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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

Spanish Pathways in Florida: 1492-1992. Edited by Ann L. Henderson and Gary R. Mormino. (Sarasota: Pineapple Press, 1991. 364 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, photographs, illustrations, glossary, index. \$24.95.)

Spanish Pathways, which explores the legacy of the Hispanic presence in Florida from 1565 to this day, commemorates the Quinto Centenario of the opening of the New World by Columbus. It appears both in English and Spanish. The former is the language of the market place, the latter records the content of the legacy. Thus the subject and fair play dictated the use of Spanish.

Fifteen superb essays, authored by the most prominent Florida historians and anthropologists, present the legacy. In addition to an introductory essay, nine relate to a Spanish colonial theme, four to a Cuban heritage theme, and the final one expresses a hope for the future. The authors include the results of their interdisciplinary research, as they describe the Hispanic experience in Florida.

Reading Henry Dobyns makes one sadly aware that the natives did not understand how or why the European diseases were killing them. Jerald Milanich describes how the Spanish employed violence as the way to force the aborigines into submission. Eugene Lyon notes that St. Augustine survived because the king willed it so, after the failure of Menéndez's private enterprise. Amy Turner Bushnell records the economic rise of a *hidalgo criollo* through land acquisition, cattle ranching, trade, and dynastic office holding. John Hann describes the activities of the missionary priests who were committed to the transculturation of the Florida natives. Jane Landers explains how Florida-born Francisco Javier Sanchez, the progenitor of both a mulatto and a white family, became a successful businessman. Kathleen Deagan describes Fort Mose and its black residents. Charlotte Porter identifies the New World plants that revolutionized European food preparation, ornamentation, and medicine. William Coker writes of the Moreno family of Pensacola.

New South urbanism, an elusive phenomenon that requires a much broader canvas than the two decades of the Progressive Era. Equally perplexing is the decision to end the book in 1919, just as the "urban ethos," to use Blaine Brownell's apt phrase, was taking hold in the New South. Although the book is successful as far as it goes, unlocking the mysteries of Main Street, South— even in a small city such as early twentieth-century Jacksonville— will require a much longer walk into the past.

University of South Florida

RAYMOND ARSENAULT

Heavy Artillery and Light Infantry: A History of the 1st Florida Special Battalion & 10th Infantry, C.S.A. By Don Hillhouse. (Jacksonville: Published by the Author, 1992. xii, 282 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, illustrations, photographs, maps, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. \$25.00 plus \$3.00 S. & H.)

The author advertises his work as "the first regimental history of a Florida Confederate Unit in over a century." The First Florida Special Battalion was born in controversy during an uncertain period of the Confederacy when both state and national military and political organization were taking part. It was initially caught in a political squeeze play: was it artillery or infantry, state or national, and had its officers been properly commissioned? It managed to survive as the First Special Infantry Battalion and was mustered into Confederate service. It was stationed in Florida until 1864, where it participated in actions at Fernandina, in defensive positions along the Chattahoochee River and at St. Johns Bluff on the St. Johns River, in the vicinity of Savannah, and then was ordered back to Florida to participate in the Battle of Olustee. It became part of the Florida Brigade under General Joseph Finegan that was called to join Lee's army in the Richmond-Petersburg area, where it became part of the newly formed 10th Infantry Regiment. As such, the unit served until the surrender at Appomattox.

There is unfortunately a scarcity of published material on the role of Florida in the Confederacy; this work makes a contribution. Hillhouse's extensive research makes several pieces

more available. These include the reminiscences of G. H. Dorman, written some fifty years after the war by a member of the unit who was with it until the summer of 1864, and a copy of the report submitted by the unit's commanding officer after the Battle of Olustee. Interestingly, a copy of this latter piece, which is not found in the *Official Records*, was sent to a local newspaper, and it gives the First Battalion more credit for the Confederate victory than others have, then or later. Hillhouse includes several biographic sketches and what amounts to almost 100 pages of an annotated roster of the unit's members, compiled from the WPA Veterans Burial Project, Compiled Service Records, and Florida Pension Applications. This information will be of interest to those doing genealogical research.

It would appear that the author has exhaustively scoured the available sources relating to individual members of the First Florida Special Battalion, a very difficult task considering the paucity of materials that exist. I do have some reservations about whether all of the material relating to events in which the unit was involved was considered or properly evaluated. For example, while the First Florida arrived on the battlefield at Olustee at a critical point, it was not alone. The infantry regiment, separate battalion, and artillery section that arrived at about the same time certainly helped hold the position until replenishment of ammunition could be accomplished. I feel the work loses something when it attempts to place the unit's activities within the larger framework of events. While the fighting in the Richmond-Petersburg area was important, I find it hard to accept as "the pivotal campaign of the war." I also have some problem with the assessment the author makes of the performance of some of the key people involved in Confederate Florida, to include governors Perry and Milton and generals Finegan, Seymour, Gardner, and Colonel Colquitt.

The work has considerable merit as a unit history if considered in that light. Its strength is its compilation of information on a unit and its members from initial inception to final disbandment. It also includes the contribution of members' views of events, albeit sometimes from a great distance of time. For those who are interested in individual members of the unit, it is a welcome addition to Florida history—military and genealogical. For those interested in the larger picture concerning events in

In the portion of the book relating to the Cuban heritage, Louis Pérez details the contributions of cigar workers in Key West and Ybor City, to José Martí's battle for Cuban independence. Nancy Hewitt's essay records the role of black and white Cuban women in the separatist movement. Diane Lesko shows how Mario Sánchez's art-translated memories provide understanding of Hispanic life. Raymond Mohl analyzes the political changes in the Miami area as a result of its Hispanic population, pointing to the presence of a Hispanic mayor since 1973. The last essay by Michael Gannon expresses the hope that the Quinto Centenario celebration in Florida will lead to an understanding and appreciation of the Spanish legacy.

The skills of the translators— Carlos J. Cano, José Feliciano-Butler, and Warren Hampton— make most of the essays read as if they had been originally written in Spanish. Regrettably, Spanish words and names used in the English texts were not edited for the presence of accent marks where required, and typos in both languages abound.

Spanish Pathways contains many photographs and other illustrations, but the blooper strikes on page 125. Here, captioned as "Castillo de San Marcos" in San Agustín, an old photo shows multi-embrasured, United States-built Fort Barrancas (background) and Spanish-built Battery San Antonio (foreground). This installation at Gulf Islands National Seashore in Pensacola appears as it was before the stabilization performed in the 1980s by the National Park Service. Shame!

*Castillo de San Marcos
National Monument*

LUIS RAFAEL ARANA

Jacksonville after the Fire, 1901-1919, A New South City. By James B. Crooks. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1991. x, 193 pp. Illustrations, acknowledgments, introduction, notes, notes on sources, index. \$24.95.)

During the past century much of Florida's landscape has been transformed into a metropolitan mosaic, a sprawling network of cities, suburbs, and urban corridors. Although the state's rural roots are still in evidence, especially in the Panhandle, no one can hope to understand the history of modern

Florida without carefully examining the development of its cities and metropolitan areas. Until recently, the historical literature on this subject was embarrassingly thin, but during the past decade a number of important books and articles dealing with urban Florida have appeared. The latest contribution is James B. Crooks's *Jacksonville after the Fire, 1901-1919, A New South City*.

In this slim but significant volume, Crooks explores two decades of Jacksonville's development, from the devastating fire of 1901 to the immediate aftermath of World War I. This was the era of New South progressivism, when public and private institutions joined forces to create an expanding and increasingly complex community. At the turn of the century, Jacksonville was already the largest city in Florida, with a population of 28,249, but by 1920 the city's population had more than tripled, to 91,558. As Crooks points out in painstaking detail, this explosive growth created new opportunities for certain segments of the community, but it also placed severe strains on the city's social and physical infrastructure. Unlike earlier studies of the city's history, such as T. Frederick Davis's *History of Jacksonville* (1924), Crooks's analysis is free of local boosterism and racial chauvinism. Instead, he is sensitive to the varied experiences of blacks and whites, women and men, and working class and middle class families. Commercial success and institutional growth represent only part of the story in a New South city where leaders embraced Jim Crow racialism, class privilege, and elitist power politics with increasing enthusiasm. In important ways, Jacksonville, like much of the early twentieth-century South, was headed in the wrong direction.

Crooks has written a useful survey of Jacksonville during the Progressive Era. He has consulted a wide range of primary and secondary sources, and he has made an admirable attempt to blend southern and urban studies, as well as social and political history. Nevertheless, readers seeking answers to the larger questions about the nature of urban life in the New South—questions related to community structure, regional distinctiveness, and national culture—are bound to be a bit disappointed by this book. Part of the problem is an unimaginative and unengaging prose style, but even more problematic is the artificiality of the book's parameters. Beginning with the fire of 1901 is a highly questionable strategy for an author who wants to explore

Confederate Florida and the Civil War, I would suggest it be considered with other information for a more balanced picture.

[This book may be ordered from the author, P.O. Box 2651, Dept. B, Rome, GA 30164.]

Orange Park, FL

WILLIAM NULTY

Idella: Marjorie Rawlings' "Pefect Maid." By Idella Parker with Mary Keating. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1992. xv, 135 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, map, index. \$22.95, cloth; \$12.95, paper.)

In September 1940, a cream-colored Oldsmobile pulled into the yard of the Thompson family of Reddick, Florida, and the white woman behind the wheel flicked her cigarette ash out the window and announced that she needed a cook. Idella Thompson had been expecting a woman named Mrs. Camp, for whom she thought she was going to work as a cook, and so the visit was not a complete surprise. Only when Thompson looked at the signature on the two dollar check the woman handed to her as a binder did she realize she had just been employed by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

For a decade Idella Thompson Parker served as cook, maid, driver, and general factotum to the most celebrated resident of Cross Creek, whose book *The Yearling* had won the Pulitzer Prize in 1939. It was a quiet life in the modest wood-frame house with the screened porch that Rawlings and her first husband had purchased. Rawlings spent long hours at her typewriter, and during the time Parker was with her produced *Cross Creek* and *Cross Creek Cookery*, stories, articles, and a voluminous private correspondence. But Rawlings's work could not consume all her time or her emotions, and as Parker relates, more and more she turned to her maid.

Parker paints a portrait of a complex Rawlings, an eccentric who overdressed in long, flowing gowns when she had dinner parties but who frequently wore mismatched ankle socks during the day; who expected her breakfast to be served on a silver tray and who then let her cat eat from the tray.

Most interesting are Parker's recollections of Rawlings's attitudes about race. Rawlings was quite liberal in her thinking, but she was also of her time. Parker recalls when the black writer Zora Neale Hurston was a guest at Cross Creek. The two women writers, the white hostess and the black guest, ate and talked and drank— and drank, and drank— as equals. But when it came time to offer Hurston, who was in no shape to leave, lodging for the night, Rawlings ordered Parker to share her bed. "My mind keeps going back to the way Mrs. Rawlings made her sleep out in the tenant house," writes Parker. "No matter how much she respected Zora's writing ability and enjoyed her company, Zora was still colored, and would always be treated as such by white people. As liberal and understanding as Mrs. Rawlings was about the poor treatment of blacks by whites, she couldn't bring herself to let a black woman sleep in her house."

According to Parker, Rawlings suffered a profound loneliness, which she often tried to assuage with liquor, frequently leading to "morning-after embarrassment" and near-accidents on the road. Rawlings's drinking caused Parker to leave her two times before she left for good, three years before Rawlings's death of a stroke at the age of fifty-seven.

A frequent refrain of Parker's is "I loved her then, and I love her still, but what could I do?" She never clearly explains what she means, and there are many instances in which her co-author or editor should have encouraged Parker to clarify or elaborate on her statements. More attention should also have been paid to chronology. Parker makes it seem as if Rawlings did not marry her second husband, Norton Baskin, until after Parker had been with Rawlings for several years; yet, Rawlings married Baskin in 1941. The jacket copy for the book states that Parker was with Rawlings from 1940 to 1950; yet, on page 25, Parker says she was with Rawlings for thirteen years.

Such reservations notwithstanding, this modest book is a welcome addition to Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings lore, as well as an important memoir of race relations in rural Florida in the pre-war era.

University of Florida

JIM HASKINS

Spanish Observers and the American Revolution, 1775-1783. By Light Townsend Cummins. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1991. xv, 229 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, glossary, key to Spanish surnames, sources, index. \$32.50.)

When imperial school historians have examined the American Revolution, their emphasis has been to evaluate the conflict from the American, British, or, less often, the French perspective. Now, with the Colombian Quincentenary focusing attention upon Hispanic contributions to New World history, Light T. Cummins's work makes an important contribution to a neglected area of Revolutionary historiography. Cummins's thesis is straightforward. Although working in their own interests, Spain and her colonies played an important part in helping the rebellious British colonies to secure their independence. One link in Spain's strategy was a network of agents who were entrusted with gathering and passing on information vital to the formation of Spain's policy during the struggle.

After 1763 Spain's monarch, Charles III, was torn between the fear of a British attack and by a desire for revenge for territorial losses suffered as a consequence of the Seven Years' War. In the initial years of the rebellion, Spain performed a delicate tightrope act, balancing between neutrality on the one hand and support for her French cousins who openly supported the rebellious colonies on the other. While pursuing a wait-and-see policy, Charles III and his advisors determined to keep on top of the situation by establishing a network of civilian agents—merchants, ships' captains, and fishermen—who could keep royal officials in Havana informed of British military and naval activities and avert a repetition of the disaster of 1762, when British forces occupied the city. Cummins draws upon extensive primary documentation, which he describes in detail in his bibliography, to reconstruct the intelligence networks created in the 1770s under the direction of the captain-general of Cuba. The author eschews using the term "espionage," preferring instead to borrow a contemporary American phrase, "observers," to describe men whose information gathering allowed Spain to pursue a safely neutral course. By 1779 Spain was forced to abandon its policy of official neutrality. Agitation from anti-British ministers in Charles's cabinet, pleas from exiled

floridanos who lobbied for military action to oust the British from East Florida, and instigation on part of the de Gálvez family for military intervention in the Mississippi region propelled Spain into a position of belligerency. After 1779 Spanish observers became even more critical in providing intelligence information and in establishing mutually beneficial commercial relationships between Cuba and the United States.

While Cummins's book should appeal to a wide audience, his work is especially important to Florida history. At its most basic, his research reveals the increasing importance of the capitan-general of Cuba and the vital position Florida played in Spain's strategy of containment. After 1779 the Mississippi River adventure of rebel opportunist James Willing brought Bernardo de Gálvez, governor of Spanish Louisiana, into conflict with Peter Chester, governor of British West Florida. Cummins makes clear, however, that de Gálvez's governorship and subsequent "Yo Solo" military exploits would have been less successful without the intelligence reports of an anonymous observer in Pensacola. After 1779 the eastern seaboard theater assumed greater importance, and exiled floridanos played an important part in maintaining Spain's intelligence network. Florida's historians will recognize familiar names, such as Luciano de Herrera and brothers Juan José and Josef María Eligio de la Puente, whose careers are detailed in this work. Merchant Juan Miralles, brother-in-law to the Puente family, served as an observer in Philadelphia, moving in the highest social circles while establishing important and enduring commercial relationships with American merchants such as Robert Morris. Cummins's investigation also details the contributions of less-known floridanos—for example, the 1779 mission of Francisco Ruiz del Canto to Apalachee to secure the support of the Yuchi nation. Similarly, the author establishes how ships' captains Lorenzo Rodríguez, Antonio Marin, and Miguel Chapus maintained contact with East Florida and the Catholic colony of Minorcans at New Smyrna, activities which ultimately helped to defeat the British and to regain their homeland.

Cummins's book provides an understanding of the international issues involved in Spain's policy toward the American rebellion and dovetails nicely with works written about the late eighteenth-century Caribbean by scholars such as Allan J. Kuethe and Jacques A. Barbier. His work establishes that com-

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mercial ties that developed between Cuba and the United States were forged during this period through contacts between Spanish merchants-cum-observers and American commercial interests. More importantly, Cummins demonstrates that floridanos played an important role in serving their monarch and working towards the defeat of Great Britain. Not surprisingly, when Spanish rule returned to Florida, floridanos came home as proud victors, once again masters of their ancestral homes.

University of Florida

SHERRY JOHNSON

Sacred Revolt: The Muskogee Struggle for a New World. By Joel W. Martin. (Boston: Beacon Press, 1991. xii, 233 pp. Preface, introduction, maps, notes, index. \$24.95.)

The story is well known and briefly sketched in most histories of the United States. On March 27, 1814, at Horseshoe Bend on the Tallapoosa River in northeastern Alabama, General Andrew Jackson and his mixed force of some 2,000 American regulars, militia, and friendly Indians virtually annihilated nearly 1,000 Redstick Creek warriors. The Redsticks (named for their red-painted war clubs) are often portrayed as religious fanatics who initiated a fratricidal civil war within the Creek nation, were pro-British in the War of 1812, and blocked the course of rightful American expansion. In the aftermath of this defeat, the Creeks were forced to sign away some 14,000,000 acres—two-thirds of their land—at the Treaty of Fort Jackson. Rather than submit to such villainy, most of the surviving Redsticks and their families migrated to Spanish Florida where they joined the Seminoles. This episode with the Creeks secured Jackson's reputation as an Indian fighter, while his stunning victory over the British at New Orleans ten months later made him a national hero destined for the White House. This is the point at which most histories usually end the tale.

In this extraordinary work Joel Martin has provided a totally new interpretation of the Redstick revolt of 1813-1814, combining the methodologies of comparative religious study and ethnohistory to view the events from an Indian perspective. He begins by correcting the glossary. The Creeks are more properly

known as Muskogeans, so-called for the predominant language spoken throughout a loose confederation of towns stretching from the Tallapoosa and Alabama rivers (the Upper Towns) thence along the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers to Spanish Florida (Lower Towns). Horseshoe Bend was actually the fortified town of Tohopeka, seat of a Redstick resistance movement centered in the Upper Towns. The Lower Towns were heavily under the influence of United States Indian agent Benjamin Hawkins, who distributed funds and promoted various civilization schemes authorized by the national government. It was primarily this intrusion of new ideas and new values, as well as the usurpation of their homelands by unauthorized settlers abetted by a growing mixed-blood Metis population in the Lower Towns, which triggered a civil war among the Muskogeans and inevitably led to the disastrous American intervention.

Most importantly, according to Martin, at its root the Muskogean revolution was primarily religious rather than political in nature; it was a call to purify Muskogean life. The prophets whom the Redsticks followed called for a return to the sacred rituals, myths, and values that had shaped traditional Muskogean social order. "Visions of cosmological renewal or millenarian upheaval motivated and prophetic shamans led the rebels. Ritual patterns, drawn from traditional religious ceremonies, provided a dramatic form that helped organize and give meaning to significant acts of rebellion." This meant a total purge of the profane elements which had intruded into their culture and brought imbalance. The acculturated Muskogeans were killed, their crops, cattle, and hogs destroyed, their homes and their foreign contents burned to the ground. Not unlike other Indian revitalization movements, the prophets promised their followers much more than spiritual transcendence; they also promised that they would be impervious to the white man's bullets. For this reason, the defenders at Tohopeka faced Jackson's artillery and bayonets with axes and red war clubs but few muskets. The result was a murderous loss of life and collapse of the Muskogean's faith in their prophets.

Martin has made a major contribution to our growing understanding that the significant Indian uprisings in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were more than political or military attempts to expel Euroamerican invaders. At their heart, these native revolts were an attempt to recapture the spiritual essence

of a culture that was inexorably being swept away. This book should be read by all who would understand not only the inner motivation of the Muskogees but also those contemporary American Indian tribes whose spiritual world remains under assault.

Florida Atlantic University

HARRY A. KERSEY, JR.

Ladies, Women, & Wenches: Choice & Constraint in Antebellum Charleston & Boston. By Jane H. Pease and William H. Pease. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990. xiii, 218 pp. Preface, illustrations, notes, bibliographical essay, index. \$24.95, cloth; \$10.95, paper.)

Using diaries and letters, census figures, and contemporary literature, Jane H. Pease and William H. Pease survey the lives of women in two antebellum cities— Boston and Charleston. The authors argue that marital status, class, and race influenced the options available to women but that women nonetheless made meaningful choices within the constraints imposed by poverty, ethnicity, or propriety. The authors also explore the ways in which regional differences— notably slavery— affected women's lives. The result is a sound but unremarkable book which tells a familiar story of women's experience in antebellum America.

The book is organized topically, with the narrative ranging back and forth between Charleston and Boston. The authors begin by discussing the importance of marriage, motherhood, and widowhood in women's lives, pointing out that, north and south, wealthy women had many more options available to them (not surprisingly). The family of a well-to-do woman, for example, could easily shelter her from a bad marriage, and only a woman with a sizable fortune was likely to enjoy widowhood. Slave women, of course, had the least latitude of any. Yet all women, the Peases argue, exercised choices in their lives: some insisted upon choosing their own fiances, some resisted marrying until late in life, some fled abusive husbands, and others decided not to marry at all. Throughout most of this discussion, however, the authors overstate their case for "agency." Most women who remained unmarried, for example, lamented their

fate for years and only grudgingly came to see the single life as a boon rather than a burden.

The book also describes how opportunities for paid employment were impacted by race, class, and region. Middle-class women chose the respectable occupations of teaching or writing when they needed income; poor white women were most likely to work in the needle trades for poverty-level wages, while black women in South Carolina and immigrant women in Massachusetts filled jobs as domestic workers. A few women defied propriety and became stage performers, and some even chose prostitution for the high wages it offered, or "to gain freedom from social and familial restraints" (p. 148). Though there were some differences between north and south in this pattern, it was minimal. The fact is that most women had few options, especially if poor and husbandless.

Finally, the authors discuss regional differences in women's philanthropic and reform activity, another well-known story. That the South was hostile to reform activity and allowed women to engage only in safer forms of charity and benevolence is hardly news.

This book is different from most others in that it examines all classes and races of women in two different regions; however, while it is comprehensive in scope, it is unimpressive in its findings. Occasionally the evidence does not support the conclusions (as when discussing the "option" of spinsterhood), but more importantly, there is little here that has not been said before. In short, though the research is original, the conclusions are not.

McNeese State University

JANET ALLURED

Ambiguous Lives: Free Women of Color in Rural Georgia, 1789-1879.

By Adele Logan Alexander. (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 1991. xiii, 268 pp. List of illustrations, acknowledgments, charts, maps, photographs, notes, selected bibliography and sources, index. \$23.00.)

"Little has been written about women of color, about African-Americans who were neither truly 'black' nor poor, and especially about people who were both female and free. The challenge is to move beyond a nonarticulated image of people and

color— to break apart that undifferentiated mass, and then to reconstruct a more accurate, vivid, and finely focused picture of the past” (p. 7). In *Ambiguous Lives* Adele Logan Alexander attempts to meet the challenge as stated above by recreating the lives of “people of color who looked indisputably white” in middle Georgia (p. 6). A difficult task indeed because, as the author discovered, free people of color were “hard to find, identify, and define” (p. 7).

Utilizing oral accounts; personal papers; county, courthouse, and census records, Alexander attempts to reconstruct the lives of her forebears, the Hunt family of Hancock County, Georgia. In doing so she intricately weaves several stories into one. Her focus is on an “atypical” southern family— the Hunts, both male and female, black and white. In fact, one completes this book knowing much more about the white, male side of the family than about the free females of color. The nonwhite branch of the Hunts were free people of color and began with Susan, the daughter of a Cherokee mother and an African-American father. Susan inherited her mother’s freedom and was raised by the Anglo-American Hunts.

Susan became the mistress of Nathan Sayre, a highly respected white bachelor, attorney, and judge. Although they could not legally marry, Alexander speculates that Susan was much more than a mistress to Sayre. She lived with him, bore him three children, and served as his “wife.” Sayre gave her “moral and physical protection” for more than twenty years and made provisions for her after his death (p. 87). According to the author, Susan Hunt and her family “enjoyed the patronage of a powerful white man” who provided for her and her children “with at least some of the privileges accorded young people in upper-class white families” (p. 80). Their daughter, Mariah, who had no African-American features, followed in her mother’s footsteps when she “married” a Caucasian, Henry Alexander Hunt. Their relationship produced nine children.

Alexander argues that women such as Susan and Mariah lived as a “sub-caste of free people of color because they were protected as ‘family’ by white men who enjoyed considerable community status and who would not be casually challenged by local authorities” (p. 120). Yet they led ambiguous and tenuous lives. Although free, the nonwhite Hunts had no legal documentation, and they never appeared on census or county records

before the Civil War. Their status was somewhere between slavery and freedom. In a sense they were invisible. Emancipation, of course, abolished the distinction between free blacks and slaves. Legally, the nonwhite Hunts were grouped with former slaves, but because of their complexion they were in a position to choose which world they would live in. All except one chose to remain in the black world.

This account of the Hunt family is also a history of free blacks, slaves, Native Americans, and whites and their interactions and inter-relationships in an eight-county region in middle Georgia. Religion, education, black property owners, and Georgia society are all discussed. While the author reveals something of free women of color and their unique place in society, she more effectively deals with middle Georgia history. Alexander does an excellent job in recreating the environment in which these people interacted on a daily basis. Well written and thoroughly researched, Alexander's study is a welcome addition to southern and women's history.

Florida State University

MAXINE D. JONES

The Fire-Eaters. By Eric H. Walther. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1992. xv, 333 pp. Acknowledgments, abbreviations, introduction, illustrations, bibliographical essay, index. \$39.95, cloth; \$12.95, paper.)

Historians tend to think of the fire-eaters as a group, yet rarely have they studied them as such. Eric Walther has written the first book devoted to several—nine to be precise—of those most radical advocates of southern independence. His thesis, essentially that the fire-eaters formed a group in only the loosest sense of the word, though surely correct, challenges him to treat them collectively and in a coherent volume.

The Fire-Eaters is not a monograph but a collection of self-contained essays on Beverley Tucker, William Yancey, John Quitman, Robert Barnwell Rhett, Laurence Keitt, Louis Wigfall, J. D. B. De Bow, Edmund Ruffin, and William Percher Miles. Together, argues Walther, these men represented “the unity and diversity of people and ideas encompassed within the secession movement” (p. 6). Though the most famous fire-eaters are

included, no doubt some readers will quibble with this list. Florida historians, for example, may regret the absence of David Levy Yulee. But quibblers would miss Walther's larger point, in light of which the men he has chosen are quite appropriate. Each fire-eater, he argues, "emphasized different issues, ideas, and goals" (p. 6), and "interacted infrequently if at all" (p. 7). While the intellectual arguments of Miles and Tucker drew some Southerners into the secession camp, the rhetorical passion of Yancey and Rhett, the manliness of the violent, hard-drinking Wigfall, and the practical economic arguments of De Bow swayed others. Commitment to secession, to slavery and a republican ideal that rested upon it; and to a broad notion of honor was all that united a group so disparate they did not really comprise a movement. Though Walther does not push his argument this far—indeed, he refers to secession as a movement—his evidence supports such a conclusion.

Walther makes a convincing case. As a consequence of his very success, however, his book lacks coherence. The author might have explored further the common ground that linked the fire-eaters without necessarily undermining his argument about their differences. For example, he might have made more of the South Carolina connection. Five secessionists came of age in the state dominated by John C. Calhoun. Beverley Tucker, though a Virginian, worked out many of his ideas during the nullification crisis and then developed a more direct Carolina connection through his correspondence with James Hammond. Edmund Ruffin, too, had strong ties to South Carolina. Walther also could have strengthened his argument by better connecting individual fire-eaters with the audiences to which their unique characters or styles of politics appealed. His effort to revise the view that Southerners were pushed toward secession by events, not pulled by a strong and varied appeal from the fire-eaters, is not completely successful. His argument to the contrary notwithstanding, radical secessionists as they appear in this book lived largely on the fringes of southern politics, except during brief moments when they moderated their views, until John Brown raided Harper's Ferry and transformed public opinion in the South. Finally, we observe in *The Fire-Eaters* nine men over the course of their lives and as they became secessionists, some of them suddenly, others over extended periods. Yet, we never really learn why their political metamorphoses occurred.

In a representative passage Walther discusses how De Bow, a reluctant Unionist and the most vocal advocate of the South's need to industrialize, was by 1857 proclaiming the benefits of agriculture and King Cotton— a change of mind that prepared De Bow for his eventual embracing of secession. Such an apparent change of mind begs for extended explanation. Walther, however, brushes past it. De Bow's reasons, he tells us, are simply unclear.

Scholars of the Civil War era and teachers of American history in general will find much use for these brief biographical sketches neatly and conveniently packaged in a single volume. Although the book presents little information that is new, and its analyses of well-known historical figures are occasionally superficial— a problem almost inherent in collective biography— the research and basic interpretation are solid.

University of Texas at Arlington

CHRISTOPHER MORRIS

The Confederate Constitution of 1861: An Inquiry into American Constitutionalism. By Marshall L. DeRosa. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1991. vi, 182 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$32.50, cloth; \$19.95, paper.)

In this slim yet provocative volume, Marshall L. DeRosa explores both the textual intricacies of the Confederate Constitution and the underlying ideology of Confederate constitutionalism. Significantly, the author's interest in the subject is not that of an historian; instead, as a political scientist, DeRosa views Confederate constitutionalism as a potential solution to contemporary political problems. He thus faces the daunting tasks of revitalizing and legitimizing the constitution of a nation that was not only defeated on the battlefield but subsequently disgraced for its devotion to slavery.

DeRosa attempts to move beyond negative moral judgments about the Confederate Constitution in two ways. First, he finessees the slavery issue by arguing that the supremacy of the states, rather than the security of slaveholders, lay at the center of the Constitution. Indeed, DeRosa spends a considerable portion of the book explaining the state sovereignty argument, articulated

most effectively by John C. Calhoun, and showing how the theory found specific expression in the text of the Confederate Constitution. The author notes, for example, that although the document prohibited the general government from abolishing the "peculiar institution," the Constitution granted complete freedom to the states to legislate on slavery and even provided for the future admission of free states to the Confederacy. Yet, in repeatedly contending that a commitment to state sovereignty— not slavery— guided the South's constitution makers, DeRosa overlooks the fact that state sovereignty in the hands of Southerners was, above all, a pro-slavery constitutional theory. When secessionists spoke in Calhounian terms about protecting their "rights and interests," they undoubtedly were expressing their commitment to slavery. Instead of trying to rewrite history by presenting the founders of the Confederacy as enlightened statesmen who were relatively unconcerned about the perpetuation of slaveholding, DeRosa might more effectively have argued that today's policy makers have something to learn from the Confederate Constitution despite the racism of its framers.

The second way in which the author attempts to legitimize the Confederate Constitution is by placing the document squarely within the American constitutional tradition. Although he outlines the explicit differences between the United States and the Confederate States Constitutions in terms of their respective bills of rights and separation of powers, DeRosa ultimately concludes that Confederate constitutionalism derived from "the eighteenth-century American Antifederalist interpretation of federalism" (p. 121). Both the Antifederalists of 1787 and the secessionists of 1861, he contends, feared the centralization of political power at the national level and held up the sovereignty of individual states as a buffer against an "uncontrollable and perhaps authoritarian central government" (p. 132). The Confederate Constitution, then, embodied the values of a deeply-rooted American constitutional tradition—yet a tradition that had been steadily eroding in the nineteenth century.

DeRosa generally succeeds in his attempt to resurrect the Confederate Constitution. As a work of history, the book benefits from the author's extensive research in primary sources and his clear explanatory prose. As a political commentary, however, the work is sure to stir controversy over the merits of some of

the Confederates' innovations: an executive line-item veto, a single six-year presidential term, and the elimination of the United States Constitution's "general welfare" clause. Whether or not one agrees with the efficacy of such constitutional changes, DeRosa has clearly given students of both history and political science something to think about.

University of Florida

TIMOTHY S. HUEBNER

The First Day at Gettysburg: Essays on Union and Confederate Leadership. Edited by Gary W. Gallagher. (Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 1992. x, 174 pp. Introduction, photographs, illustrations, maps, appendix, notes, bibliographic essay, contributors. \$24.00, cloth; \$14.00, paper.)

In June 1863 General Robert E. Lee sent his Army of Northern Virginia into Maryland, launching the campaign that led to the small Pennsylvania town of Gettysburg. There, on July 1, 2, and 3, Lee's men and the Yankee Army of the Potomac fought the largest battle ever in North America. Not surprisingly, the engagement spawned a vast outpouring of books that shows no sign of abating.

Most of the attention lavished on this battle has been focused on the dramatic events of the second day (when Lee almost gained a clear victory) or the third (when the great assault called "Pickett's Charge" took place). Relatively little notice has been given to July 1, when elements of the opposing armies collided northwest of Gettysburg in a meeting engagement that set the stage for the struggle to follow.

If Gettysburg is the center of a clock, the battle began when two divisions of the Confederate Third Corps marched from ten toward the center. These Confederates clashed first with Federal cavalymen and then with infantry from the First and Eleventh Corps of the Union army moving from the center toward ten. Several hours later, troops from the Second Corps of Lee's army arrived from the area of twelve. These Confederates struck the Yankees' right flank, defeating them and chasing them through the town to the hills and ridges to the south. Federal reinforcements, marching from the area of six, joined them there, and the stage was set for the great struggles of July 2 and 3.

The papers in this book grew from a June 1990 conference at the Mount Alto campus of Pennsylvania State University. Alan Nolen surveys Lee's role in the grand strategy that led to the Gettysburg campaign and points out that he chose to renew the battle on the afternoon of July 1 (after a lull in the fighting), thus committing his army to "a major confrontation" at Gettysburg (p. 24). He could have retired to a defensive position to the west and waited for public opinion to push his opponent into making costly attacks.

Gary Gallagher evaluates Generals A. P. Hill and Richard S. Ewell (commanding respectively the Third and Second Corps of Lee's army). Gallagher finds that the two performed adequately on July 1. He thus refutes many earlier accounts in which they had been portrayed as bungling their first major battle as corps commanders.

Will Greene examines Major General Oliver O. Howard and his chief subordinates who commanded the Union Eleventh Corps. Howard, like Hill and Ewell, has often been faulted for his conduct of operations on July 1. Greene, however, believes that when all factors are considered, Howard and the generals of the Eleventh Corps made, overall, a positive contribution to eventual Union success at Gettysburg.

Bob Krick, in the collection's best essay, explores the conduct of three new Confederate brigade commanders (Brigadier Generals Joseph Davis, Alfred Iverson, and Edward A. O'Neal). All three performed poorly on July 1 ("extraordinarily dark tactical failures"), and, as a result, many of their men became casualties. They "were not competent and never would be" (p. 138). Their poor performance illustrated the "deterioration" of Confederate generalship as the war entered its third year (p. 91).

About 700 Florida troops served at Gettysburg; 455 of them became casualties. These troops (the Second, Fifth, and Eighth Florida infantry regiments), however, were in a part of the Third Corps that was held in reserve on July 1. This book, therefore, does not deal directly with Florida's role in the battle, but it can help readers of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* understand how and why the battle developed as it did.

Decatur, Georgia

RICHARD M. McMURRY

The Confederacy's Fighting Chaplain: Father John B. Bannon. By Phillip Thomas Tucker. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1992. xi, 254 pp. Preface, photographs, notes, bibliography, index. \$32.95.)

In December 1861 an Irish priest, John B. Bannon, left his parish in St. Louis to join Confederate forces under General Sterling Price. Once Bannon arrived in Springfield, Missouri, he "washed up" and "put on a soldier's uniform" (p. 23). For more than a year he served as a volunteer chaplain to St. Louis Catholics among the First Missouri Brigade. At battles such as Pea Ridge, Iuka, and Corinth, Bannon was often in the front lines helping the wounded and giving rites to the dying. By exposing himself to the risks of other soldiers, he earned their respect and admiration.

In January 1863 Bannon used a letter from a bishop in Mobile to obtain an appointment as a Confederate chaplain. The commission was backdated to February 1, 1862. This permitted Bannon to repay the loans used to finance his service with the Confederacy. Bannon rejoined the First Missouri Brigade, serving at Grand Gulf, Champion Hill, and Vicksburg. As a southern "zealot," he believed God was on the side of the Confederacy—something which may explain why he joined in the combat at Pea Ridge and at Champion Hill. Later at Vicksburg, "no one was more angry over the citadel's fall than Bannon" (p. 152).

In August 1863 Bannon traveled to Richmond where he received a diplomatic assignment. He was sent to Ireland to discourage potential enlistments in the Union army. On the way to Ireland Bannon went to Rome, seeking recognition for the Confederacy from Pope Pius IX. While the Pontiff gave Bannon a favorable audience, he deferred on recognition until France acted. At the conclusion of his mission in August 1864, Bannon joined the Jesuits in Milltown Park, Ireland. Tucker states that Bannon was prevented from returning to St. Louis because of loyalty oaths and the potential of being arrested. While these were real difficulties, they were not permanent problems. Bannon's superior in St. Louis, Archbishop Peter Richard Kenrick, would successfully fight loyalty oaths in Missouri by winning a case with the U.S. Supreme Court.

Tucker fails to recognize a more likely explanation of Bannon's decision to stay in Ireland. In leaving St. Louis, Bannon had angered Kenrick. Had Bannon returned to St. Louis, the archbishop could have charged him with numerous violations of canon law: leaving the archdiocese without permission, engaging in military service without permission, wearing military uniforms and engaging in combat, and obtaining an appointment as a military chaplain using a letter from a bishop who was not his superior. Phillip Thomas Tucker's desire to address a neglected topic, religion and religious leaders in the Confederacy, is an admirable one. Unfortunately, Tucker omits a crucial factor—violations of canon law—which no doubt influenced Bannon's actions.

Florida A&M University

JOHN T. FOSTER, JR.

Let Us Have Peace: Ulysses S. Grant and the Politics of War and Reconstruction, 1861-1868. By Brooks D. Simpson. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1991. xx, 337 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, prologue, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95.)

Ulysses S. Grant was elected president in 1868 on the basis of his military record. Yet, the Union general's activities at Shiloh, Vicksburg, and in Virginia (although treated) are not the focus of Brooks Simpson. Rather, Grant's experiences as a policymaking general and his role as secretary of state under Andrew Johnson form the basis of this study. Most fundamentally, the author traces the evolution of Grant from his enlistment to the man who Republicans nominated for president. Those were two very different individuals.

The war and the experiences of Reconstruction forged the future president. It was more Grant's attachment to the Union than any antipathy to slavery that caused his enlistment. As Simpson points out, for Grant "the war was one for reunion, not revolution" (p. 17). Hints of a growing consciousness are revealed during the conflict. Grant pushed for black enlistments and endorsed the end of slavery. Even so, Grant was no Radical. During the war he returned fugitive slaves, and following its conclusion he opposed posturing Freedmen's Bureau agents

who promoted extensive social change. Neither was Grant in the vanguard of those calling for black suffrage. Above all, as with his magnanimous position at Appomattox, Grant promoted conciliation. This position had much to do with his appointment as secretary of war by Johnson in August 1865. Several months later, late in 1865, Grant traveled through parts of the South on a fact-finding trip. His often-cited report indicating tranquility and loyalty among Southerners seemed to serve the political purposes of Johnson and the Democrats. Radicals such as Senator Charles Sumner protested.

Yet, Simpson contends the report has been traditionally misconstrued. Grant did not "whitewash" the situation, and he favored the continued presence of Federal troops. It is further the author's contention that the trip provided a turning point. During the next year Grant would first disagree and then break with Johnson. As secretary of war, Grant's priorities shifted from "reconciliation to protection" (p. 128). During 1866 the president and congressional Republicans drifted further apart. The situation profoundly affected Grant who tried to steer a middle course in an aptly entitled chapter, "Walking a Political Tightrope." That attempt failed, the breach widened, and Simpson convincingly writes of those like Grant who seeking "middle ground soon discovered that it was giving way under their feet" (p. 151). Grant opposed the veto of the Civil Rights and Freedmen's Bureau bills. Simpson describes his "growing contempt" for a man who seemed "blind and insensitive to the persecution of blacks, white Unionists, and army personnel in the South" (p. 161). He became a proponent of racial justice and civil equality. Grant had moved toward a new credo slowly and tentatively but with eventual true conviction. He favored the Fourteenth Amendment and black suffrage. Even so, Grant resisted total baptism, opposing the impeachment of Johnson and any notions of land redistribution.

Under the circumstances, an apparant anomaly makes sense. Radicals were skeptical of Grant's true convictions when he was being promoted for the Republican presidential nomination in 1868. But Democrats, sure of his purposes, feared his agenda and election. It is not the author's purpose to examine the presidency of Grant. He does point out, and this study substantiates, that Grant was well versed in the practice of politics when he assumed office. Although Simpson does not provide the com-

elling picture of his subject that William McFeely did in his Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of Grant, this is a soundly researched and ably written study. The crux of the work— Grant's development— is well handled, and the author has provided a study that Civil War and Reconstruction scholars will find extremely valuable.

Gainesville College

WILLIAM WARREN ROGERS, JR.

The Sultana Tragedy: America's Greatest Maritime Disaster. By Jerry O. Potter. (Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Company, 1992. xii, 300 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$19.95.)

On the night following John Wilkes Booth's capture, the 260-foot steamboat *Sultana* pulled away from the Memphis pier with caution. The boilers were in disrepair, but just as dangerous was the overcrowded condition of the vessel. On this riverboat, authorized to carry no more than 376 passengers, the captain had crammed 2,400 war-weary Union soldiers who were en route to their loved ones in the North. These men had endured the unspeakable horrors of Andersonville and Cahaba prisons, but this one night would prove to be even more ghastly than all those months of captivity combined.

The United States Army was offering lucrative fees per man for transporting these prisoners up the Mississippi River, and so by a combination of greed on the captain's part and negligence on the part of army officials, the fate of these men was sealed. When the boiler exploded, some 1,800 of them perished.

The author of this first comprehensive account of that night's disaster spins a dramatic tale of what happened to those *Sultana* passengers. His use of recollections by the survivors, together with actual photographs of many of the passengers, puts faces on this great tragedy in a way that few history books do. Potter spins this tale with craft. The story leading up through the rescue of survivors is suspenseful and dramatic, filled not only with sights, but with sounds and smells, so that the reader has the sensation of witnessing the horrors of this night personally.

The story of the *Sultana* tragedy, however, does not end with the disaster itself. The author devotes almost half of the book to untangling the conflicting testimonies of those involved to ascertain who was responsible for these needless deaths. This is necessary because only one person, an assistant adjutant general, was ever brought to trial for being responsible for the tragedy, and even he was exonerated. Ultimately, the army absolved itself of any wrongdoing in the matter, and, when pressed by attorneys representing the steamboat's owners, claimed that the records of its inquiry had been lost.

Finally, the author closes by answering the question of why this, the worst maritime disaster in American history, could have been virtually ignored by the American public in 1865. Potter believes the other sensational news of April 1865, Lincoln's assassination, relegated the *Sultana's* demise to the back pages. Surely Potter is right in arguing that Americans by then had become so accustomed to death and suffering that they were indifferent to it. That the men who died were not officers but enlisted men surely had some impact on the media coverage of the event. But Potter's last assertion concerning why history has forgotten the *Sultana's* victims is less obvious. The author believes that had the explosion occurred on an eastern river and had the passengers been Easterners instead of Midwesterners, "the nation in all likelihood would not have forgotten them" (p. 186). On this point I wish the author had expounded, but perhaps this is beyond the scope of his work. In bringing the saga of America's greatest maritime disaster to light, Jerry O. Potter has done a valuable service to American history and has finally honored the memory of the passengers of the *Sultana*.

Winthrop University

LYNN WILLOUGHBY

Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865-1900.

By Stuart McConnell. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992. xvii, 312 pp. Preface, illustrations, photographs, tables, notes, bibliography, index. \$32.50.)

The Grand Army of the Republic was the largest Union army veteran's organization of the post Civil War years and a powerful political lobby, securing large pensions for veterans

and helping to elect five postwar presidents from its own membership. For its members it was also a secret fraternal order, a source of local charity, a provider of entertainment in small towns, and a patriotic organization. Stuart McConnell, who teaches history at Pitzer College, has written a first-rate study of this prominent and influential veterans association.

In its heyday in the late nineteenth century the GAR was a powerful organization whose political might has led most subsequent historians to identify it largely as a pension lobby or a bloody-shirt Republican association. Both of these activities have long been documented, and most studies of the GAR have corroborated Mary Dearing's early study (1952) of the GAR— that it was a political organization that supported the Republican party.

McConnell argues that partisan politics of the GAR is only part of the story and, particularly after Grant's reelection in 1872, not the most important part. He maintains that after 1872 the GAR appeared in a number of different ways: fraternal lodge, charitable society, special-interest lobby, patriotic group, political club. Thus, McConnell, while not ignoring the GAR's obvious Republican partisanship, has not attempted to duplicate Dearing's analysis of elections. Instead, as he says, he has tried to cast his net widely, to recapture the social and cultural meaning of the GAR membership. From partisan origins in 1866, the GAR soon foundered and by 1872 was just about moribund. It revived in the late 1870s as a fraternal order, and by 1890 it had become a powerful lobby for pensions, "correct" history, and a particular brand of American nationalism. At the same time, McConnell has tried to suggest ways in which the Grand Army experience illuminates certain aspects of Gilded Age society outside the GAR's post room door.

Thus, this is as much a book about Gilded Age Americans as it is a book about Union army veterans. For example, McConnell contends that the GAR pension campaigns of the 1880s called for an important new public attitude toward charity. And he further contends that the GAR of the 1890s provided a preservationist model of the American nation that many white, middle-class Northerners found congenial as they faced the serious social upheavals of that decade.

In his purpose and arguments McConnell has succeeded very well and thus has made an important contribution to the

history of Gilded Age America. He has thoroughly covered the GAR's many activities and attitudes toward former Confederate enemies and toward a whole range of noncombatants whom the Union veterans called civilians or those people who stayed at home during the Civil War. McConnell has largely organized his very readable narrative around the men who joined the GAR in three different parts of the country: Philadelphia, Brockton, Massachusetts, and Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. And he has a solid piece of scholarship based on a variety of sources such as published and unpublished GAR materials, including GAR convention proceedings, newspapers, songs, rule books, and local post records, and other newspapers, and books, articles, and theses.

McConnell's book is rich in detail and is filled with many perceptive ideas and conclusions about the GAR and the Gilded Age. For example, he maintains that the GAR was not just one more fraternal organization among the hundreds that sprouted during the Gilded Age. Unlike the Masons, few of whom had ever been masons, or the Improved Order of Red Men, none of whom had ever been Indians, the Grand Army existed only because all of its members had at one time been members of a real army with real ranks engaged in real combat. Another was the worry of the GAR about transmitting the lessons of the war to the next generation intact. Thus the Grand Army memory of the war represented the persistence into peacetime of the millennial, republican vision widely prevalent in the North before 1860. And still another was the GAR's campaign for "correct" Civil War histories that began in the late 1880s with the discovery by some members that commonly used school history texts often presented a version of the war that was significantly different from the Grand Army's evangelical, nationalist view.

These few examples give some idea of the coverage and scholarship of this fine book and of the important contribution it makes. None of the other studies of the GAR, including Mary Dearing's work, is as broad and rich in content as McConnell's, which is a very useful book for both professional historians and serious general readers.

University of Notre Dame

VINCENT P. DE SANTIS

Mormons & Cowboys, Moonshiners & Klansmen: Federal Law Enforcement in the South & West, 1870-1893. By Stephen Cresswell. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1991. viii, 323 pp. Acknowledgments, photographs, maps, tables, conclusion, notes, bibliography, index. \$35.95.)

While issues of law and order often occupy the historian, studies of the local enforcement of the law are less common. Stephen Cresswell has produced an interesting work which uses local case studies to illustrate the nature of national law enforcement in the South and West during the last part of the nineteenth century.

Cresswell concentrates on the Enforcement Acts in northern Mississippi, polygamy in the Utah territory, moonshine cases in eastern Tennessee, and more general law enforcement in the Arizona territory. Using contemporary accounts and letters to and from Washington involving United States attorneys and marshals, he traces the development of the modern Justice Department, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The local officers often had a difficult time, caught between regional custom and federal policy, laboring as political appointees who seldom were sufficiently paid and had insufficient office budgets.

He concludes that while lack of support from both Congress and the attorney general was one reason for the real difficulties experienced in enforcing federal laws in the South and West, local resistance was the major factor. It was the local culture that conflicted with a supposed national ethos. Race views in Mississippi, religious views toward marriage in Utah, poverty and custom in Tennessee, hatred of the Apache, and an attitude toward exploiting the government in Arizona all complicated the local enforcement of laws by the Justice Department.

The book provides an engaging view of the difficulties of law enforcement, the regional variations in enforcement, and the gradual development of a more efficient enforcement system. While the North is deliberately neglected in the study—since it seemed less defiant of the federal laws and since many federal laws in this period were aimed at the South and West—it would be interesting to see a similar study of that area. The book is well written, which is fortunate since the detailed case studies that are necessary to support its methodology would be

laborious to follow in a less-skillfull work. This is an important contribution to legal history and also to regional studies, social history, and popular culture.

University of Louisville

CARL RYANT

Looking for the Light: The Hidden Life and Art of Marion Post Wolcott. By Paul Hendrickson. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1992. xxvii, 297 pp. Acknowledgments, note on illustrations, frontpiece, photographs, prologue, epilogue, final takes. \$35.00.)

Paul Hendrickson, a staff writer for the *Washington Post*, became in the late 1980s increasingly distraught over his inability to finish a high-profile book. To relieve his tensions, he went over to the Library of Congress where in the gift shop reproductions of the photographs taken during the Great Depression by the Farm Security Administration (FSA) caught his eye. Upon leafing through the actual FSA file, Hendrickson came across in the shadows cast by Dorothea Lange, Arthur Rothstein, and Walker Evans an impressive body of work (an estimated 15,000 photographs) done by Marion Post Wolcott, and he learned that after her three-year stint with the federal agency she left photography. He became obsessed with finding out why this attractive and talented woman walked away from what appeared a highly promising career.

Hendrickson used Marion Post Wolcott's correspondence, including several letters written from Florida as well as about the state, to frame the outlines of her life and art. Of the seventy-seven photographs chosen to illustrate this study, the author selected several from Florida, primarily migrant scenes near Belle Glade and the indulgences of the wealthy around Miami. He further picked some Florida pictures— a juke joint near Moore Haven and a picnic on the beach at Sarasota— to detail intimate features and speculate on what they represented. Hendrickson even went back to find some of the locations and people that Marion Post Wolcott snapped decades earlier, such as a segregated theater in Belzoni, Mississippi, and a rickets-ridden child in Wadesboro, North Carolina, to reveal what happened to these subjects since she captured them on film. He

found, for instance, that a cotton broker from Clarksdale, Mississippi, was far different in life than what his photograph suggested.

Hendrickson tells us more than we have heard before about her personal and professional existence. Written in a popular journalistic style, Hendrickson makes passing reference to the sources of his material rather than providing footnotes and a bibliography. Much of the new information was secured by Hendrickson through oral interviews with Marion Post Wolcott, her family, and acquaintances. He explores her incompatible parents—distant father and unfulfilled mother—family scandals, sibling rivalries, struggles as a free-lancer, male occupational antagonisms, and repeated residential moves (thirty between the 1950s and 1980s alone) for her anxieties and insecurities. Hendrickson devotes, however, a disproportionate amount of space to why she gave up photography. On the one hand, Marion Post Wolcott was unsure of herself, questioning, and in need of assurance. On the other hand, Lee Wolcott, her husband, was possessive, driven, and domineering. In between, the couple desired to raise a family and make the marriage work. There are plenty of eye-opening revelations throughout the book: Lee Wolcott using his position in the Department of Agriculture to make the FSA postcredit all of his wife's work with the name Marion Post Wolcott; Roy Stryker brushing off a couple of contacts by Marion Post Wolcott about reentering the profession; and historian F. Jack Hurley altering the contents of his biography on the photographer to comport with the family's demands. *Looking for the Light* joins recent works by Beverly Brannan, James Curtis, Carl Fleischhauer, Nicholas Natanson, Maren Stange, Sally Stein, and Alan Trachtenberg in expanding our knowledge of the many forces operating behind the lens and leaving impressions on photographs that we might not otherwise see.

University of South Florida

ROBERT E. SNYDER

The Closing Door: Conservative Policy and Black Opportunity. By Gary Orfield and Carole Ashkinaze. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991. xx, 254 pp. Foreword, preface, acknowledgments, tables, references, index. \$22.50.)

This book is a case study of the effects of the conservative civil rights policies of Ronald Reagan and George Bush in the city of Atlanta. The authors argue that the Great Society programs of Lyndon Johnson were perceived as failures because "their positive effects were partially offset by long-time negative market trends in jobs and housing for urban blacks" (p. 3). Such aggressive actions as affirmative action and busing did not bring quick results in the face of those negative market trends; therefore, conservatives charged that those policies did not work, were unfair to whites, and "were even hurting the intended beneficiaries" (p. 206). Conservative ideology held that the answer to black problems was unleashing private capitalism to expand the economy and create jobs. It called race-conscious civil rights policies paternalistic and debilitating and favored welfare cuts and a "get-tough" approach to correct the "pathologies of the ghetto underclass" (p. 206). At the same time, liberals and Black Power advocates began to focus hopes on black political empowerment. To them the problems of the ghettos were the result of white racism; thus the solution was control by black leaders who could "make large moves toward racial equity simply by devising policies and practices reflecting their understanding of the background and needs of black people" (p. 14). Thus in the 1980s, policy was dramatically reversed in an unusually short time with the virtual abandonment of desegregation efforts and affirmative action.

Because Atlanta had a rapidly growing economy, a tight job market, and dynamic black leadership, the authors assert, "If these theories didn't work in Atlanta, it is very doubtful they will have application elsewhere" (p. 4). By examining computer data bases of numerous institutions and government agencies, they determined that inequalities grew in the 1980s and "the gains of the 1960s were more than wiped out" (p. 55). The numerous reasons for the failure of conservative policy are well documented in chapters on the unequal distribution of the benefits of the economic boom; housing discrimination and its impact on opportunity; the shortcomings of residentially segre-

gated high schools; the declining black access to college; and the limitations of job training programs geared more to the needs of businesses than the hardcore unemployed. At the base of the problem, however, was the persistence of racism and racial barriers, especially in housing. Residential segregation has become "the basic way in which we can openly and legally offer unequal opportunity." Market approaches fail because a "rising tide will not float all boats if part of the harbor is walled off from the tide" (pp. 68-69).

Orfield and Ashkinaze make a compelling case for the need for federal policies that "directly attack the color line and its continuing consequences" (p. 12). Racism continues to negate the effectiveness of "color-blind" policies, and local governments do not have the power or resources to overcome the obstacles. The book's integrationist orientation will offend some black nationalists as well as white conservatives. The authors are most critical of Reagan's and Bush's policies but also suggest that black Atlanta leaders became so caught up in "boosterism" that they downplayed the problems of the inner city and accepted segregation in return for power. "The thesis that black politicians, conservative businessmen, and Atlanta's isolated low-income children had the same common long-term interests was wrong" (p. 148). Too few people, including black leaders, have had enough information on which to make decisions. Because the federal government greatly reduced the collection of data by which conservative policies' impacts could be evaluated, the book provides much-needed facts. Of course, a statistical study is only as good as its data, which sometimes seem to be presented in ways to support the authors' theses rather than to illumine the readers. Nevertheless, the book is a useful addition to the debate over liberal and conservative approaches to civil rights.

North Carolina State University

LINDA O. MCMURRY

Indians of the Southeastern United States in the Late 20th Century.

Edited by J. Anthony Paredes. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1992. xii, 240 pp. Illustrations and tables, acknowledgments, introduction, photographs, notes, references cited, contributors, index. \$21.95, paper.)

Those of us who remember the 1979 publication of *Southeastern Indians Since the Removal Era*, edited by Walter L. Williams, may wonder why, a scant thirteen years later, we need another collection of essays on contemporary southeastern Native Americans. The answer provided by editor Anthony Paredes is that this volume focuses on the 1970s and 1980s is more current than historical, and is more inclusive, thanks to several essays that survey the Native groups within the states of Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Louisiana. These chapters, plus specialty pieces on the Cherokees, Seminoles and Miccosukees, Poarch Creeks, and Choctaws, comprehend virtually all the recognized and unrecognized Native tribes and communities in the present South.

The nine essays in *Indians of the Southeastern United States in the Late 20th Century* originated in papers presented at a Southern Anthropological Society symposium, and all the authors but one are anthropologists. It therefore will not surprise most readers to find that these essays tend to be ethnographic accounts with relatively little historical background.

The composite picture of contemporary southeastern Native America is remarkably complex. Some tribes have both state and federal recognition, some are recognized by state and not federal authority, some are the reverse, and some Native communities have neither state nor federal recognition. Generally, but not in every case, Indian groups believe federal recognition, with its expected range of economic benefits, is better than state, and any official recognition is better than none. Thus for some groups, such as the Poarch Band of Creeks in Alabama and the Tunica-Biloxi of Louisiana, gaining federal recognition has been a preoccupation during the last two decades. But for all groups, recognized or not, winning their neighbors' respect for their Indian ethnicity has been a compelling goal.

The general pattern has been that in the period of post-Civil War institutionalized racism, Indians, characterized as non-white, rejected being defined as black. In a bi-racial society, their

challenge was to create and win recognition of a third category. This battle was fought most vigorously in the area of education, and ultimately several states agreed to the establishment of Indian schools. North Carolina led the way by creating an Indian college to train Indian teachers for those schools, but throughout the South many of these communities won separate schools and through them a kind of recognition of their Indianness. Civil rights legislation and the end of legalized segregation closed those Indian schools and forced the communities to seek public affirmation of their ethnicity in other ways. One obvious avenue was to sponsor public events, such as powwows, which focused on their Indian identity. Non-Indian neighbors would witness their attributes of Indianness and come away impressed by the ethnic identity of the group. Another solution has been to establish strong working relationships with local political and law enforcement officials. Important in their own right, these strategies may also parallel attempts to gain official recognition from their states and the federal government. These and other policies, the authors generally argue, have had the additional and perhaps more significant result of stimulating the establishment of tribal or community organizations, offices, and leaders, all of which enhance the creation of community cohesion.

Groups such as the North Carolina Cherokees, the Catawbans, the Mississippi Choctaws, and the Seminoles and Miccosukees of Florida have faced a different set of challenges in recent years. With their ethnic identity as Indians never in doubt, their problems have been more rooted in the areas of economic development and culture retention. Here the record, as it is nationwide, is mixed. The Cherokees have become quintessential "tourist Indians," and the Choctaws have masterminded an industrial "miracle." Others, following the lead of the Seminoles, have embraced high-stakes bingo which provides jobs and produces a vital tribal income.

Readers of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* will not be surprised to find that Harry Kersey, the preeminent scholar of Seminole and Miccosukee history, contributed the essay in this volume on those people. Consistent with the high standard for which he has long been noted, Kersey's chapter stands out as an exemplary piece of work.

Taken together, Paredes's *Indians of the Southeastern United States* and Williams's earlier *Southeastern Indians* have ably co-

vered the field. All that remains is for some scholar to come forth with a unified, comprehensive, interpretive study of the region and its Native people in the 20th century.

University of Kentucky

MICHAEL D. GREEN

Sending My Heart Back Across the Years: Tradition and Innovation in Native American Autobiography. By Hertha Dawn Wong. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. x, 246 pp. Preface, introduction, illustrations, notes, works cited, index. \$35.00.)

This being the year of the quincentenary of the Columbian voyages, we have seen, predictably perhaps, a number of volumes published concerning the relationship between the American Indians and the general European culture. It is a very interesting set of circumstances that has led to several books dealing with what the Indians have had to say; among these is the volume under consideration by Hertha Dawn Wong. Professor Wong has produced a remarkable synthesis that accomplishes exactly what her subtitle, *Tradition and Innovation in American Indian Biography*, promises.

Sending My Heart Back Across the Years considers autobiographical theory as it is envisioned within Native-American self-narrative and then moves through a variety of expressions that make up the body of Native-American testimony through the use of oral, pictographic, and autobiographical narratives; coup tales; vision stories and naming practices. This is a particularly productive field since most of the material comes from the Northern Plains where there was an especially strong tradition that included all of the forms named above.

Wong has included pictographs as autobiography— the Plains Indian sketchbooks, diaries, and other texts— and once again the material relies more heavily on the Plains than on any other part of the United States. This is perhaps a limitation of the book, but it is also a remarkable demonstration of what the Plains testimony has to offer.

One section of the book is a consideration in depth of two men and two women from the Plains; the author includes in this segment a remarkably good discussion of self-narration and a rather perceptive set of views into the interior of the changing

life of the American Indian. At times Wong shows real strength and keen insight. At one point she states, "This artist's uncharacteristic expression of inner feelings may be an aberration, or it may be an indication of how little Euroamericans noted the tender side of Plains Indian men, preferring instead a noble and ferocious warrior stereotype." In describing courtship dances, Wong effectively shows how the Indians were communicating through their artists.

In the discussions of life histories, what she refers to as the "literary boundary cultures," her examples could have been more diverse; additionally, throughout the work she has used the voices of well-known people in the history of American Indian narration. In the literary boundary cultures, however, once again her ability to show great insight comes through very clearly.

Perhaps the most important section of the book is to be found in Chapter 5 where oral, written, and collaborative autobiography are discussed using Nicholas Black Elk and Charles Alexander Eastman. Both are remarkable figures in the history of Native-American narration: they are well known, both of the books are published and have been read very widely for many years. Her assessments remain fresh, but perhaps a wider selection is indicated.

Wong uses the works of two well-known contemporary writers, M. Scott Momaday and Leslie Morman Silko, in discussing current Native-American autobiography. While she discusses their innovations, she does not always persuade the reader that theirs are different from those of people who grow up in other subcultures within the United States. Stated bluntly, the case for uniqueness might have been better made.

Ms. Wong's work is well written, well organized, and insightful; Oxford Press is certainly justified in publishing *Sending My Heart Back Across the Years*. It is a book that will endure on the shelves of those who work in the fields of American-Indian history, American-Indian literature, oral history, and in the fields of biography and autobiography in the United States.

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FLOYD A. O'NEIL

BOOK NOTES

Many storms and hurricanes have devastated Florida over the years. There are many accounts of shipwrecks, destroyed properties, and lives lost because of these disasters. The two most destructive hurricanes in Miami's history unleashed their fury in September 1926 and August 1992. The damage was enormous. The twelve-hour 1926 hurricane changed the course of south Florida's history. Many people lost everything, including family and friends. One of the survivors, L. F. Reardon, wrote *The Florida Hurricane & Disaster, 1926*, describing the terror and destruction that covered an area sixty miles wide and 600 miles in length. Many black-and-white photographs document the destructive impact of what was then referred to as "America's greatest storm." The book was republished in 1986 by Arva Parks & Company of Coral Gables. It included a memoir by Mrs. Parks (a very, very young child at the time). The other really "big one" was Andrew, which struck in 1992. It moved quickly, and there was not as much rain as in 1926, but the destruction was enormous, particularly for the south Dade County area. Homestead and Florida City were almost obliterated. Howard Kleinberg, a national columnist for Cox newspapers and the last editor of *The Miami News*, has written a detailed, harrowing account of Andrew. It includes more than 100 photographs, articles from area newspapers, and eyewitness reports from Homestead and Kendall. Kleinberg's account of the storm, *The Florida Hurricane & Disaster, 1992*, was published by Centennial Press of Miami. Arva Parks has written an introduction for Kleinberg's book also. Both Reardon's and Kleinberg's histories have been published in a single volume. Order from Centennial Press, P. O. Box 11830, Miami, FL 33101. The price is \$29.95, plus shipping.

The Franciscan missions of seventeenth-century, Spanish Florida are the subject of Robert Allen Matter's book *Pre-Seminole Florida: Spanish Soldiers, Friars, and Indian Missions, 1513-1763* (1990), published in the Garland Publishing, Inc., series "The Evolution of North American Indians." A revised edition of his often-cited 1972 dissertation, this updated reference focuses on church-state friction and includes background

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information on the mission system, its origins, and its demise. This revision includes a postscript and additional references through 1989. The price is \$76.00 [Reviewed by Jerald T. Milanich, Florida Museum of Natural History.]

The Last Paradise: The Building of Marco Island, by Douglas Waitley, recounts the history of the development of the island by the Mackle brothers—Elliott, Robert, and Frank—and the Deltona Company, their land development corporation. The first white settler was W. T. Collier who arrived at Marco from Tennessee shortly after the Civil War. He and his family lived in a palmetto shack and shipped cabbages to Key West. One of the sons, Captain Bill, built a hotel for the occasional visitor who came from the mainland to fish or swim. In the 1920s Barron Collier (no relation to W. T. Collier) bought up large tracts on Marco. His son, Barron, Jr., convinced the Mackles that the island could be developed into a major resort and residential community. There were problems—lots of mosquitoes, no sewer facilities, a shortage of fresh water, its isolation—but with money and persistence the Mackles believed they could solve these problems. Construction began in 1964. Roads, a hotel, a condominium, and a few homes were ready for the grand opening on January 31, 1965. A huge advertising campaign guaranteed a large crowd. Soon there was a yacht club, an eighteen-hole golf course, and an intricate maze of waterways and canals. Marco Beach Hotel opened in 1971 with Florida Governor Reubin Askew as a guest. Marco Island Airways began operating the following year. There were major problems for Deltona, however, including the controversy over the development of the Robert Bay area. The Army Corps of Engineers issued a cease-and-desist order because development was threatening wetlands and navigable waterways. With declining land and home sales in 1974, Deltona's stock plummeted from seventy dollars to three dollars a share. The Collier County Conservancy launched a major environmental battle that forced Deltona in 1982 to convert its undeveloped holdings into nature preserves. When Frank Mackle resigned in 1986, the company was virtually destroyed. This interesting account of Marco Island is based upon surviving company records and interviews with persons involved in the development of this area. The book includes many photographs, some that are being published for the first

time. *The Last Paradise* was published by Pickering Press, Inc., Miami, FL, and it sells for \$12.95.

Napoleon Bonaparte Broward was one of Florida's most influential governors. He served only one term (1905-1909), but his impact on Florida was enormous. He is recognized as one of the leaders of the populist-progressive movement that was changing the South economically and politically in the early twentieth century. Samuel Proctor's biography, *Napoleon Bonaparte Broward, Florida's Fighting Democrat* has long been out of print. The University Press of Florida has reprinted it in its Florida Sand Dollar Book series. The price of the paperback edition is \$16.95.

Maurice Fatio left his creative mark on Florida architecture, particularly the Palm Beach-Miami area, during the 1930s. If Addison Mizner dominated the south Florida architectural scene during the heady boom days of the 1920s, Fatio was his major successor. Born in Switzerland in 1897 and educated at the Zurich Polytechnic, Fatio arrived in New York in 1920. He formed a partnership with William A. Treanor and quickly became one of the busiest architects in New York. He became part of the "International Set," counting among his friends the Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, and Wideners. The firm opened an office in Palm Beach, and Fatio was in charge there. He quickly received commissions to build homes and villas in Palm Beach for some of the wealthiest and most powerful families in America. The Reef, built in 1936, was possibly the best design of Fatio's career. It won a gold medal in the 1937 Paris International Exhibition as "the most modern house in America." Fatio also designed buildings in West Palm Beach and residences and commercial properties in Boynton Beach, Jupiter Island, Miami Beach, Boca Raton, Fort Lauderdale, and Nassau and Eleuthera in the Bahamas. Fatio and his firm did important work in South America, Michigan, and Texas. Fatio died in 1943; he was forty-six. Alexandria Fatio Taylor has compiled a volume, *Maurice Fatio, Architect*, which provides biographical information, much of it derived from Fatio's personal correspondence. There are also family pictures and photographs of many of the homes. The book sells for \$55.00 and may be ordered from the author at 360 Cocanut Row, Apt. 6, Palm Beach, FL 33480 (407/833-0568).

Until the Florida territory was acquired by the United States in 1821, there were no banks in the area. Most business transactions were in gold or silver, by bills of exchange, or with notes issued by the Bank of the United States. When Andrew Jackson was governor of Florida, he urged that a bank be opened in Florida. The Territorial Council also asked for a bank, but neither request was honored. Carling Gresham's *Territorial Florida Bank & Bonds, 1821-1845* provides a concise history of the early financial institutions and the personalities associated with them. The first was John G. Gamble's Union Bank of Florida, which opened for business in 1835. It catered to the wealthy planters of Leon and surrounding counties who could mortgage land and slaves for cash to buy more land or slaves, which could be mortgaged again and again, "as long as the bank had money." But the bank began to run out of money, and the Panic of 1837 finally doomed its operations. The monograph describes the bonds issued by the Union Bank of Florida between 1834 and 1839. The history of the Bank of Pensacola and the Southern Life Insurance and Trust Company (founded in St. Augustine in 1835) and the bonds that they issued are also described. In 1843 the Territorial Council decreed that banks not paying in species had to suspend operations. Two years later Florida's first state legislature revoked the charters of the "big three," closing down their operations. All of the bank charters authorized by the Territorial Council are listed in sequential order in this monograph. Information about surviving bonds and their approximate value is provided. Mr. Gresham is seeking additional information about Florida bonds. Contact him at P. O. Drawer 580, Pomona Park, FL 32181. This monograph may also be ordered from him, and the price is \$8.00.

John Fritchey's grandfather, working as a brakeman on the railroad at Fort Smith, Arkansas, heard stories about the rich farmlands in south Florida and how easy it was to acquire acreage in the Everglades and to raise vegetables, hogs, and cattle. A personal visit convinced him that the stories were not exaggerated, and in 1922 he moved his family to Florida. John Fritchey, born and reared in south Florida, followed in the footsteps of his grandfather; he was a farmer. Fritchey compiled notes—observations and recollections—in handwritten spiral-bound notebooks, and these were published under the title

Everglades Journal. Edited by Beth R. Read, Fritchey's *Journal* was published by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc., P. O. Box 450283, Miami, FL 33145. Garth Fripp did the black-and-white lithographs that are included. *Everglades Journal* sells for \$16.95.

Love Dean's *Reef Lights: Seaswept Lighthouses of the Florida Keys* was published in 1982. Readers supplied new information about places and people, and Mrs. Dean has revised and enlarged her study. Her new book, *Lighthouses of the Florida Keys*, is more detailed and contains new chapters on the Key West lighthouse and on the Tortugas. Included also is a chapter on the lighthouse that once marked the Northwest Passage off Key West. Dean details lighthouse construction and its equipment and traces the technological improvements that led to automation. Historic photographs and drawings illustrate *Lighthouses of the Florida Keys*. It was published by the Historic Florida Keys Foundation, and the price is \$24.95. Order from the foundation office, Old City Hall, 510 Greene Street (upstairs), Key West, FL 33040.

Blacks have played a significant role in Florida history from the First Spanish Period to the present. To illuminate this history and to identify geographic locations in the state that are associated with African-American history, the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, has published the *Florida Black Heritage Trail*. Alphabetically arranged, it highlights places in Florida that have special significance. These sites include churches, schools, museums, historic houses, conference and recreation centers, educational institutions, hospitals, theaters, historic districts, beaches and recreation areas, business properties, and Masonic and fraternal lodge buildings. One of the oldest sites in Florida associated with blacks is Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose, two miles north of St. Augustine. It was a village and fort established by Spanish Governor Montiano in the 1730s to rescue slave fugitives from Georgia and South Carolina. All the sites listed in this booklet include a brief historical description and information about location and hours of operation. Included is a map of Florida which pinpoints the site locations. Information on Florida Black Heritage Trail tours and festivals and special events are also included. Many of the

places listed are illustrated with color photographs. Order *Florida Black Heritage Trail* from the Museum of Florida History, R. A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250; the price is \$2.25.

The Civil War was the first armed conflict in history to be extensively photographed. *My Brother's Face: Portraits of the Civil War in Photographs, Diaries, and Letters*, by Charles Phillips and Alan Axelrod, is a photographic history of the conflict. The book uses historical photographs and portraits and material from letters, diaries, and autobiographies. Included are eighty daguerreotypes and tintypes. The book is organized chronologically by the major battles, beginning with Fort Sumter and Manassas and ending with the fall of Atlanta and Appomattox. The foreword by Brian C. Pohanka, a senior researcher and writer for *Time-Life Books*, places the war within the tradition of photographic journalism. *My Brother's Face* was published by Chronicle Books, San Francisco, and the paperback edition sells for \$16.95.

Elisabeth Muhlenfeld became intrigued with Mary Chesnut, one of the most colorful personalities associated with the Civil War period, when she read Ben Ame Williams's book, *A Diary from Dixie*. She also talked with C. Vann Woodward who was working on a new edition of Mrs. Chesnut's diary. The result was Muhlenfeld's *Mary Boykin Chesnut, A Biography*. It was published by Louisiana State University Press in 1981 (and reviewed in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, April 1982), in its Southern Biography Series. LSU Press has republished the biography in paperback, and it sells for \$9.95.

Two catalogues of Confederate currency have been published by Colonel Grover Criswell. One is a compendium and guide to Confederate money; the other deals with Confederate war bonds. As always with Criswell's publications these two pamphlets contain much Florida history that is not easily obtainable elsewhere. Each catalogue sells for \$5.00, plus \$1.30 for handling and postage. Order from Criswell's, 15001 NE 248th Av. Rd., Salt Springs, FL 32134-6000.

Five months after General Oglethorpe established a colony in Georgia in 1733, forty-two Jewish settlers arrived in Savannah

aboard the *William and Sarah*, bound from London. Among the group was a German-born couple, Abraham and Abigail Minis. Kaye Kole, a certified genealogist, has expertly traced ten generations of this founding family in *The Minis Family of Georgia, 1733-1992*. The author has done an extraordinary amount of research, tapping state, county, and municipal records, newspapers, family manuscripts, and a wide range of secondary literature in Georgian and American Jewish history. The material is organized by generation, with separate subsections on each family member. An extensive bibliography and index make information in the book readily accessible. The reader learns about the family's business dealings, education, social and political life, and religious affiliations. The trials and tribulations of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century life leap from the pages, as when the author describes how a devastating hurricane in 1822 nearly wiped out a whole branch of the family. Today members of the Minis family live throughout the United States, including many in Florida. Kole's book should appeal to those interested in the history of Georgia, southern and American Jewish history, and family history. *The Minis Family of Georgia* was published by the Georgia Historical Society and may be ordered from the Society, 501 Whitaker Street, Savannah, GA 31499. The price is \$22.50. [Review by Mark I. Greenberg, University of Florida.]

Georgia civic leader and attorney Albert Sidney Johnson has published an affectionate memoir of the Long Pond area of Montgomery County, Georgia, and of his ancestors who were early settlers of the region. Named *Longpondium*, which the author defines as "a short, but complete summary of stories about people and events related to Long Pond, sometimes accompanied by a wild uproar or noise," the book provides extensive historical, anecdotal, and genealogical information about the Johnson, Conner, and related families. Many descendants of the families later settled in Florida, and those interested in this state's history will be particularly drawn to biographical information on Wilson Conner, named in January 1814 during the Patriot War as "Minister Plenipotentiary" of the "District of Alotcheway" to the United States Congress. Johnson also includes a transcript of Conner's journal as a travelling Baptist preacher during the period March 1830-July 1838, including a February

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1831 visit to "Hardin's M. H. in Floriday." *Longpondium* is hardbound, indexed, and runs 326 pages in length. It may be ordered from Sid Johnson, 2251 Sagamore Hills Drive, Decatur, GA 30033. The price is \$25.00, plus \$3.00 postage and handling. [Review by Canter Brown, Jr., Florida State University.]