts of living participants. Since this section contains more action and excitement, many readers will probably find it more enjoyable than the more technical details of the first two parts of the book. This volume is a worthy addition to the Foxfire series and will probably enjoy a much deserved success.

Memphis State University

CHARLES W. CRAWFORD

The Black Towns. By Norman L. Crockett. (Lawrence, Kansas: The Regents Press of Kansas, 1979. xv, 244 pp. Preface, illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$14.00.)

“Be courageous, brother, and forget the past—the great and mighty problem of race has been solved at last.” This stanza sung in Boley, Oklahoma, reflected the optimism of many early black town settlers, who were fleeing poverty, injustice, discrimination, and fear. But initial hope often turned to disappointment and despair.

Professor Crockett selected five black towns which he believed were typical of the scores of others formed between the Civil War and World War I and has traced their formation, development, and failure. Much attention is given to black town promoters who emphasized moral uplift, economic self-help, race pride, and exaggerated claims as to soil fertility to entice settlers. They reminded blacks of white inhumanity and ridiculed those who were content to live in terror in the white world. Those who opposed black towns were branded as traitors. Promoters further claimed that segregated communities would enable blacks to disprove white racial theories, and they also represented, perhaps, their last opportunity to acquire land and homes of their own. Such arguments persuaded some settlers; others viewed segregated communities as temporary. Their ultimate goal was integration into “the mainstream of American life.”

Unfortunately all-black communities failed to solve racial problems. Although black towners controlled their own institutions, discrimination continued outside their boundaries. Many migrants belatedly learned that white hostility was as great in Oklahoma as in Mississippi. Perhaps even more significant, the

dream of the black town as "an agricultural service center . . . with small stores and manufacturing plants . . . ran counter to the economic realities of the time."

Discrimination made acquisition of capital difficult, and lack of capital played a role in the black town decline, but, according to the author, "the onslaught of modernization destroyed thousands of small towns, unhampered by racial prejudice, during the same period." Indeed, Crockett suggests that many of the black towns were doomed from the beginning. The probability of success for any new community at that time, even white ones unhampered by racial prejudice, was slight.

Nicodemus, Kansas, is an example of what happened to many black towns. In 1877 it was a hopeful community of 600; by 1910 its population had dwindled to 200. In 1939 a lonely tavern was all that remained of the town's once bustling business district. Black towns even lost some of their population to schemes to migrate to Canada and Africa.

Although many black communities disappeared they were not total failures. Crockett found a strong sense of race pride among residents. Youth living in black towns reputedly had better self esteem and held their race in higher regard than young people living in mixed communities. Blacks could walk the streets without constant reminders of their subordinate position and without fear that a gesture would be misunderstood and bring white wrath. The community provided a sense of well being and reassurance. Leaders in politics, business, religion, and education were black. Yet a few miles in any direction lay the outside world. Some who grew up in the towns could not adjust outside. "As the dream of community success faded, the black town became a prison without walls for some of its people who had grown distrustful of whites and unable to live and work among them."

This well-researched, interestingly written book adds significantly to the literature of black American history. Yet the reader is left with questions that paucity of sources apparently prevented the author from answering. The black town promoters come alive in this study, but what of the average residents? We still know in only a very general way how they felt and acted. The towns Crockett studied were all in Oklahoma and Kansas

except Mound Bayou, Mississippi. Would his conclusions have been different if more southern towns had been treated?

Florida State University

JOE M. RICHARDSON

The Half-Blood: A Cultural Symbol in 19th-Century American Fiction. By William J. Scheick. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1979. xii, 113 pp. Preface, notes, index. \$9.75.)

In the profuse literature of the post-Civil War period of American history, novelists frequently concluded their books with a marriage between southern heroine and northern hero to symbolize the new union between formerly warring segments of the nation. Always such marriages were regarded as a positive step. However, no serious author of that period traced the effect on the children of such marriages, and no great pieces of literature used such children as symbols of cultural interplay. Not so with the offspring of unions between Native Americans and whites. The half-blood frequently was used by fictioneers during the nineteenth century, but, according to author William J. Scheick, no consensus emerged about what the half-blood symbolized. Did he "represent a new, wonderful natural link between the red and white races symbolizing an emergent American identity or does he represent a degenerate, abnormal amalgamation of the worst vices of both races menacing the promise of a New World civilization?" (p. 82). Some novelists represented the half-blood in a positive way, perhaps because they subscribed to the myth of the "noble savage"; others saw Native Americans only as "savages," and to them the half-blood was the inheritor of the most vicious vices of both races.

Scheick, a professor of English at the University of Texas, has examined a wide assortment of nineteenth-century writings in this pioneering work, books ranging from the dime novel to the work of serious writers such as Hawthorne, Irving, Poe, and Cooper. Perhaps influenced by our own questions about race, he also compares the literary use of the half-blood with that of the mulatto in nineteenth-century fiction. His conclusions are neither strange nor startling: some authors found the mingling of the two races abhorrent, while others saw it as hopeful, and "fictional

treatments of the half-blood are on the whole artistic failures” (p. 89). If, as many writers have suggested, man always has lived by myths more than by truth, the author offers no conclusive definition of what the half-blood symbolized-or symbolizes today-in literature.

Professor Scheick is to be commended for the years of research that went into this slim volume. His style will not appeal to the casual reader, nor will his carefully balanced and scholarly handling of the subject please either liberal or conservative. But he has pioneered and is to be commended for his effort.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

ODIE B. FAULK

BOOK NOTES

“\$10 fine for driving or riding through the gates faster than a walk.” That is the sign posted on the City Gate in St. Augustine in the 1880s photograph which appears in *St. Augustine and St. Johns County, A Pictorial History*. This is one of the many excellent photographs, most of which are being published for the first time, in this volume. Karen Harvey wrote the narrative and selected the photographs for this book published by Donning Company of Virginia Beach, Virginia. The design is by Barbara Buckley, and the foreword was written by Michael Gannon. The book covers the first Spanish period, 1565-1763; the British era, 1763-1784; second Spanish period, 1784-1821; American period, 1821-1888; Flagler era, 1888-1914; and the twentieth century. There are pictures of monuments, people, public events, churches, private homes, and St. Augustine street scenes. Photographs of important historical buildings are included: the 1902 view of the birthplace of General Kirby Smith, now the city’s public library; the George Couper Gibbs home, which dates to the Civil War period and is now occupied by the St. Augustine Art Association; a 1910 photograph of Markland, now on the Flagler College campus; and a recent picture of the Ximenez-Fatio House, restored by the Colonial Dames. There are rare photographs of the Indians who were held captive at Fort Marion during the 1870s, and the Apaches lodged there in 1886. Photographs of St. Augustine’s black pioneers and a photograph of St. Paul’s AME Church are included. The picture of St. Augustine after the disastrous fire of 1914 shows extensive damage to the downtown area. Ms. Harvey’s book is the most complete and the best pictorial history available on St. Augustine. The price is \$19.00, hardback; \$12.95, paperback.

Margaret’s Story is a novel by Eugenia Price, one of the South’s most prolific writers. It is the third volume in her Florida trilogy. Her two earlier books, novels, were *Don Juan McQueen* and *Maria*. Miss Price, lives on St. Simons Island, Georgia. Many of her stories utilize south Georgia and north Florida as background. The story of Margaret Seton Fleming

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is an engrossing narrative. Her history and that of her family covers the half-century period from the 1830s to the 1880s, when Florida, first as a territory and then as a state, struggles through two Indian Wars, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction era. The Fleming plantation, Hibernia, became a tourist lodging after the Civil War, and many northern visitors enjoyed its hospitality from early January through March. Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Fernandina are the communities which played an important role in the life of Margaret Seton Fleming, and they are featured in Miss Price's book. *The Diary of a Novel*, published simultaneously with *Margaret's Story*, is Miss Price's journal of the years she spent doing research, mainly in St. Augustine, and in writing the novel. Many people familiar to readers of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* are mentioned in *The Diary of a Novel*. Special credit goes to Dena Snodgrass of Jacksonville, former president of the Florida Historical Society, for whom *Margaret's Story* is dedicated. Both books were published by Lippincott & Crowell of New York. *Margaret's Story* sells for \$12.95; *The Diary of a Novel*, \$9.95.

The Plant Pioneers is the history of the Reasoner family, whose Manatee County nursery is the oldest continuously operating nursery in Florida. Pliny Reasoner arrived in Florida from Illinois in 1881, settling in the village of Oneco south of Bradenton on the Gulf coast. His brother, Egbert Norman, joined him four years later. Pliny was a first rate horticulturist, and the United States Department of Agriculture asked him to survey the status of tropical horticulture in Florida for publication in its first bulletin. In 1883 Royal Palm Nursery issued its catalog, listing an amazing number and variety of tropical plants. Pliny died of yellow fever in 1888, and Egbert took charge of the rapidly expanding business. He designed Florida's horticultural exhibit at the Chicago Worlds Fair in 1893. Operations continued despite disastrous freezes like those in December 1894 and February 1895. Fortunately the Royal Palm Nurseries utilized steam-heated glass greenhouses to save its more tender and expensive plants, and burned brush fires to protect its other properties. In 1937 the family lost Royal Palm Nurseries in a mortgage foreclosure, but under Norman Reasoner, the business was re-organized, and Reasoner's Tropical Nurseries soon became one

of the major horticultural operations in Florida. *The Plant Pioneers*, by Norman J. Pinardi, includes many pictures. The book may be ordered from Reasoner's Tropical Nurseries, 4610 14 Street W, Bradenton, Florida 33507; the price is \$12.75.

The Don Ce-Sar Story describes the construction during the boom period of the 1920s of one of Florida's greatest hotels. Thomas J. Rowe was in poor health and had little money to invest when he arrived in Florida. However, together with Walter Fuller, his St. Petersburg friend and financial adviser, he purchased a tract of land north of Pass-a-Grille Beach. Rowe planned to develop a subdivision of Spanish-style estates and a beach resort that would look like a castle. When the boom collapsed in 1926, the Don Ce-Sar was still under construction, and few believed that it would be completed. The skeptics were wrong; it did open and it prospered. Guests included F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife Zelda, department store tycoons like Bloomingdale and Gimbel, and Colonel Jacob Ruppert, owner of the Yankee baseball team. When the Yankees trained in St. Petersburg, they stayed at the Don Ce-Sar. After Rowe's death, his wife was in charge, but World War II halted vacations and Don Ce-Sar as a great resort hotel. The army took over and converted the building into a hospital. Later it was used by the Veterans Administration for offices. The building was finally abandoned, and it became a refuge for transients and vandals. It was threatened with demolition in 1971, when June Hurley Young, author of this book, and a group of determined preservationists, organized to save the Don. Eventually it was restored to its former opulency, and it now operates again as a deluxe hotel Resort. The book may be ordered from the author, 362 89th Avenue NE, St. Petersburg, Florida 33702; the price is \$3.75.

The Suarez Family, 1798-1980 is by Dicy Villar Bowman, author of *The Villars, 1800-1900* which was reviewed in the April 1980 number of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Her ancestor Elizabeth Foster married Martin Villar I, and their descendants became the basis for the Villar genealogical study. After Villar's death, Elizabeth, in 1819, married José Antonio Suarez. Members of the Suarez family were listed in the 1784 census of Pensacola. Mrs. Bowman has collected valuable information, not only about

her ancestors, but the roles that they played in the community and the historical events with which they were involved. Genealogical studies such as this, based upon careful and accurate research, provide important material for the professional historian, particularly those interested in state and local history. Mrs. Bowman has also compiled an index which adds to the value of her study. *The Suarez Family* may be ordered from the author, 2885 Blackshear Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32503, and the price is \$15.00.

The Florida Almanac, 1980-1981, edited by Del Martin and Martha J. Marth, is a valuable reference guide to Florida government on both the state and local level. It lists members of the Florida House and Senate (before the November 1980 election), supreme court justices and circuit court judges, local bar associations, law libraries, state governmental agencies with addresses, and principal sources of state tax revenue. Historical data is provided for all Florida counties, together with county maps. There is information of Florida wildlife, tourist attractions, military fortifications, hunting regulations, waterways, federal law enforcement agencies in Florida, universities and colleges, post offices and zip codes, Florida landmarks which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and many other things. The Florida Constitution and state driving regulations are included along with Florida historical, archeological, and geographical data. One learns from *The Florida Almanac* that the state shell is the horse conch or giant band shell, that the state gem is the moonstone (designated by the Florida legislature in 1970 on the occasion of the second moon landing), that the manatee or sea cow is the state mammal, and that the largemouth bass and the Atlantic sailfish are the official fish of Florida. No other state has two state fish. *The Florida Almanac* was published by A. S. Barnes & Co.; it sells for \$4.95.

When the Salzburgers arrived in Georgia from Germany in 1736, Philip Georg Friedrich von Reck was part of the group. He kept a diary and drew and painted pictures of things that he saw. His writings about the Indians and plants and animals are very important, providing as they do important additional detail to complement his drawings. Von Reck probably planned

later to publish a book, but his sojourn in Georgia ended hastily. He had worked as a recruiting agent for the Georgia Trustees, and was discharged. When von Reck died in the 1790s his drawings were bequeathed to the king of Denmark, and they remained relatively unknown in the royal library for two centuries. Parts of the diary were published in 1740 and 1777, but now for the first time, the full travel diary, covering the years 1735-1736, together with selections from von Reck's other writings and his drawings have been published by Beehive Press of Savannah, Georgia. Beehive Press has made available many important and beautiful books on the history and literature of Georgia and the South. *Von Reck's Voyage, Lost Views of Georgia in 1736* is a very handsome volume. Many of the pictures of plants, animals, insects, birds, and reptiles are in color. The information with the picture of the watermelon (p. 96), notes that unripe melons can be eaten like cucumber salad, dressed with vinegar, pepper, butter, and oil. Kristian Hvidt, chief parliamentary librarian of Denmark, edited this volume; the price is \$30.00.

The Windward Road, by Archie Carr of the University of Florida, describes his roving through the Caribbean collecting information on sea turtles. First published in 1956, *Windward Road* won the John Burroughs Medal from the American Museum of Natural History for exemplary nature writing. This reprint paperback edition, published by the University Presses of Florida as a Florida State University Book, carries a new preface by the author and a foreword by Joshua B. Powers, both members of the Brotherhood of the Green Turtle. The book sells for \$6.95.

The Randolph Caldecott Treasury is an anthology of illustrations by the noted English illustrator who died in St. Augustine in 1886, and is buried in that city. The book is edited by Elizabeth T. Billington, and there is an Appreciation by Maurice Sendak. *The Randolph Caldecott Treasury* was published by Frederick Warne, New York, and it sells for \$30.00.

Reminiscences of Confederate Service, 1861-1865, is the history of Francis Warrington Dawson, an Englishman who came to

America to enlist in the Confederate service. Commissioned first as a master's mate in the navy, he transferred to the army as an artillery lieutenant. Serving with Longstreet's Corps, he participated in the Battle of Gettysburg and then fought in north Georgia. At the close of the war he was on General Fitzhugh Lee's staff. Dawson elected to remain in the South, and together with his friend B. R. Riordan, established the Charleston (South Carolina) *News and Courier*, which became one of the region's most influential papers. Dawson crusaded for the industrialization of the South and pushed the slogan, "Bring the cotton mills to the cotton." He advocated agricultural diversification and scientific farming. Before his death, he published *Reminiscences Of A Confederate Soldier*, but it has long been out-of-print. With an introduction and notes supplied by Bell I. Wiley, the Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, has republished the book. Eighteen of Dawson's wartime letters, now in the Duke University Library Collection, are also included. The book sells for \$14.95.

Francis Warrington Dawson and the Politics of Restoration, South Carolina, 1874-1899 is by E. Culpepper Clark. Dawson, as editor of the *Charleston News and Courier*, exercised strong influence over South Carolina's conservative regime. According to the author, "he possessed a quick mind, dominant personality, and a forceful pen." Although English by birth, Dawson adjusted early and quickly to the political situation that existed in the post-Civil War South. His career as a newspaper editor and as a political leader is detailed in this volume. The book also details his murder by a Charleston physician and the ensuing trial. Published by the University of Alabama Press, this volume sells for \$18.95.

In the forty years before the Civil War some 12,000 blacks were transported from the United States to Africa by the American Colonization Society and its affiliates. Approximately half of these people were former slaves. Many, at least those who could write, sent letters back to former masters or to members of owners' families. A collection of these letters, edited by Bell I. Wiley, has been published by the University Press of Kentucky,

Lexington, under the title *Slaves No More, Letters from Liberia 1833-1869*. The book sells for \$21.50.

Access to the Past, Museum Programs and Handicapped Visitors, by Alice P. Kenney, is a publication of the American Association for State and Local History. The Historic Preservation Act of 1966 emphasized the need for preserving historic structures. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 directed that these facilities be made accessible to disabled persons. Improving exhibit design, distributing space, modifying structures to include ramps, elevators, and accessible restrooms are some of the problems discussed in this book. It offers guidance on administrative matters, fund-raising, publicity, and the attitudes of staff, disabled persons, and the community. Order from AASLH, Nashville, Tennessee. The price is \$7.95; \$5.95 to AASLH members.

Administration, edited by Frederick L. Rath, Jr., and Merrillyn Rogers O'Connell, lists information sources for all aspects of administering historical agencies and organizations. These include governing boards, management, ethics, personnel, fund-raising, tax and legal issues, insurance problems, buildings, printing and publishing, public relations, collections management, and administration of libraries and archives. There is included an extensive list of handbooks, guidelines, technical leaflets, historical and professional organizations, and individuals. *Administration* is published by the American Association for State and Local History. The price is \$14.95; \$11.95 to AASLH members.

The Spanish Flintlock Musket, by Frank Suddeth, is a leaflet that sells for fifty cents. Order from the Historic Florida Militia, 42 Spanish Street, St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

Searching for Your Ancestors, The How and Why of Genealogy is by Gilbert H. Doane and James B. Bell. This edition, published by University of Minnesota Press, provides basic directions on how to do genealogical research, using family papers, library sources, and municipal, church, and cemetery records. Special problems for doing genealogy for black and Jewish families are discussed, along with advice on how to do

research in foreign archives. This book sells for \$10.95. A companion volume, *Family History Record Book*, is by James B. Bell, director of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. This book suggests forms and charts needed to document genealogical research. *Family History Record Book*, published by University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414, sells for \$7.95.

Selma, Lord, Selma is the story of two young black girls, Sheyann Webb and Rachel West Nelson, as told to Frank Sikora, a Birmingham newspaperman. The two girls were caught up in the three turbulent months in 1965 when the worlds attention was focused on the civil-rights demonstrations in Selma, Alabama. Both women were interviewed by Sikora, about what had happened in Selma, and how they were involved in these tumultuous activities. The book was published by the University Press, and it sells for \$9.95.