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## Book Reviews

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## BOOK REVIEWS

*Florida in the XVIth Century, Discovery and Conquest.* By María Antonia Sáinz. Translated by Bella Thomas. (Madrid: Mapfre America Foundation, 1992. 317 pp. Introduction, maps, conclusion, appendices, chronology, bibliography, index.)

The Spanish insurance corporation, Mapfre, decided to include among its contributions to the quincentennial observance the creation of a foundation which, among other things, would underwrite the publication in Spanish of a collection of as many as 250 books organized into sixteen series, including a series devoted to the history of the Hispanic presence in the United States. This book is part of that series. Uniquely, it was published in both Spanish and English.

The books in the collection were to be prepared according to a common format, although individual authors varied that somewhat. This format minimized the use of notes, restricted the number of entries in the bibliographical essay, and dictated use of separate name and place indices as well as a chronological table. That is, the books are intended for the educated but not necessarily the specialist reader. The authors have varying scholarly credentials. Sáinz is a secondary-school teacher.

This volume covers events from 1512, the date of Juan Ponce de León's contact, to 1576, the effective end of the Menéndez de Avilés era. Roughly half of the text is devoted to the Menéndez years; the other half includes a chapter on Native Americans as well as the usual narrative materials on the Spaniards' various expeditions to the Southeast before 1565. The author's emphasis is on the great drama of the France-Spanish struggle of 1565 and Menéndez's subsequent efforts to found a vital Spanish colony and evangelize the Native Americans.

I had high hopes for this book, especially once I heard that the author had had access to the previously unused archive of the Counts of Revillagigedo— the holders of the title “Adelantado de la Florida”— and to such papers as have survived from Pedro Menéndez de Avilés's personal files. Some of the latter were summarized by Eugenio Ruidiaz y Caravía in the two-volume *La Florida: su conquista y colonización por Pedro Menéndez de*

*Avilés* (Madrid, 1893), but no author since had seen them, much less incorporated their information into a narrative. Alas, they turn out not to be especially informative, although other materials from the Revillagigedo archive are on matters relating to Menéndez's heirs.

In other respects the narrative is fairly standard. Its strengths are the effort to include Native Americans as actors in the story, the use of the Revillagigedo materials noted, a stress of Philip II's personal support of Menéndez, the inclusion of numerous maps, and an alternately critical and laudatory view of the Spaniards in question. The translation generally is well done, even colloquial in places.

The work's defects— especially many small errors of fact— seem to reflect the inaccessibility of better secondary studies (mostly in English) than those the author cites but also, and less understandably, a failure to study carefully the Spanish chronicles that are the basis for all narratives of the events before 1565 (as well as 1565-1567). For example, the treatment of Lucas Vázquez de Ayllón is filled with small errors that a reading of Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo's *Historia General de las Indias* would have prevented.

Even the main interest, Menéndez's period, is marred by problems with the facts. To note the three most serious problems: first, there is confusion about the relationships between Florida and the Armada Real de la Guardia de la Carrera de las Indias. This is admittedly a difficult topic, but my dissertation and Eugene Lyon's *Enterprise of Florida* (both cited in the book) have enough accurate information that the author should have been able to sort this out. Second, the Dominique de Gourges revenge (1568) is told from the French point of view, ignoring the Spanish accounts that show a rather different interplay of events. And finally, the armada of 1574 is once again, incorrectly, called the "Invincible" and portrayed as somehow directed toward England, even though its true destination— the Low Countries— is noted earlier in the text.

In sum, this account of sixteenth-century Spanish Florida makes only a slight contribution to what is well known and, unhappily, repeats many errors that appear to have crept into Spanish writings on the topic.

*Louisiana State University*

Paul E. Hoffman

*Pirates and Privateers of the Caribbean.* By Jenifer Marx. (Malabar, FL: Krieger Publishing Company, 1992. x, 310 pp. Preface, introduction, select bibliography, index. \$32.50.)

The colorful history of Caribbean piracy has long attracted the attention of authors and historians. The author of this volume is a Florida-based writer who, along with her husband Robert Marx, has earned a well-deserved reputation for expertise in underwater archaeology, treasure salvage, and circum-Caribbean studies. This volume presents a chronological survey of maritime piracy in the Caribbean. It begins with an overview of piracy in the Old World, relates how these traditions transferred to the western hemisphere, and thereafter concentrates on events in the Caribbean to the present day. Florida, of course, plays an important role in the discussion, although the focus rests on the broader region. The book chronicles the activities of the French interlopers who incurred the wrath of Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, examines the events of the Sea-Dog era, and recounts the saga of the buccaneers. Later chapters dealing with the golden age of piracy and the era of the privateer bring the story to the modern period, which is discussed in the final chapter.

Based on research conducted in various European and American libraries and archives, this book grew out of the author's personal interest in the history of piracy and privateering. As such, the volume is a well-written, episodic study of Caribbean piracy and privateering which surveys the romance and legends of the institution while providing good historical context. Oriented towards a non-scholarly audience, it is not heavily footnoted, lacks an extensive bibliography beyond that of piracy sources, and maintains a steady emphasis on providing vivid anecdotes to spice the narrative. Such observations by this reviewer, however, do not imply that the volume falls short as a useful work of popular history, for this is most certainly not the case. The author admirably succeeds in meeting her purpose. She has written a solid historical synthesis for the general reader which is accurate, informative, comprehensive, and just plain fun to read.

*Austin College*

Light Townsend Cummins

*The Business of May Next: James Madison and the Founding.* By William Lee Miller. (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1992. xxi, 296 pp. Note to reader, introduction, acknowledgments, notes, sources, index. \$24.95.)

“This book grew out of a larger project that had as its subject, and working subtitle, ‘the moral foundations of the American Republic.’” The author goes on to explain that the whole project comprises four parts of which this volume is one. As the subtitle indicates, *The Business of May Next* centers around the thought and activities of James Madison, one of the most effective members of the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and thereafter in the first Congress, which completed the Constitution with a bill of rights. In the sweeping prose of Samuel Eliot Morison, “The creation of this federal system is undoubtedly the greatest original contribution of the United States to the art and science of government.” Understandably, then, this process has been popular. This volume is the latest.

The author finds that “good fortune offered this nation an unusual chance at ideal nation-forming” and that honorable leaders seizing upon that opportunity drew on centuries of historical experience and rethinking, especially the strand best characterized by the short name republicanism. He further asserts that the Founding Fathers did not so much invent the received republican ideals as give them new and lasting institutional expression. In a series of eighteen chapters Miller develops this general theme under such catchy titles as “A Child of the Revolution Reads Some Books” (Madison’s specific preparation for “The Business of May Next”), “The Inadvertent Origins of the American Presidency,” and “Rocking Cradles in Virginia” (an intriguing account of the Virginia ratifying convention, where, among others, he quotes Pete Rose.)

Scholars accustomed to traditional literature on this period, from the brilliant to the dull, will find the writing informal to say the least. This volume, directed at the general reader, more nearly resembles a series of popular lectures— a difficult genre— quoting as it does W. C. Fields and alluding to contemporary situations in expressions current today. This is not to say that the presentation— both substantively and stylistically— lacks thoroughness or sophistication, merely that it is easy to take as college students judge these matters. For a study as impres-

sionistic as this it is regrettable that the author did not convey among his many insights a clearer notion of how young, by present-day standards, members of the Constitutional Convention actually were (average age forty-two)—in today's terms, "baby boomers." On another count, most readers will agree that the delegates did not invent the tenets of republicanism, but some may feel that their invention of dual sovereignty, the foundation of the federal system, could have been more explicitly stated. Of course, members of the convention, steeped in the lore of parliamentary bodies from their reading and schooled in representative government from their personal experience in colonial and later state legislatures, brought a wealth of ideas to the debates at Philadelphia. From these they crafted the final document—something old, something new.

Professor Miller has provided for general consumption an attractive, most-recent study of the constitutional period of American history, chatty, readable, and accurate. In the time-worn phrase of reviewers, this is a welcome contribution.

*University of Georgia*

AUBREY C. LAND, EMERITUS

*Letters of Delegates to Congress, 1774-1789: Volume 19, August 1, 1782-March 11, 1783.* Edited by Paul H. Smith, Gerald W. Gawalt, and Ronald M. Gephart. (Washington: Library of Congress, 1992. xxx, 827 pp. Editorial method and apparatus, acknowledgments, chronology of Congress, list of delegates to Congress, illustrations, index, advisory committee. \$35.00.)

Among the most valuable documents in *Letters to Delegates* are Charles Thomson's notes on the debates, most of them reprinted from the *Collections* of the New-York Historical Society in 1879 from manuscripts no longer in existence. The editors refer readers to other eyewitness accounts in the *Papers of James Madison* and other documents in this volume that enhance Thomson's version of congressional debate.

Thomson's notes on the congressional deliberation of August 8, 1782, and John Witherspoon's previously unpublished letter to an unknown correspondent, written sometime that month, are good examples of how instructive these sources can

be. Thomson's notes report that Congress discussed rescinding its instructions to its peace commissioners, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay, that gave France a veto over territorial provisions in any peace settlement with Great Britain. Unbeknownst to the delegates, as Richard B. Morris revealed in *The Peacemakers*, the American negotiators had long since concluded that France could not be trusted and had decided to ignore the instructions— a circumstance that adds delicious irony to the painful discussion in Congress in 1782. "The case is delicate," John Rutledge explained; he "resolved to adhere strictly to the principles of the alliance with France and to shew her all the respect and confidence which one nation should shew to another." But he nonetheless advocated appointing a committee to reconsider whether a tilt to France was sound foreign policy. Hugh Williamson "did not think them [the instructions] were of so dangerous a nature" as Rutledge, and before him, Jesse Root and Arthur Lee seemed to feel. Respecting French wishes over "boundaries" and "other matters" did not amount to capitulation to France. "Boundaries [are] everything," Rutledge exploded. "What are the states? They must have boundaries. Is France to say what those boundaries shall be and must we submit?"

In a few minutes Lee, Root, Rutledge, and Williamson exposed some of the deepest dilemmas facing the new nation as it entered peace negotiations nearly a year after Yorktown and more than a year before the signing of a treaty. Had the French alliance been a partnership between sovereign states or a military alliance between a great power and its weak client? Were the geopolitical interests that drew France into the Revolutionary War compatible with American sovereignty? Did congressional acquiescence to the lobbying of the French envoy, La Luzerne, in the original instructions to Adams, Jay, and Franklin amount to a binding commitment by the United States, or was it necessary window dressing covering Americans' right to protect their own interests?

James Madison and John Witherspoon undertook to resolve the dilemma. Critical of the republican tendency toward jealous suspicion of concentrated power, Madison wanted the the nation to exhibit enough urbanity and realism to maintain the French alliance and to rely upon the normal means of consultation with an ally to protect national interest. Witherspoon sup-

ported Madison, and later in August 1782 he pointed to Admiral George Rodney's victory over the French fleet in the West Indies as evidence that Britain remained a military threat to American independence and that the military alliance with France remained vital to national security. Witherspoon also responded to the first indication that John Adams had ignored Congress's instructions to defer to French policy by attributing Adams's actions to "an excess of well meant zeal" that "ought not to have been done." In Madison's and Witherspoon's convoluted defense of congressional foreign policy, we see the beginnings of a new version of republicanism that eschewed jealous suspicion of power and advocated the wise use of power in the national interest.

*University of North Carolina  
at Greensboro*

ROBERT M. CALHOON

*Africans in Colonial Louisiana: The Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century.* By Gwendolyn Midlo Hall. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1992. xx, 434 pp. Preface, abbreviations and short titles, photographs, maps, figures, tables, conclusion, appendices, note on sources, index. \$29.95.)

Gwendolyn Midlo Hall's book is an interpretive study of slavery in the French and Spanish periods of Louisiana. It covers the colony's difficult beginnings in the eighteenth century, examines the African Senegambian roots of most of the slaves who came in the French era, looks at the African cultural contributions (she claims that French Louisiana survived because of African labor and technology), and states that blacks played a key role in the Natchez Indian uprising of 1729. French Louisiana society was brutal and contemptuous of the poor; both blacks and whites were treated miserably. Nearly all the slaves in this era came between 1719 and 1731, after which a labor shortage developed, and blacks were preserved. The Code Noir, consequently, was frequently not enforced, particularly for fugitives. The slave family was kept intact, however, at least until the children reached fourteen.

Under the French, marronage became a problem, emancipations were more numerous than previously believed, and censuses were not reliable as to a person's racial makeup since many mixed bloods passed into white ranks. Hall is at her best in examining slave inventories, noting conditions under which slaves were freed and their relations with one another. She does this at Pointe Coupee, the only location she studied extensively.

In the Spanish period Hall is less general, as Pointe Coupee and marronage of the 1780s claim her attention. Slaves again entered in substantial numbers (mainly from Jamaica, as Belize commandant reports attest) when "re-Africanization" occurred. While Creole slaves made up the preponderance of the fugitives, Africans preferred rebellion, following the examples of France and Haiti.

Hall shows that the study of slavery in colonial Louisiana has been neglected and that records exist despite some thievery and destruction. Her study excels when she analyzes plantation and judicial slave lists.

But when she departs from these matters, she often enters murky waters that reveal a limited understanding of Spanish Louisiana. For example, her "cogent reasons" that Francisco Bouligny invented the confession of the fugitive leader St. Malo fail to convince this reviewer. Bouligny had no reason for lying, his relations with Governor Esteban Miró were excellent, it was Miró's error that led to magistrate Francisco Maria de Reggio trying St. Malo and his cohorts, and Miró subsequently approved everything, including Bouligny's petition for promotion. Moreover, Spanish law permitted summary executions for serious crimes. Cirilo de Barcelona's complaint against Reggio resulted from violation of the church fuero and not from sympathy for the apprehended fugitives.

Other assertions are also unconvincing, such as those referring to Maroon control of lower Louisiana. That runaways caused problems is certain, and slaveholders frequently tolerated petit marronage over paying the expenses for apprehending and punishing them. Fugitive communities were tenuous, expeditions against them succeeded, most runaways returned to their masters voluntarily, and most were unarmed. Hall's statement that Indians made up the principal military force in Louisiana is patently false. Her contention that the 1795 Pointe

Coupee conspiracy was supported by lower-class whites and soldiers lacks proof. Besides, the soldiers were overwhelmingly Spaniards who would not have sided with the enemy. Finally, the conspiracy was not a turning point in favor of slave repression that French planters wanted. Governor Carondelet's police ordinance of June 1, 1795, and several other decrees he and his successor Manuel Gayoso issued make this clear. Nicolás María Vidal restated it to the Cabildo in 1800, and that remained Spanish policy to the end.

Nevertheless, these and other disagreements with Hall should not detract from the need for new studies on blacks in colonial Louisiana. She has rendered an important service by producing this work, and scholars who explore this field can build on her positive contributions.

*Albuquerque, New Mexico*

GILBERT C. DIN

*The Papers of Andrew Jackson, Volume III, 1814-1815.* Edited by Harold D. Moser, David R. Hoth, Sharon Macpherson, John H. Reinbold. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1991. xxix, 599 pp. Introduction, acknowledgments, editorial policies, chronology, annotations, illustrations, appendix, calendar, index. \$49.50.)

This third in a projected sixteen-volume collection of the papers of Andrew Jackson continues to testify to the high editorial standards and the tenacity of the editors' search to make accessible the literary remains of our seventh president. These letterpress volumes are a selective collection of papers which are to be supplemented by a microfilm publication of materials not found in any previous publication. The letterpress volumes also carry a calendar of the documents not selected for inclusion.

This volume documents two of the busiest and most important years in Jackson's life before his presidency. The materials are largely military in nature. In 1814 as a militia general he was a regional figure. The events of 1814 and 1815, which included crushing the Creek Indians, being commissioned a United States Army major general, repulsing a British attack near Mobile, seizing Spanish Pensacola, and turning back the British attack on New Orleans, made him a national hero and potential pres-

idential material. On a personal level the letters reflect his love for wife Rachel and his anxious concerns that the management of his farm, slaves, and business affairs fell upon her and their friends. Controversy swirled about "the Hero" in these years in no small part because of his discipline of wayward militia units, his invasion of Florida, and his decision to keep New Orleans under martial law until the peace treaty with Britain had been ratified.

Students and buffs of Florida history will find a score or more of items related to the events in Pensacola in November 1814. Informed that Spanish Governor Mateo Gonzales Manrique was harboring hostile Indians and British forces, Jackson advanced on the city demanding possession of its fortifications, threatening that if it were not done, "let the blood of your subjects be upon your own head." Before signing himself "your Excellency's most obedient Servt," Jackson had concluded, "I give you one hour for deliberation" (p. 180). The next day Manrique replied that his duty prevented him from complying and signed with the flourish, "God keep Your Excellency many years" (p. 181). Two hours later Jackson moved on Pensacola which was surrendered after a few skirmishes. Jackson's force had included regular army units, militia, and Choctaw Indians—all of whom were remarkably well behaved while they were in Pensacola. Jackson bragged that they had very favorably impressed the inhabitants of the city who had commented that "our Choctaws are more civilized than the British" (p. 186).

The community of historians continues to be indebted to the University of Tennessee Press and its numerous supporting organizations and individuals for this ongoing work which is bringing together this newest collection of Andrew Jackson material.

*University of Florida*

HERBERT J. DOHERTY

*Secession Debated: Georgia's Showdown in 1860.* Edited by William W. Freehling and Craig M. Simpson. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. xxiv, 165 pp. Introduction, editorial procedure, selected bibliography. \$29.95, cloth; \$10.95, paper.)

*Secession Debated* contains the transcribed texts of a series of speeches delivered at the Georgia statehouse in Milledgeville

between November 12 and November 19, 1860, as well as an open letter issued by former governor Herschel V. Johnson on November 16 and a letter released by the incumbent governor, Joseph E. Brown, on December 7, 1860. These public presentations gave voice to the two main policy positions most of the state's voters endorsed during the United States political crisis of 1860-1861.

Editors William W. Freehling and Craig M. Simpson explain that their purpose is to make available "the first collected edition" of texts that document "a great American verbal showdown." Briefly identifying the "critical northern antebellum debate" as the forensic jousting between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas during their 1858 campaign for the U.S. Senate in Illinois, the editors argue that the five speeches and two letters crafted in Georgia two years later constituted the "parallel southern confrontation."

No comparable scale or circumstance of debate occurred in Florida or in the other Deep South states, although elected officials and citizens alike wrangled over the same questions. Hence, with substantive justification, the Georgia debate can be singled out as an exceptional public event within the Lower South.

Freehling and Simpson have attempted to minimize their editorial intrusions into the collection. The supporting apparatus consists of footnotes that explain obscure references made by the orators and a short introduction that outlines the historical context of the Milledgeville debate.

This debate emerged at least partly out of a response to the inconclusive results of the Georgia vote in the presidential election of 1860. No candidate received a majority percentage in the race— including the presumably prosecessionist John C. Breckinridge. Neither the state legislature nor the governor displayed a willingness to take radical action in the face of a seemingly divided electorate. But fearful that Republican Abraham Lincoln's election as president presaged federal attacks against the slave system, the legislators hit upon the idea of soliciting opinions from prominent Georgians as a way of figuring out how to proceed.

Yet, the most striking aspect of these documents is the unanimous contention that a state may rightfully secede from the Union. This consensus on a key political and constitutional issue handed a strategic victory to those Georgians who pushed for

their state to declare independence immediately. Because all participants agreed that secession could be invoked by a state to protect its interests— however defilled— over the course of the next two months extremists successfully framed a campaign around the necessity and desirability of independence. In practical terms, the Milledgeville debate continued on, gradually becoming an argument over when, not whether, Georgia should leave the Union.

For this reason, the editors' description of the debaters as "secessionists against Unionists" seems a bit wide of the mark. But aside from this slip Freehling and Simpson have performed their chosen task with good labor and sensible restraint. Their collected edition should be included in every library of U.S. history.

*Gainesville, Florida*

GEORGE B. CRAWFORD

*Richard Taylor, Soldier Prince of Dixie.* By T. Michael Parrish. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992. xiv, 553 pp. Acknowledgments, prologue, maps, illustrations, photographs, epilogue, bibliography, index. \$34.95.)

Richard Taylor was the only— and somewhat distant— son of President Zachary Taylor who rose, without prior military experience, to become a lieutenant general of the Confederate States Army. Previous to the Civil War Taylor thrived as an aristocratic Louisiana sugar planter whose world was fueled by inheritance, family connections, and borrowed money. Afterward, he struggled to preserve his lifestyle through various financial schemes and as "the most influential southern lobbyist in Congress" (p. 486).

Properly speaking, this book is a military biography. Taylor lived to age fifty-three, but four Civil War years consume almost two-thirds of the text. As such, the work succeeds well. T. Michael Parrish traces Taylor's career from his 1861 Shenandoah Valley campaigns under Stonewall Jackson and Richard S. Ewell, through fighting on the Peninsula and the Seven Days battles, to the defeat of Union General Nathaniel P. Banks's Red River expedition in Louisiana and Taylor's later command of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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The general's major successes at Winchester, Port Royal, and Mansfield naturally are highlighted.

The war chapters display Parrish's admirable research skills and a fine narrative style. Although he clearly favors his subject, he also notes the darker side of Taylor's wartime career. He discusses, for example, Jefferson Davis's favoritism on behalf of his former brother-in-law, as well as the general's penchant for the execution of his own men (the first military executions by the Confederate army were ordered by Taylor). More importantly, Parrish details the general's problems— and their troublesome consequences— in getting along with some of his fellow officers, particularly Florida's Edmund Kirby Smith who was Taylor's superior as head of the Trans-Mississippi Department. Of Taylor, St. John R. Liddell wrote, "I found Taylor very self-important and self-opinionated in his general expression of men and things" (p. 389). Parrish concedes that, on at least one occasion, Taylor was "utterly unprofessional and insubordinate" (p. 403).

Although the general's Civil War career is presented in a well-rounded fashion, key aspects of Taylor's life in the pre- and post-Civil War eras are not so thoroughly examined. Parrish argues, for example, that "the Taylor 'servants' unquestionably experienced the most benign sort of life slavery could offer" (p. 32), an assertion that defies the realities of Mississippi Delta sugar plantation life. Similarly, he shies away from a critical assessment of how this Unionist son of a Unionist southern president could so easily condone secession, allowing basically that "in order to maintain at least a semblance of authority and purpose, [Taylor] found himself compelled to compromise his high principles" (pp. 112-13).

While the author neglects important elements of Taylor's pre-war life, his interest wanes in the fourteen post-war years, to which he devotes only fifty-five pages. While insisting that Taylor "viewed the organized terror of the Ku Klux Klan as a fiction" (p. 465), he accepts that the general just "happened" to be "in the vicinity" (p. 464) when the New Orleans riots erupted in 1866. Parrish also easily casts the mantle of corruption upon Republicans but disdains to look too far into the canal-leasing, bond-selling, and lobbying schemes upon which Taylor's livelihood depended.

As a military biography, *Richard Taylor, Soldier Prince of Dixie* is a fine book that sheds new light upon the career and achievements of a major Civil War figure. It is a beautifully published, well-illustrated work and an enjoyable read.

*Florida State University*

CANTER BROWN, JR.

*Jefferson Davis and His Generals: The Failure of Confederate Command in the West.* By Steven E. Woodworth. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1990. xv, 380 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliographic essay, index. \$19.95.)

Historians and “buffs” of the Civil War have devoted a tremendous amount of time scrutinizing and assessing the performance of President Jefferson Davis of the Confederate States of America. They have examined his appointments, diagnosed his abilities and frailties, as well as compared his impressive record— both in military and public service— to that of Abraham Lincoln. At the same time a litany of questions has continued ad infinitum. Now comes one more investigation by Steven E. Woodworth, a Rice University Ph. D. who teaches at Toccoa Falls College in Georgia.

Woodworth has produced an account that is straightforward and easy to follow, focusing specifically on the western theater of battle. Jefferson Davis, despite his wish to avoid the presidency, seemingly had no choice but to accept this onerous command thrust upon him by his fellow countrymen. He then had to organize and direct a new government as well as prepare the Confederacy for war. To defend the west he selected former friends and military colleagues, some of whom proved to be, at best, mistakes. His most significant appointment was that of Albert Sidney Johnston, who— if not mortally wounded at Shiloh— could have helped rewrite Confederate campaigns. But after Johnston’s death Davis allowed “an inordinate loyalty” to friends and a frailty of “always being right” (pp. 314-15) dominate his decisions; hence, he eventually relegated the western theater of war to the dismal leadership of Generals John B. Pemberton, Joseph E. Johnston, and John Bell Hood.

gratified by the reproduction of relevant materials, most especially many letters from Braxton Bragg, another presidential favorite, then stationed at Pensacola.

Even though the private Davis seldom emerges in these pages, particularly in comparison with earlier volumes, hints frequently arise that he was in very poor health, a factor that would later contribute to his irascibility and growing unpopularity in Richmond and elsewhere. Yet, on the whole, the letters place Davis in a favorable light—hard working, often wise in judgment, and diplomatic, though with understandable lapses, particularly regarding Beauregard and Johnston. For all the complexities of his duties, he seemed in command and did not show the obsessive pettiness and self-absorption that would later become all too characteristic of this complicated, even neurotic politician.

High compliments, which the series editors are by now accustomed to receive, are in order for the notations, always helpful and comprehensive, and the scrupulous accuracy of the transcriptions. The texts of future volumes of the war years, however, will doubtlessly be more intriguing, revealing, and tragic as the yawning horror of defeat and dissolution, for which Davis himself bore much responsibility, drew nearer.

*University of Florida*

BERTRAM WYATT-BROWN

*Sherman: Merchant of Terror, Advocate of Peace.* By Charles Edmund Vetter. (Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Company, 1992. 347 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, introduction, photographs, epilogue, notes, bibliography, index. \$25.00.)

A professor of sociology and military history at Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, Charles Edmund Vetter applies his disciplines to assess William Tecumseh Sherman from his West Point days beginning in 1836 to the conclusion of the Civil War in April 1865. Vetter writes with a quintuple purpose: to explore Sherman's complexities and diversities, to explain the development of his philosophy of war and his relationship with General Ulysses S. Grant, to show the sociological impact of his military decisions, and finally to determine his place in American and general military history.

The metamorphosis of Sherman's "persona" and philosophy of war was simultaneous. Sherman preferred the military; his foster family, the Thomas Ewings, wanted him in civilian life. He wrestled between pleasing his independent self— the "I," or the "me"— molded by the "significant others"— the Ewings. Although satisfied with his experiences in the Second Seminole War, his later achievements in the Mexican War and in banking and law had been minimal. Almost forty when he accepted the superintendency of the Louisiana Seminary of Learning and Military Academy in the fall of 1859, he had pleased neither the "I" nor the "me."

The Civil War allowed Sherman to become independent and also to finalize and employ his war stratagem. The battles of First Bull Run and Shiloh demonstrated the necessity of a proper chain of command and an organized, mobile, flexible, and deceptive army. After Shiloh, Sherman, knowing "who and what he was," took control of himself and his profession. Later, as administrator of Memphis, he decided that to win the war the quickest the South's will had to be broken by inflicting total war on military and civilian populations alike. By late 1862 his "I" had become more confident and self-assured and his total war strategy more developed. Finally, with successes at Vicksburg, Jackson, and other Mississippi areas, his "cemented" relationship with Grant, and his promotion to brigadier general of the regular army, Sherman emerged secure, independent, and with an established war philosophy.

In late 1864 Grant and Sherman instituted objectives to end the war. Grant's army became the "massive body" that struck at General Robert E. Lee in Virginia, while Sherman's forces— the "body's arms"— swept through the South's interior raiding and playing hide-and-seek with Confederate soldiers while advancing to take General Joseph Johnston. The destruction and devastation of Sherman's troops instilled collective psychological and sociological trauma that promoted attrition and helped destroy the Confederates' lifeline. After Atlanta Sherman became an "instant hero" who no longer required people's praise nor needed to please "significant others." He had successfully tested, legitimized, and introduced to the world his modern, total war philosophy.

A merchant of terror, because his army made more war on the enemies' resources than on their armies and instilled fear

among combatants and noncombatants alike, Sherman was also an advocate of peace who wanted to end the war quickly and restore law, order, and respect for the Constitution. Vetter concludes that Sherman, a paradox whose symbiotic relationship with Grant allowed for the evolution and application of his “total war” philosophy, helped break the “will of the South” and, with Grant, earned international respect as a master military strategist.

Easily read, well organized, and convincing, this book includes many secondary sources and a limited index. Military historians will contemplate just how much war philosophy Sherman had conceived from the Second Seminole War. Southerners will be enlightened as they read and reread that Sherman did not hate the South. Two other recent books, *The Destructive War: William Tecumseh Sherman, Stonewall Jackson, and the Americans* (1991) by Charles Royster and *Sherman: A Soldier's Passion for Order* (1993) by John F. Marszalek, provide additional information on Sherman—the man and the soldier.

*Hamilton, MS*

JANE F. LANCASTER

*Lord of Attention: Gerald Stanley Lee and the Crowd Metaphor in Industrializing America.* By Gregory W. Bush. (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1991. xv, 224 pp. Acknowledgments, chronology, introduction, photographs, notes, index. \$27.50.)

Gerald Stanley Lee began his life in Brocton, Massachusetts, in 1862 as the first-born son of Congregationalist minister Samuel Lee and his wife Emma C. Carter Lee. In 1889 Lee started his ministry at the Congregational church of Princeton, Minnesota, after undergraduate work at Oberlin and Middlebury colleges and graduate work at Yale Divinity School.

Lee's real love, however, turned out to be crowd psychology, which led him into writing and advertising. Like other Americans of his generation Lee was fascinated with the impact of what Robert G. Albion has characterized as the “Communication Revolution” of the late nineteenth century—the fundamental changes in the transportation of commodities and transmission of information. Lee's contemporary, economist David A. Wells,

in 1889 said that such changes “have unquestionably been more important and varied than during any former corresponding period of the world’s history.”

To the impact of the communication revolution Lee added the Victorian Age’s fears of mob violence, and by the turn of the century he had turned his attention to a study of crowd psychology. In 1913 Lee published his award-winning *Crowds: A Moving Picture of Democracy*— a book which was highly regarded by business leaders such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller. At that time Lee was regarded as the apostle of advertising, and advertising for Lee was “attention engineering.” As expressed by Bush: “Lee was seeking to translate his self-professed knowledge of human nature and the techniques of the crowd persuasion into an attractive commodity to be bartered for national influence” (p. 145).

During the 1920s Lee’s career as a prophet of advertising was over, and he had moved into the area of motivational sessions. Notables such as Mrs. Thomas Edison, economist Irving Fisher, newspaper editor William Allen White, and writer Ray Stannard Baker were among his clients, but he was unable to find the fame he had acquired as the apostle of advertising. His last publication was *Recreating Oneself* (1931). Lee died at his retirement home in Northampton, Massachusetts, April 3, 1944.

Gerald Stanley Lee was an interesting and complex person. Gregory W. Bush’s study brings out both characteristics and gives the reader a good sense of the role of mass persuasion in American culture of the early twentieth century. Indeed, the work caused this reader to wonder if Lee had not become as much a victim of crowd psychology as those he had sought to influence.

*Florida State University*

EDWARD F. KEUCHEL

*Born in the Delta: Reflections on the Making of a Southern White Sensibility.* By Margaret Jones Bolsterli. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1991. xiv, 132 pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations. \$16.95.)

Margaret Jones Bolsterli believes that people in the Arkansas Delta, especially Desha County where she was born, had a differ-

ent culture from the rest of the country. She proves the point in an insightful book based on her coming of age in the 1930s. Currently a professor of English at the University of Arkansas, she exchanged local provincialism for a northern education and considerable travel abroad. Ultimately, she returned, and although not to the Delta, at least to Arkansas and has proved that one can almost go home again. Professor Bolsterli makes her case by urging the strong influence of geography (the Delta's vast flat stretches is the heart of her thesis). Her family's small cotton plantation (larger than a farm but no rival to other tracts) represented a civilization in a certain place and time. At the level of her own life she deals with themes that have dominated the writing of southern history in recent years: the caste system, racial prejudice that, among other things, produced a literature of conscience, the patriarchal family structure, the "southern belle" concept, and so on.

Making the book important is her original presentation of universal truths by an impressionistic recounting of how her upbringing molded her intellectually and philosophically. Barely didactic, she uses humor and a soft-edged brand of common sense to make her points. The book contains ten topical chapters: The Delta, The Household, Talk, Violence, White and Black, Friends and Neighbors, Moderate Brimstone, Books and Learning, The Table, and The Afterglow of the Confederacy. Space restraints prevent a full discussion of her subjects.

The Household describes her family and kin and how they occupied themselves in a rural setting (her family read far more than their neighbors). She is particularly good in showing how nature—the woods, fields, and swamps and their animal and bird life—affected her family. This reviewer, a contemporary of Bolsterli and raised in Butler County, a red clay region south of Alabama's Black Belt, also believed that water moccasins would not bite under water. Obviously in love with words, she explains how to Southerners being "common" is the opposite of being "nice" and elaborates on the importance and connection of "raising" and "having background."

She observes that Yankees like to talk and question but that Southerners prefer to tell stories and consider disagreement as impoliteness. In analyzing violence the author implies, without spelling it out, that southern violence is closely connected to the concept of honor. Her descriptions of black women in white

kitchens and racial relationships are convincing. Her apt descriptions of apparel left this reviewer wondering if people in the Delta ever wore overalls. That Southerners were extremely close as family units and had real affection for their neighbors is amplified by the shrewd statement that they also maintained a curious, even stilted, formality with each other.

Professor Bolsterli believes that religion kept her family from being happy. Brought up as a Methodist (but privately skeptical), she sees the universal church-going tendencies of southern blacks and whites as having pernicious effects. Yet she describes southern religion in warm tones when noting individuals and recounting actual events that took place in church. She is entitled to regard such beloved Protestant hymns as "I Come to the Garden Alone" and "The Old Rugged Cross" as part of "an ordinary run of bathos" and "Just As I Am, Without One Plea" as a tearjerker (p. 93). Yet to state that the several "brands of southern religion has served well the intentions of our forefathers to prune *us* as brutally as the forests they cleared for farms!" (p. 96) places her outside the mainstream of southern thought, let alone *any* stream ever used for a rural baptism.

The treatment of teachers, courses, school life, parties, plays, and dances is rendered with engaging truthfulness. Her love for books and learning comes through, and to prove that English professors are human Bolsterli even splits an infinitive on page 98 (probably deliberately). As contemporary undergraduates put it, the author "gets it right" on southern food and eating habits. From her description of hog-killings to her understanding that traditional southern foods have a leveling effect that transcends race, sex, age, and wealth, the writer displays her skill. This reviewer noted the absence of grits in the diet of Delta folks, and, as another difference between Arkansas and his home state, he never experienced any reluctance by white Alabamians to give full credit to the cooking abilities of blacks.

*Born in the Delta* is honestly and sensitively rendered. The book will have a wide appeal, one that includes but extends beyond the South. Its integrity is apparent on every page.

*Florida State University*

WILLIAM WARREN ROGERS

*New Black Voices: The Growth and Contributions of Sallye Mathis and Mary Singleton in Florida Government.* By Barbara Hunter Walch. Jacksonville: Barbara H. Walch, 1990. xiii, 272 pp. Foreword, introduction, photographs, notes, bibliography, index. \$19.97.)

Barbara Walch writes in the introduction to her book that “the detailed stories of vibrant black communities such as in Jacksonville— and black women in particular— are a rich part of our American heritage, but are too seldom told.” Her study helps remedy that oversight, describing not only the lives of Sallye Mathis and Mary Singleton, the first black women elected to public office in Jacksonville, but also the Afro-American political and civil rights activities in the city.

In the years that Singleton and Mathis were active in politics, Jacksonville, like many southern cities, was experiencing dramatic social and political changes. Public facilities were desegregated, school integration initiated, jobs in city government opened to blacks, and city and county governments consolidated. The description of black involvement in these changes is an important element of this book.

Walch places her study in historical context in the first chapter, sketching out the history of blacks in Jacksonville from 1860 to the 1940s. She describes the wide variety of organizations and activities developed by the Afro-American community to meet their needs and emphasizes the vitality and strength of black leaders. The second and third chapters are devoted in part to biographies of Mary Singleton and Sallye Mathis and in part to the turbulent political events of the 1950s and 1960s with which their lives were inextricably interwoven. Chapters 4 and 5, covering the years 1967 to 1972, focus on the election of each of the women to the city council, the battle for consolidation of city and county governments, and their first term of office in the reformed government. The final chapter examines Mathis’s subsequent years on the council and Singleton’s career first as a state representative, then as director of elections, and finally as a candidate for lieutenant governor.

Singleton and Mathis, both college educated and middle class, differed in the routes taken to political office and in their priorities and subsequent political careers. Mathis was the outsider, eschewing support of the traditional black ticket in getting

elected and often seen as a “loner” on the council, speaking out for the poor, the elderly, and for blacks. Singleton, widow of a prominent black politician, interacted more easily with other council members and politicians and was less focused on purely black issues. Yet, both women shared a sensitivity for the concerns of the needy and served as role models.

The study, which was the author’s master’s thesis, is carefully researched. Major sources used include over 100 oral interviews with local political and community leaders, newspaper accounts, and secondary materials. Extensive use is made of quotations both to describe and interpret events.

The contribution of this study rests in the detailed information provided about the activities of blacks and particularly black women in a critical time in Jacksonville’s history. The book’s significance is limited, however, by the absence of much analysis or critical perspective and by the failure to integrate into the study research that would have placed the Jacksonville case in a broader context.

*[This book may be ordered from the author, 4533 Roosevelt Blvd. #107, Jacksonville, FL 32210.]*

*Jacksonville University*

JOAN S. CARVER

*W. J. Cash and the Minds of the South.* Edited by Paul D. Escott. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1992. xi, 267 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, afterword, contributors, index. \$29.95.)

Wilbur J. Cash’s 1941 *The Mind of the South* is a classic of its genre— a sweeping commentary, vividly written and full of provocative concepts. A half-century in print, it has generated sales of 210,000 in paperback alone. Indeed, C. Vann Woodward, the grand old man of historians of the region (and a prominent Cash critic), once noted that “no other book on Southern history rivals Cash’s in influence among laymen and few among professional historians.”

“Why has the influence of this book been so profound?” asks the editor of this present volume, Wake Forest University’s Reynolds Professor of History Paul D. Escott. To wrestle with

this question he organized a 1991 fiftieth-anniversary symposium at the university, Wilbur Cash's alma mater. This collection contains eleven papers, all but one of them presented at the conference.

Arranged in three parts, these essays comprise an exploration of Cash's background, an assessment of the validity of his ideas, and a retrospective of southern studies in subsequent years. The writers provide an illuminating analysis of uniformly high quality.

Driven and enigmatic, Wilbur Cash was a troubled man who hanged himself in a Mexico City hotel room at the age of forty-one, a few months after his monumental work was published. He had a love-hate relationship with the South and a flair for generalizing with striking images: "the proto-Dorian bond" (racial solidarity of lower-class whites with their upper-class leaders, thereby presumably elevating themselves like "the Doric knight of ancient Sparta"); "gyneolatry" (the cult of idealization of southern white womanhood); and "the savage ideal" (inclinations towards intolerance, xenophobia, and violence).

A number of writers cite Cash's peroration on the South— at its best: "proud, brave, honorable by its lights, courteous, personally generous, loyal, swift to act"; but darkened by vices: "violence, intolerance, aversion and suspicion toward new ideas," as well as "attachment to fictions and false values, above all too great attachment to racial values and a tendency to justify cruelty and injustice.

Commending Cash for his insights, his biographer Bruce Clayton examines his intellectual roots and takes particular note of the sense in which Southerners, both white and black, have been "trapped in their history." Nell Irvin Painter brings the most vigorous criticism to the subject. Despite Cash's image as what passed for a white liberal in those years, she finds his work narrow, confused, "thoroughly racist," and "deeply sexist."

In subsequent essays Raymond Gavins details the Jim Crow environment of Cash's native North Carolina and his inability to "penetrate the veil" of the black experience, while Elizabeth Jacoway laments his misunderstanding of southern women. Bertram Wyatt-Brown explores the impact of his depression and madness, and Richard King touches on his obsession with the rising menace of European totalitarianism. David Hackett

Fischer compares Cash's opus with the much more optimistic *Who Speaks for the South?* (1964) by James McBride Dabbs.

Gavin Wright takes an economic approach to Cash's work, Merle Black a political focus, and C. Eric Lincoln applies his own life to the southern black experience since Cash. Jack Temple Kirby examines southern studies since 1941 and finds that *The Mind of the South* coincidentally appeared at a turning point equal in significance to 1865, in light of the broad changes stimulated by World War II.

As Escott's title implies, the South is hardly as simplistically homogeneous as Wilbur Cash suggested. Yet the remarkable attendance at the symposium's sessions (averaging 600-800) testifies to the magnetism of the issue and the continuing influence of the book. This collection of essays offers thorough and thoughtful perspective in readable and absorbing style.

*Saint Leo College*

JAMES J. HORGAN

*Big Top Boss: John Ringling North and the Circus.* By David Lewis Hammarstrom. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1992. xviii, 341 pp. Ballyhoo and thanks, illustrations, interviews, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

John Ringling North, producer of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus from 1938 to 1968, transformed the Greatest Show on Earth. Under his direction big top antics became stylish and sophisticated, rivalling the best Broadway spectacles. Eventually, his innovations and his decision to move the circus indoors earned him the wrath of circus traditionalists, and his name was removed from circus propaganda. Biographer David Lewis Hammarstrom attempts to restore North to his proper place in entertainment history, arguing that no man loved the circus more than the one blamed for killing it.

The son of the only Ringling sister, John Ringling North was from childhood fascinated by the world of his showmen uncles. As other heirs lost interest, North was groomed to carry on the family tradition. He took command in 1938, guiding the circus through many near disasters, including administrative changes, labor strikes, a tragic fire, and hostile legal action from dissatis-

fied Ringling stockholders. With a keen eye for exotic talent, North made many trips to Europe, recruiting the best foreign stars. As he realized that Americans were demanding more for their entertainment dollar, he improved the quality of circus production numbers and experimented with better seating, lighting, and air conditioning. His many achievements were celebrated in the Cecil B. DeMille classic *The Greatest Show on Earth*, in which North had a cameo.

Despite North's best efforts, and the addition of dozens of aerialists and elephants, America's taste in amusement was changing. By the 1950s the circus seemed old and outdated. Rising expenses, labor union sabotage, and administrative troubles forced North to close the show in the middle of the 1956 season, folding the tent forever. The next year the circus returned, but only to civic auditoriums and stadiums. Ironically, profits soared, and North produced some of his best shows. Retirement beckoned, and he sold the circus to a corporation of promoters outside of the Ringling clan. The new owners soon branded North a traitor to big top traditions. His name had been forgotten when he died in 1985.

Hammarstrom goes to great lengths to restore North's tarnished reputation, often straining the reader's patience in the process. No detail is spared, from the exact order of an opening spectacular to the legal maneuvering of a boardroom battle. Each circus season is faithfully recreated, including its acts, music, itinerary, and administration. Unfortunately, these details only serve to baffle the reader who may not be familiar with circus lingo or the routines of star clowns from the 1940s. Some basic descriptions of daily life are needed, and a few are provided, but they are as brief and tantalizing as a quick peek under the circus tent. Instead, the book is filled with weary details, including analyses of North's musical compositions, year by year.

Hammarstrom's prose is overblown, filled with bad cliches. He attempts to recreate scenes and dialogue, which does nothing to improve the twenty-seven chapters. One suspects that Hammarstrom has spent too much time reading *Variety*, *The Billboard*, and the Ringling press kits, from which he quotes frequently. Perhaps most disappointing for students of Florida history, Hammarstrom fails to explore adequately North's Florida connections and the long tradition of winter quarters in Sarasota.

Hammarstrom does, however, deserve credit for his efforts to humanize the man behind the circus ballyhoo. He interviews most of the people who surrounded North, including friends, family members, circus performers, lovers, and enemies. Hammarstrom portrays North as a man who lived within a fantasy world, coasting through a playboy existence of nightclubs, European junkets, and beautiful women. The one thing that gave purpose to his life was the circus, and he was forever thinking of ways to keep the Greatest Show on Earth alive, even when America seemed ready to abandon it. Hammarstrom makes it clear that North's passion preserved the institution for modern boys and girls of all ages. North's reputation may be resurrected by this biography, which is as brash, showy, and gaudy as North's world.

*Wofford College*

TRACY JEAN REVELS

*A Prophet With Honor: The Billy Graham Story.* By William Martin. (New York: William Morrow and Company, 1991. 735 pp. Foreword and acknowledgments, photographs, notes, index. \$25.00.)

William Franklin Graham is in a class by himself. With respect to success, that is all you can conclude, by measuring the numbers of people who have heard him, and by the record of his personal and professional integrity. William Martin's play on words spoken about Jesus for his title is apt: Billy Graham is a prophet with honor.

That is the more remarkable for his life and career being so public. Let us be clear that in this religious case "public" refers beyond the ordinary meaning. It means that his being is a being-in-the-world. He appeals to no gnostic (exclusive, "closed-circuit") modes of knowing. He speaks with and listens to people, his own advisers of course and his fellow evangelical Christians, but also to leaders of world states and world religions. The absence of charismatic (quasi-gnostic) revelation from God and of "dominion theology" (with its contentions about America being more than special and Christian by the Creator's intention) sets him off from dangerous American evangelists.

It has not always been quite so. His views have enlarged and softened; his absolute convictions retain firm hold on him but without an absolutist spirit. Graham watchers over the length of his high-visibility career (since 1948) have observed movement from moralisms to international ethical concerns, from a judgment-minded style to compassion and friendly persuasion. Martin fills in details copiously and notches benchmarks along the complex route from Youth for Christ to world spokesman. He does so with the Martin style of humor and a strong identification with the subject.

Biographies accomplish different goals and inhabit diverse critical settings depending on the author, the subject, the times of those persons' lives, and the particular place the subject holds in history. Martin's biography of Graham prompts more talk about Graham than about Martin. This has to do mainly with the Graham story, one filled with surprises that compels a genuine engagement.

We need another word on the title: Graham has not always been "with honor." Also his being "a prophet" has passed through two major stages. In the former, the American public was slow to embrace the fiery young evangelist who seemed to speak to and for a quite small proportion of the populace. Then, "prophet" in his early career meant predictor of the future, or at least one who dwelt on eschatological themes; over the past fifteen or more years Graham has spoken "prophetically" against social conditions that diminish people and for causes that aim to preserve and enhance life for all on the planet.

Perhaps we may summarize Graham's growth in respect and enlargement in concerns by listing qualities that he does not exhibit (and that other evangelists do): he does not make a conspiratorial interpretation of history; he is not future-certain; he is not nationalistic; he is not a forthright sides-taker; he is not "dominion theology"-minded; nor "prosperity theology"-minded; he (and his) is not an empire; he does not entertain an epistemology that by being virtually gnostic fits him for leadership only of the like-minded.

Thoroughgoing naturalists will experience some discomfort in reading this report on the life of the twentieth century's most prominent evangelist. Accounting for him has reminded some of the "turtle on the fence" analogy: how did it get there? It is as alluring for many critics to see him as explicable solely on

natural grounds as it is convincing to those who fully share Graham's perspective to attribute his identity to divine sources.

A terrific biography of a major American figure.

*University of Florida*

SAMUEL S. HILL

*The Emergence of David Duke and the Politics of Race.* Edited by Douglas D. Rose. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992. xxvi, 269 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, tables, figures, illustrations, contributors, index. \$29.95, cloth; \$12.95, paper.)

Written by a diverse group of journalists, academics, and graduate students, this collection of eleven essays successfully captures the essence of David Duke. The essays cover Duke's background as a Klansman and exponent of Nazism, his 1989 election to the Louisiana House of Representatives, and his campaigns in 1990 and 1991 for United States senator and governor of Louisiana. The authors also explore the nature of Duke's appeal and the reasons for his success in mainstreaming extremism.

Although the essays focus on Duke's political activities during the two-year period 1989-1991, they contain little repetition, and they offer generally consistent conclusions about the nature of "the David Duke phenomenon" (p. xxii). First and foremost, several of the authors demolish the myth that Duke's ties to Nazism were simply some youthful indiscretion. As Lance Hill bluntly concludes: "He began his career as a self-proclaimed Nazi intellectual and continues to espouse Nazi race doctrine, albeit through a new language" (p. 108). Moreover, in the words of political scientist Douglas D. Rose, "David Duke is not just a phenomenon that happens in that weird state of Louisiana" (p. xii). His appeal is national, as evidenced by the report that almost half the contributors to his 1991 gubernatorial campaign lived outside Louisiana. Gary Esolen persuasively attributes much of Duke's success to his manipulation of the media, especially television, by generating free coverage to transform his extremism into a more acceptable message that journalists are unprepared to challenge. Douglas Rose shows that Duke's supporters in Louisiana "tended to be the master sergeants of the

economy, lacking college diplomas, with a head of household in the private sector and the unionized, skilled labor force" (p. 169). With no pretention to completeness, the authors of this volume make a solid effort at putting Duke into local, regional, and national contexts.

The historical context remains perhaps the largest gap still to be filled. For example, the attempt by four of the authors to link David Duke to populism raises more questions than it answers. Typically, Duke himself muddied the waters when he ran for president in 1988 as the candidate of the so-called Populist Party, which Elizabeth A. Rickey describes as "an amalgam of former Klansmen, neo-Nazis, and other right-wing extremists who had organized in 1984" (p. 62). Given this lineage, scholars should be cautious about their use of the historic term "populist" to describe Duke, his ideas, or his followers. Nevertheless, several contributors locate "the main thrust of Duke's appeal in traditional populist politics—the right-wing version" (p. xxii), which they generally equate with racism, anti-Semitism, and "distrust of government among marginal and disappointed citizens" (p. 173).

These disgruntled bigots resemble Richard Hofstadter's populists, but even he probably would have been troubled by so-called populists who were anti-statist. In addition, as political scientist Ronald King observes in this collection, "It is an odd kind of populism that divides the people, rather than uniting them against elites" (p. 250). It is also an odd kind of populism that emphasizes, as David Duke does, "defending the average citizen against intrusive government" (p. 250). Duke's anti-statism contradicts not only the entire thrust of traditional populism but also the reality of "redistributive populism" in Louisiana, which, according to historian Lawrence N. Powell, combines "a low personal tax burden with an activist government" (p. 21). In short, the authors seem unclear, even contradictory, about the nature of traditional populism and its possible relation to right-wing movements today.

Nevertheless, this volume makes a laudable contribution to understanding David Duke and the politics of race. The book could also serve as a how-to manual for citizens and journalists searching for ways to deal with a trickster who invokes history but denies his own.

*University of South Florida*

ROBERT P. INGALLS

## BOOK NOTES

*The Proceedings* of the 90th Annual Meeting of the Florida Historical Society (May 1992) are now available in published form. Arranged in rough chronological order, there are fifteen essays appearing in the volume which lead readers from a consideration of Christopher Columbus to an examination of Florida's conservation policies in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In between are selections treating the career of Hernando de Soto, medical practices in the age of exploration, and Florida during the Civil War and Reconstruction, among many other topics. It is available at a cost of \$10.00 (plus \$2.00 postage and handling) from the Florida Historical Society, P. O. Box 290197, Tampa, FL 33687-0197.

*Indian Mounds You Can Visit: 165 Aboriginal Sites of West Coast Florida* provides a comprehensive and handsomely illustrated guide to Indian Mounds located along the west coast of Florida, extending from Dixie to Monroe County. Written by I. Mac Parry of St. Petersburg, the volume makes an eloquent plea for mound preservation, arguing that "professional archaeological investigation is necessary to illuminate and preserve lost cultures and that the mounds today should be historical monuments, protected by law and treated with full dignity and respect." In addition to providing substantial detail on the individual mounds, the book also contains a glossary of archaeological terms to assist in understanding the various preservation efforts underway and a bibliography of relevant works to consult for additional reading. Single-copy orders can be directed to Great Outdoors Publishing Company, Inc., 4747 T Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714. The cost is \$1.95, plus tax, and \$1.50 postage and handling. Quantity discounts are available.

Those interested in learning further about Indian mounds and the archaeological remnants of Florida's first inhabitants will find Caleb Burren's *Archeology in the Mauvila Chieftdom* useful. The work complements a number of recent publications examining the routes and contacts of Hernando de Soto. The present book grew out of a project designed to find the archaeolog-

ical remains of the aboriginal peoples who encountered the Soto expedition in central Alabama. These were "burial urn peoples" thought to be members of the chiefdoms of the Pafallaya and Mauvila. This generously illustrated volume patiently explores a variety of hypotheses in trying to solve the multiple mysteries surrounding the lifestyles and historical development of these adaptable people. The book can be ordered from the Mobile Historic Development Commission, P.O. Box 1827, Mobile, AL 36633-1827 for \$21.00.

*Yesteryear I Lived in Paradise* by Myrtle Scharrer Betz is a chronicle of a fascinating life spent on Caladesi Island, a strip of crystal-white beach, oak hammock, and pine woods which lies in the Gulf of Mexico two miles off Dunedin, Florida. Ms. Betz was born on the island on February 22, 1895, and lived there the rest of her days. The volume focuses on her reminiscences of her youth and describes in moving detail the rhythms of a life in tune with a pristine Florida island environment. The young girl obtained a deep appreciation for nature from her father, and her existence was framed as much by the trees, birds, sea oats, wild animals, and sea as by the humans she encountered. Her story thus captures a unique aspect of modern Florida history that has passed forever. A sixteen-page photograph section illustrates many of the themes discussed in the text. The present book is a revised edition of a publication that appeared in 1985, which commemorated Ms. Betz's ninetieth birthday. The price of the volume is \$11.72, plus \$2.00 postage and handling, and can be ordered from the Henry Scharrer Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc., 109 Phillips Way, Palm Harbor, FL 34683. All proceeds from sales of the book go to the above-named scholarship fund in honor of the author's father.

Those individuals who have ever combed a stream bed in Florida and pulled out sharks' teeth will find *Sharks and Shark Products in Prehistoric South Florida* by Laura Kozuch of interest. Most archaeological sites in Florida contain large amounts of shark remains, a testament to the huge numbers of these fish that lived in the oceans surrounding (and once covering) the state of Florida. Research contained in this book reveals how important sharks were to the social and economic life of aborig-

inal south Floridians. A survey of Florida zooarchaeology data files at the Florida Museum of Natural History, for example, shows that of the ninety-seven sites examined, 91 percent of the shark teeth excavated were from freshly caught sharks. Such findings lead the author to pose a series of questions about the lifestyles and habits of the early inhabitants of south Florida. The volume is published by the Institute of Archaeology and Paleoenvironmental Studies at the University of Florida as Monograph No. 2 and can be ordered from the Florida Museum of Natural History for \$5.00.

*South Carolina in the Modern Age* by Walter B. Edgar is a handsomely illustrated short history of the Palmetto State's last one hundred years. The author has divided his text into four essays, each covering a quarter century of South Carolina history. Each essay has a particular focus: South Carolina's hectic political scene (1891-1916); a period of economic stagnation during which the myths of the state's glorious past were honed (1916-1941); the impetus that World War II gave to economic development (1941-1966); and social changes wrought by urbanization, industrialization, and desegregation (1966-1991). Edgar is a member of the history department at the University of South Carolina. His book can be ordered from the University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, SC 29208 for \$34.95 (hardcover) and \$14.95 (softcover).

One feature of modern Florida that has both exhilarated and troubled residents has been the state's explosive population growth. In fact, Florida has long been among the fastest growing states in the nation, whether measured in numerical or percentage increases. The United States Census Bureau recently announced that Florida's population approached thirteen million, making it the nation's fourth most populous state. The important implications of these developments are exhaustively analyzed in *Florida in the 21st Century: The Challenge of Population Growth* by Leon F. Bouvier and Bob Weller, a demographer and sociologist respectively. Published by the Washington-based Center for Immigration Studies, the volume includes projections that forecast sufficient population growth over the next fifty years to give Florida a total of thirty-two million residents. The authors demonstrate that over the past several decades

Florida has received substantial foreign immigration, but the major source of population growth has come from in-migrants from other sections of the nation. The volume contains many useful discussions of the impact population growth will have on Florida's fragile quality of life. These include a lengthy treatment of the many demands on the state that will flow from an increasingly aging population (e.g., the prospects of competition for tight resources between an aging Anglo population and increased numbers of minority youths) and the pressures stemming from a crumbling infrastructure. The book can be ordered from the Center for Immigration Studies, 1815 H Street, N.W., Suite 1010, Washington, DC 20006-3604 for \$9.95 postpaid.

Various New Deal agencies were engaged in the collection, preservation, and publication of oral histories, historical documents, and photographs. *They Live on the Land: Life in An Open-Country Southern Community* was first published in 1940 as part of the information-gathering effort of the TVA. The work examines Gorgas, Alabama, a predominately white farming settlement located near a tributary of the Black Warrior River in northern Tuscaloosa County. Hailed as the most intensive case study ever made in the South, the book provides a detailed portrait of southern rural life on the verge of virtual extinction. It is now available in paperback as a reprint edition in the University of Alabama Press' Library of Alabama Classics. The book can be ordered from the University of Alabama Press, Box 870380, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0380 for \$19.95.

*La Storia: Five Centuries of the Italian American Experience* by Jerre Mangione and Ben Morreale chronicles the history of Italians in America starting with early explorers and adventurers such as Christopher Columbus and ending with contemporary figures such as Lee Iaccoca and Mario Cuomo. The focus is not on famous individuals, however, as the book gives substantial attention to the millions of anonymous immigrants who worked and lived throughout the land, including the South. Florida is not at the center of this work, but it does appear in a number of contexts, ranging from cigar workers in Tampa to more modern-day retirees in the southern part of the state. The book can be ordered from HarperCollins Publishers, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022-5299 for \$30.00.

*Florida Living* has been providing interesting glimpses into life in Florida for many years. Our *Florida Heritage* represents a collection of reprints from the magazine which provide an eclectic journey through the state's past. Included in this wide-ranging volume are articles on Tampa during the Spanish American War, timber harvesting on the Ocklawaha River, and the career of Richard Keith Call. The volume won the 1992-1993 Golden Quill Award given by the Florida Historical Society. It can be ordered for \$9.95 from the North Florida Publishing Company, Inc., 102 N.E. 10th Avenue, Suite 6, Gainesville, FL 32601.

*Florida Architecture of Addison Mizner*, winner of the Rembert Patrick Prize of the Florida Historical Society in 1984, has been reissued in a paperback edition with a new introduction by Florida Atlantic University professor Donald W. Curl. It depicts over thirty homes and other buildings designed by Mizner, including such well-known structures as The Cloister at Boca Raton and Riverside Baptist Church, Jacksonville. The volume is available for \$17.95 from Dover Publications, Inc., 31 East 2nd Street, Mineola, NY 11501. Free catalogues of Dover publications are also available on request.

Readers interested in understanding the era of the great voyages of discovery and colonial development against the backdrop of broader European historical patterns will be attracted to a new, abridged edition of Fernand Braudel's magisterial *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*. Hailed as "one of the crowning achievements of twentieth-century historical scholarship," the book focuses on the Mediterranean world of four hundred years ago, revealing an extraordinary grasp not only of the minute details of everyday life but also of the larger interpretive insights that so often yield deep understanding. The work of abridgement was carried out by Richard Ollard, and the book can be ordered from HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., for \$40.00.

Three books have recently been republished by the University of South Carolina Press as part of its Southern Classics Series. Henrietta Buckmaster's *Let My People Go: The Story of the Underground Railroad and the Growth of the Abolition Movement* was

first released by Harper & Brothers in 1941. The 1992 paperback reprint includes a new introduction by Darlene Clark Hine and sells for \$14.95. *Seed from Madagascar* (Chapel Hill, 1937), written by Duncan Clinch Heyward, is a moving memoir about the rice planter aristocracy in the Carolina Lowcountry and the slave culture that supported it. Peter A. Coclanis has contributed a new introduction to this important volume. The cost is \$21.95. Mary Elizabeth Massey's *Ersatz in the Confederacy: Shortages and Substitutes on the Southern Homefront* first appeared in 1952, under the imprint of the University of South Carolina Press. Barbara L. Bellows has contributed a new introduction for the paper reprint; the price is \$14.95. All three books may be ordered from the University of South Carolina Press.