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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

Dade's Last Command. By Frank Laumer. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1995. xxvi, 285 pp. Foreword by John K. Mahon. Preface, acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, photographs, maps, epilogue, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

In 1835, the Territory of Florida had been a possession of the United States for less than 15 years, and it was sparsely settled. It was the adopted homeland for a loose alliance of Indians called Seminoles— “runaways”— who had separated largely from the Creeks. The latter had suffered defeat in Alabama at the hands of Andrew Jackson, and survivors had fled southward through Georgia and into Florida. Slaves from the United States, having discovered they could enjoy a measure of freedom with the Seminoles of Florida which they did not have under their white owners, gradually at first and then in increasing numbers, fled to join the Seminoles. The slaves, in turn, were pursued by “slave catchers,” who sought to apprehend and return, them to slavery. Additional friction came as more and more pressure was brought to bear upon the Seminoles to give up the land designated as their own in treaty after treaty with the United States, with each treaty being broken in turn, or simultaneously. The Seminoles grew more restless as they were pressed into an even smaller and less desirable area of Florida. Violent opposition to this pressure became commonplace. The United States, now headed by President Andrew Jackson, determined that the best way to contain the Florida Indian problem was to remove the Seminoles to a distant, defined area— to sweep the problem under the far-west “rug” of Oklahoma Territory.

Although some Seminole leaders acquiesced in the removal plans which they regarded as inevitable, many—particularly the younger— leaders resisted. With violence,— actual and potential,— erupting, the United States government deemed it necessary to reinforce their lightly-manned outposts, euphemistically called “Forts”. In furtherance of that decision, Brevet Major Francis Langhorne Dade, with eight officers and 100 enlisted men, set out from Fort Brooke on Tampa Bay to march through the heart of the Sem-

inole territory and reinforce Fort King, near present-day Ocala. It had been the boast of Major Dade that he could march through the Seminole nation with only a corporal's guard. He had done it before—boasted and marched—and he felt he could do it again.

Opposed to the notion of Major Dade, the Seminoles harried him and followed him through the wilderness enveloping the road to Fort Ring. Finally, on December 28, 1835, they opened fire upon Dade and his command—his last command—and inflicted a total defeat upon a unit of the U.S. Army. This ignited the Second Seminole War, the longest (seven years) and costliest of all our Indian Wars.

In 1968, the University of Florida Press published *Massacre!* the first full-length book written by Frank Laumer (Reviewed in the *Quarterly*, 48 (July 1969, 79-80). This well researched and well-written account of Major Dade, his officers and men, and the battle of December 28, 1835, was widely and justly praised by reviewers and the public generally. It was regarded then as the "definitive" account, to which nothing could be added. That was wrong.

Frank Laumer, with the persistence of lead prosecutor, continued to follow the trails provided in his first book, determined to find the whole truth of the story of Dade's last command. And now, with this book we have the rest of the story.

The format of *Dade's Last Command* is much the same as that of *Massacre!* It follows the day-by-day activities of the march towards Fort King with the same relentlessness as that of the Seminole Indians shadowing Major Dade. But there is more: detail, description, documentation, illustrations. Sheer weight of numbers is not the only test of scholarship in historical writing, but in Laumer's 477 notes in *Dade's Last Command* one will find interesting, factual pertinent documentation. The depth of information contained concerning the men, their uniforms and their backgrounds is remarkable, and the political and sociological overtones are provided as appropriate background for the story.

The description of the battle is written with so much feeling that the reader can sense the clamor, the terror, the odors of battle, with a feeling of the pain of wounds and the overshadowing presence of death. This book will take its place as a front-rank production of research and historical literature.

Credit should be given to The University Press of Florida, for the outstanding manufacture of the book and the artistic dust-jacket, by Jackson Walker.

The foreword, by Dr. John K Mahon, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Florida, fits the persona of the writer: terse, accurate and pertinent.

Buy the book, read it, recommend it; then, shelve it with your best-history volumes.

The University of Florida

WILLIAM M. GOZA

Blockaders, Refugees, & Contrabands: Civil War on Florida's Gulf Coast, 1861-1865. By George E. Buker. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1993. ix, 235 pp. Acknowledgments, maps, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

In this well-researched, clearly written monograph Professor Buker fills a gap in Florida's Civil War history. He tells the story of how the East Gulf Blockading Squadron (EGBS) carried out President Abraham Lincoln's assignment: eliminate Confederate shipping in and out of the area from Cape Florida to a point just east of Pensacola. Other United States Navy blocking squadrons had more important geographical sections of the South's 3,500 miles of shoreline to patrol, but the unsung EGBS accomplished its mission successfully. It had no large established enemy seaport to monitor—Tampa Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Cedar Key, St. Mark's, and Apalachicola had limited importance. Besides intercepting blockade runners, the EGBS was able to utilize white refugees and Union sympathizers and contrabands (slaves who escaped to Union ships and Union camps) in breaking up salt works, interrupting the flow of beef from South Florida to Confederate armies, and spreading dissatisfaction and loss of morale among civilians. Not only did the EGBS encourage guerilla warfare, it benefitted from the formation of the United States Second Cavalry and the Second United States Colored Troops (under white commanders).

Life in the EGBS was hot, boring, filled with inspections, drills, and target practice; there was severe punishment for infractions of military rules, and it was no wonder that the sailors welcomed real working days, which were at night when the blockaders made their runs. White and black Floridians were treated well, and because the squadron never developed a "hated Yankees" reaction, it got natives to enlist formally in the Union service, while others served as informers or guides and pilots. The author adds human interest to statistics by discussing enigmatic figures such as cattle trader

Captain James McKay who seems to have been a double agent. Dr. Buker details the issues of conscription and desertion and recounts the exploits of William W. Strickland, a Taylor County Confederate deserter who raised his independent Union Rangers, James Coker's operations on the Fenholloway River, and William White's on the Steinhatchee River. The only retaliation to their activities came in 1864 with a sweep by Colonel Henry D. Capers. Unionist Henry A. Crane captured blockade runners and aided refugees.

Although the U.S. Army finally enlisted contrabands as separate units, the EGBS used and paid them earlier, sometimes utilizing their service on shore to help destroy saltworks. In a chapter on the United States Second Florida Cavalry, the author notes that 729 soldiers were ultimately recruited into its ranks. Its primary mission under Major Edmund C. Weeks was to prevent the flow of cattle to the Confederacy. The Second Florida Cavalry operated separately but also in conjunction with the Second Infantry Regiment, U. S. Colored Troops. The latter regiment, 362 enlisted men and 36 officers strong, fought with the Second Florida Cavalry in South Florida in 1864 and again in 1865 under General John Newton at the battle of Natural Bridge in the failed attempt to capture St. Marks and Tallahassee.

Buker, history professor emeritus and also a retired commander in the United States Navy, has told an absorbing story. To his credit, he is not afraid to interpret his material. The claim, stated several times, that the East Gulf Blocking Squadron not only achieved its primary aim, but elevated the raids and endless minor skirmishes to the level of the civil war against Florida and the Confederacy, is somewhat exaggerated. Even so, he makes a case. The book will attract both professional and general readers.

Florida State University

WILLIAM WARREN ROGERS

Rebel Storehouse: Florida in the Confederate Economy. By Robert A. Taylor. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1995. 218 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95).

In this brief, yet well written book, Robert A. Taylor argues that by supplying salt, corn, beef, and pork to the Confederacy, Florida's service to the South was greater than previous accounts of the war suggest. Taylor contends that because few battles were fought

on the peninsula, most Civil War historians have overlooked the importance of this state. His work reflects the tremendous commissary shortages that the Confederacy endured from the beginning of the war and the South's reliance on Florida to feed troops fighting in the eastern theater under the leadership of General Bragg and General Beauregard. Taylor asserts that despite the Confederacy's dependence on Florida for salt, meat and other goods, Confederate officials never fully realized the value of the state and therefore failed to protect the peninsula from falling into Union control.

Confederate officials, Taylor explains, called on Florida to supply salt and corn as early as 1861. Since most of the South's "salt licks" were located in Virginia, Confederate leaders found it difficult to mine this badly needed mineral. Lincoln's federal blockade, furthermore, made importing salt nearly impossible, thus leaving Florida as the Confederacy's primary supplier of sodium chloride. Florida, in addition to salt, also produced corn for the Confederacy after a serious shortage became apparent in 1862.

In 1863, the collapse of the West left the South with yet another supply problem. Facing what Taylor suggests might have been the greatest wartime shortage, Florida became the Confederacy's primary meat supplier. Between 1863-1865 Florida sent tens of thousands of beeves and hogs to Confederate troops fighting throughout the South under the command of General Bragg and General Beauregard. Many of these cattle, Taylor explains, grazed on the open range and had to be collected before the long overland journeys could begin. The narrative of these cattle drives and the innovative, almost desperate, measures that Florida officials practiced in attempting to supply the Confederacy is one of the many strengths of the book. Other strong points are the discussions of the Battle of Olustee and the continuing problem of Floridians raising cash crops and smuggling beeves to Cuba instead of producing food solely for the Confederacy.

Although readers will be pleased with Taylor's study, and he specifies that it is not a comprehensive history of Florida in the Civil War, there are several troubling factors with this account. Taylor could have given more attention to geography. It appears that most of the early cattle and crop production he discusses occurred in northern Florida, but since he seldom provides reference locations, some readers are likely to be confused by his generalizations. He might also have looked more closely at the cattle industry in

Mississippi. As late as the spring of 1864, that state continued sending more than a marginal amount of meat to Confederate units in the East. Neither of these problems, however, hinder the importance of Taylor's study. He has produced a first rate work that reflects careful and diligent research.

Mississippi State University

ANTHONY IACONO

The Confederados: Old South Immigrants in Brazil. Edited by Cyrus B. Dawsey and James M. Dawsey. (Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press, 1995. xiii, 273 pp. Foreword, introduction, conclusion, postscript, notes, annotated bibliography, contributors, index. \$34.95).

In May, 1972, Georgia Governor (later U.S. President) Jimmy Carter stood at the base of a granite monument bearing the Confederate flag and delivered a speech to a number of Confederate descendants who had turned out to welcome him. The site was not Stone Mountain, Georgia, but Americana, Brazil, a town settled by Southern refugees after the Civil War.

Following the South's debacle, approximately 10,000 Southerners migrated to Latin America searching for new horizons and better lives. One Latin American government in particular, the Empire of Brazil, under Dom Pedro II opened its doors and provided generous resettlement assistance to an approximate 4,000 refugees during the 1860s and 1870s. These expatriates and their descendants became known as *Os Confederados*.

Confederado migration to Brazil has been the subject of numerous studies throughout the twentieth century. Yet, *The Confederados: Old South Immigrants in Brazil* is the only scholarly work which provides insights into *Confederado* migration from both a historical and a cultural perspective.

Edited by Cyrus B. Dawsey and James M. Dawsey, the book is a collection of ten chapters ranging from the genesis of *Confederado* migration to a linguistic analysis of the English spoken by the *Confederados*. The book also includes a postscript written by American career diplomat Eugene C. Harter, a *Confederado* descendant, and an excellent annotated bibliography on the *Confederado* presence in Brazil compiled by James M. Gravois and Elizabeth Weisbrod.

Chapters one, three and four, provide a detailed examination of the causes that led to *Confederado* migration as well as valuable insight into the establishment of *Confederado* settlements in Brazil.

Chapter two is an edited version of the first-person account of Sarah Bellona Smith Ferguson. In it she narrates her family's immigrant saga from Navarro, Texas in 1865 to their settling near Santa Barbara, Brazil in 1867.

In chapters five, six, seven, and eight, the editors and Auburn historian Wayne Flint provide invaluable information concerning *Confederado* contributions to their host country. Two technological innovations credited to the *Confederados* were the moldboard plow and the buckboard wagon with steel rimmed wheels. The former revolutionized Brazilian agriculture, while the latter replaced the slow-moving oxcarts. Besides technological innovations, the *Confederados* who were mostly Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists contributed to the growth of religious diversity and were responsible for establishing numerous American-styled schools characterized by their innovative teaching methods and pragmatism.

The following three chapters center on the *Confederado*'s preservation of their cultural identity. Unlike the European immigrants that came to Brazil in the 1860s and 1870s and who assimilated and acculturated into Brazilian society, the *Confederados* retained their own identity, not as *Americanos* but as *Confederados*. An example of this, is the *Confederado* dialect still spoken today.

The essays in this book are of great benefit to the historians, anthropologists and linguists and to those interested in Brazilian-American relations.

University of Central Florida

JOSÉ B. FERNÁNDEZ

Essays on Cuban History: Historiography and Research. By Louis A. Pérez, Jr. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1995. xiv, 366 pp. introduction, notes, index, permissions, \$44.95.)

This volume brings together eighteen essays that span a generation of work by the accomplished scholar on Cuban studies, Louis A. Pérez, Jr., J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor of History at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The essays demonstrate the complexity of Cuba itself and suggest the opportunities and explain the limitations that confront the scholar when dealing with the island nation. Divided into three sections, the book provides the reader with perspectives on Cuba's post-independence period, the parameters of Cuban historiography and the availability of materials at various research repositories.

The seven historical essays emphasize the impact that United States policies in the early decades of the twentieth century had upon the Cuban economy, political and social structures and culture. While imposing their mores upon Cuba, North American policymakers and missionaries only set the tone for discontent among the Cuban people. The legacy of U.S. presence was a political structure that permitted the corrupt elite to use government institutions for self serving purposes and allowed U.S. private business interests to exploit the local economy for its own benefit. In this ambience, the elite and foreign entrepreneur maintained a stagnant social order. From this perspective Pérez suggests that Fidel Castro's 1959 victory was a nationalist revolution and that his rebel army became an instrument of reform to correct the abuses of the past.

Prior to 1959, Cubans gave more attention to the island's relations with the United States than did U.S. scholars, but Castro's triumph changed that and the nature of Cuban historiography. At first, it prompted the reissuance of several earlier works on Cuba including Charles E. Chapman's 1927 volume, *History of the Cuban Republic* which attempted "to employ scholarship in the pursuit of state policy" (p. 114) by portraying U.S. benevolence in its effort to build a modern Cuban nation. Pérez explains that after the revolution, scholarly literature both in and out of Cuba matured, but that it still focused on U.S. relations with Cuba. Also, scholars in both nations tended to reflect the Cuban revisionist view that emerged during the 1930s which concluded that the U.S. was not the benevolent benefactor previously portrayed. And just as Chapman's volume attempted to justify U.S. policy, Cuban scholars since 1959 have used the U.S. legacy to explain and defend the programs of the revolution, including Castro's African adventures during the 1970s and its support of Puerto Rican nationalism. In each instance the Cubans were supporting struggles against European and North American colonialism.

The final essays describe or list research materials available to scholars in both Cuba and the United States. In Cuba, Pérez focuses upon the National Archives in Havana, its poor working environment and the strengths and weaknesses of its collections. An exhaustive inventory list of materials found in the Bureau of Insular Affairs at the U.S. National Archives and a descriptive catalog of U.S. missionary records at various locations throughout the United States alerts researchers to the availability of under-utilized materials. Pérez also suggests potential research opportunities dealing with the "Thirty Years War" (1868-1898).

Much has transpired since the original publication of these essays. For example, we know much more about the documentary collections in the U.S. thanks to Pérez's *Guide to Cuban Collections in the United States* (Greenwood Press, 1991). Also, scholars anticipating research in Cuba might seek a more recent discussion of the Cuban national archives and the availability of other collections on the island. These points aside, Pérez's volume comes at the time of anticipated change in Cuba and therefore serves as a valuable guide to understanding the basis of Cuban nationalism and its impact upon historical writing.

University of North Florida

THOMAS M. LEONARD

The Cherokee and Christianity, 1794-1870: Essays on Acculturation and Cultural Persistence. By William G. McLoughlin; edited by Walter H. Conser Jr. (Athens: University of Georgia Press 1994. 347 pp. Preface, notes, index. \$45.00.)

Missionaries from five protestant sects brought disorder after 1794 into the spiritual and daily life of the Cherokee. Indian religion was communal, while the missionaries focused on saving individual souls. The land belonged to all Cherokee whereas in the white culture individual ownership of land was central. Indians were accustomed to reaching decisions by consensus, whites by centralized authority. The Cherokee accepted nature as it was, but the Bible said that man had to subdue it. The missionaries considered admission into heaven as the ultimate goal in life, but the Indians were comfortable living in the world as they found it. They did not dwell on life after death. It was matriarchy versus the male dominated family group. The missionaries felt that they had to substitute white ways for Indian ways.

Among the Cherokee there were cultural gaps not induced by missionaries. The principal one was between the full bloods and the mixed bloods. The term full blood is not biological or ancestral, but applies to those whose cradle language and whose language thereafter was Cherokee. In contrast, the mixed bloods favored English. They were better educated and wealthier, making a division between rich and poor. The full bloods clung to traditional rituals in preference to Christian ones.

The most successful missionary was Evan Jones, a Baptist. By 1830, he had learned the difficult Cherokee tongue and preached in it. Being itinerant, he carried his gospel to the underprivileged.

Unlike most of the missionaries, he vigorously opposed the institution of slavery and the white policy of Indian removal. He was one of the few whites who slogged with the Cherokee along their Trail of Tears.

The full bloods owned few slaves and opposed the institution of slavery, while the mixed bloods owned many black slaves and vigorously supported the institution. They expelled Evan Jones in 1860 as an abolitionist. The slave owners, about one third of the people, went Confederate. The full bloods were Union. Fighting each other in relentless guerilla warfare, they took 4000 Cherokee lives and wiped out all the gains they had made since 1839.

Christianity began to succeed when the Cherokee lost the power to control their own destiny. When their land and other property were taken by force, they found hope through Christian doctrine. The death of about one fourth of them on the Trail of Tears made more appealing the Christian concept of life everlasting. From their earliest introduction to it, they had been interested in the Bible, but now hardship heightened its appeal.

McLoughlin's set of essays contains as good an account of the influence of Christian missionaries on the Cherokee as exists. Its major interpretations can be applied to North American Indians in general; for example, that Christianity brought disorder at first into all Indian cultures, and that it became an antidote to despair as the white folk encroached. Since this is a set of eleven essays, there is minor repetition, but not enough to diminish the total value of the book.

University of Florida, Emeritus

JOHN K. MAHON

The Confederate Republic: A Revolution Against Politics. By George C. Rable. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1994. x, 416 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, photographs, epilogue, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95, cloth.)

After a quarter century of labor, the scholarship on Confederate politics and government has yielded a rich harvest. Emory Thomas's probing examination of the nature and scope of the southern revolution, Richard Beringer's multi-casual explanation of defeat, and Drew Gilpin Faust's discussion of the "process" of nationalism represent an exciting wave of historiography that joins society, government, and ideology.

Historians frequently criticize the Confederacy for creating an anti-party culture. The absence of parties, conventional wisdom argues, thwarted the development of discourse and weakened the South. George Rable sharply disagrees. In *The Confederate Republic*, he contends that the South created a pre-party political climate based on its history and environment. In seeking to build a perfect republican model, two forces struggled for control: “nationalists” who championed unity and centralization and “libertarians” who sought individual freedom and local authority. Both sides promised to protect slavery and advance the cause of liberty. Jefferson Davis, flinty, sensitive to criticism, and often ill, provided solid leadership for the nationalists, while Georgians Linton and Alexander Stephens, Robert Toombs, and Governor Joseph Brown, North Carolina Governor Zebulon Vance, and Texan Louis Wigfall championed the states’ rights element. Rable does not present this contest as a struggle between right and wrong, but two legitimate forces attempting— with limited success— to define Confederate nationalism in the midst of a bloody civil war.

The unrelenting contest produced a conservative revolution in which both sides attempted to utilize religion and education to promote their viewpoints. Organized political parties, however, symbolized a corrupted vestige of the old America and must be rejected. The South sought a higher plane, hoping to eliminate campaigning, electioneering, and editorial feuds. Politicians amazingly held to this consensus, even at difficult periods of the war when criticism of the President as a despot reached a crescendo— especially over the draft and the suspension of habeus corpus. This “revolution against politics” never resolved the fundamental issues and collapsed with the death of the republic.

Rable applauds this anti-party attitude and refutes the contention that parties would have strengthened the republic. The author sympathizes with Davis, while recognizing his personal and administrative flaws. Some libertarians may have held principles (Stephens), but many others were naive (R. B. Rhett), fanatical (W. W. Holden), or opportunistic (Brown). A generally inexperienced and largely disorganized Congress played little role in the process. The defeat of the nation did not, however, rest on internecine politics, but moreso on military and economic failure.

The ebb and flow of military events form a vital backdrop for political developments. Davis’s notorious spats with Generals Joseph E. Johnston and P. G. T. Beauregard are detailed, as is the

President's dubious support for Braxton Bragg and John Pemberton. Only the noble Robert E. Lee emerges untarnished by incompetence or pettiness. As Rable notes, Davis was held hostage by his commanders, and their success on the battlefield strongly influenced his efforts to promote Confederate nationalism.

The Confederate Republic is a well written and well researched addition to the literature. There are, however, geographic and verbal boundaries to the study. The focus is Richmond, Georgia and North Carolina with Florida receiving but a passing glance. The author is also reluctant to examine critically the political rhetoric of the combatants. Those seeking a new interpretation of the interplay of philosophy and politics with the military command structure will welcome this provocative work. Others interested in government's role in society and economics will have to search elsewhere.

University of South Florida

JOHN M. BELOHLAVEK

War in Kentucky: From Shiloh to Perryville. By James Lee McDonough. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1994. xvii, 386 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$32.00.)

A good case can be made that the highwater mark of the Southern Confederacy came in the autumn of the Civil War's second year. General Robert E. Lee had taken command of the Army of Northern Virginia in June, 1862; three spectacular months later, Virginia was clear of any major Union force. Lee thereupon took the war into the North by invading Maryland.

At the same time, in Tennessee, Confederate General Braxton Bragg initiated a countermovement by striking northward with his Army of Tennessee. His goal was to gain control of Kentucky, the most important neutral state in the struggle. Seizure of the Bluegrass Country would either bring a victorious end to the war, or significantly change the complexion of the conflict.

Lee's drive ended along the banks of Antietam Creek in a battle that remains the bloodiest single day in American history. Bragg's invasion also ended in setback. The fragmented advance, conducted as well in an aura of uncertainty, came down at last to a battle for drinking water at Perryville. Whether the North won or Bragg lost is speculative. The Confederate general gathered his

units, blamed everyone for his mistakes, and sullenly returned to Tennessee. The Confederacy's most optimistic moment had come and gone. The road to Appomattox lay ahead.

For a number of reasons, Lee's campaign in Maryland has always overshadowed Bragg's efforts in Kentucky. Yet the potentialities in the Western theater at the time were many. Prospects were exceedingly good at the outset. That Southern morale on the western side of the mountains started a steadily downward drift after Perryville is proof how critical the defeat truly was.

Auburn's James Lee McDonough is well-known for published campaign histories of the first major battle in the West at Shiloh, the 1862-1863 clash at Stones River, and the 1864 massacre of Confederates at Franklin. This book seeks to fill one of the gaps between two of his studies. It follows the same pattern of presentation. McDonough begins with the post-Shiloh confusion in April, 1862, and takes the story over the next six months through Perryville to Confederate defeat.

The author makes clear that the Southern offensive was bungled from the start and never improved. Bragg, like Union Generals George B. McClellan and Joseph Hooker, was a first-rate organizer of troops. Unlike the two Federal officers, Bragg lacked charisma and the ability to install confidence and drive in his soldiers. His two-prong invasion of Kentucky offered the Federals a great opportunity to react in a divide-and-conquer manner. Even so inept a commander as Union General Don Carlos Buell was able to take advantage of enough Confederate mistakes to claim the victory.

McDonough plumbed manuscript sources at several depositories. Although half of his endnotes are references to the basic and well-used *Official Records*, many of the other references are to fresh and useful material. The author's habit of referring to Confederates and Federals as "Rebels" and "Yankees" is annoying (and doubtless offensive to many descendants, particularly Southerners). Still, this is a straightforward, balanced, and carefully presented chronicle of perhaps the largest might-have-been of all of the Confederate undertakings in the West.

While McDonough concludes by giving the Western theater more importance than a majority of Civil War historians would concede, no doubt exists but that the Southern nation desperately needed the border states if ultimate success was to crown its efforts. The Confederacy lacked the strength, resources, and the talent to

secure Kentucky. Those same weaknesses made eventual defeat all but inevitable.

*Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University*

JAMES I. ROBERTSON, JR.

The Third Day at Gettysburg & Beyond. Edited by Gary W. Gallagher. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1994. x, 217 pp. Introduction, photographs, maps, illustrations, bibliographic essay, contributors, index. \$24.95).

This is a book of six essays, dealing with topics broadly related to the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg. Edited by Gary W. Gallagher, it inaugurates a series to be known as the military Campaigns of the Civil War. Gallagher also wrote the first of the essays. Entitled "Lee's Army Has Not Lost Any of Its Prestige: The Impact of Gettysburg on the Army of Northern Virginia and the Confederate Home Front," the essay questions the popularly accepted view of Gettysburg as "a debacle that spread gloom across the South." (p. vii) Gallagher first admits that "various witnesses did portray [Gettysburg] and Vicksburg as comparably devastating reverses, questioned Lee's generalship, or believed the campaign weakened the morale and reduced the physical prowess of the Army of Northern Virginia." (p. 2) However, Gallagher goes on to cite what he describes as "a substantial body of testimony" (p. 4) indicating that most Southerners did not view Gettysburg in the same light as Vicksburg, which was generally considered an unmitigated debacle and disaster for Confederate arms. Gallagher's article is thought-provoking, regardless of whether or not one accepts his conclusion.

The second article is by one of the recent biographers of General James Longstreet, William Garrett Piston, and examines the plans of Longstreet and Lee for the third day's battle. Piston pointedly reminds the reader that available sources are disappointingly meager and consequently it is difficult to reach solid conclusions. The author makes criticisms of both Lee and Longstreet, but, as stated in the introduction, readers who are comfortable with views of Lee "inspired by the Lost Cause school of authors" (p. viii) are the most likely to "find Piston's essay unsettling." (p. viii)

Carol Reardon's essay next focuses upon "Pickett's Charge." The work is concerned not so much with the actual charge, however, but with "the literary war" that soon ensued and was waged for years, when charges and countercharges among Virginians and other Southerners, about who achieved and who failed in the so-called "high water mark of the Confederacy," filled many articles and books. This piece is an interesting exercise in tracing the development of distortion and myth.

The fourth essay is Robert K. Krick's "Armistead and Garnett: The Parallel Lives of Two Virginia Soldiers." Lewis A. Armistead and Richard B. Garnett were Confederate generals who died in the charge against the Union center at Gettysburg on July 3. Krick says the two "experienced remarkably parallel lives during virtually their entire" (p. 93) time on earth. The dual biography seems carefully researched and is well presented. Only a small portion of the essay concerns the July 3 assault.

Next, Robert L. Bee, "Fredericksburg On the Other Leg," focuses on Sergeant Ben Hirst of the 14th Connecticut Infantry, who was one of the Union defenders on Cemetery Ridge when Pickett's Charge took place. Hirst wrote letters home that concerned the third day of fighting. They are revealing letters, both for what they say and, sometimes, perhaps for what they do not say.

A. Wilson Greene presents the book's last essay, an examination of George G. Meade's generalship from the repulse of the Southern attack on July 3rd until the Rebels were safely across to the Virginia side of the Potomac River. Should Meade have launched a counterattack on July 3? Should he have pursued Lee more aggressively? Did he miss a chance to administer a decisive defeat when the Confederate army lay with its back to the flooded Potomac for several days? In a well researched and balanced account, Greene says that President Lincoln's displeasure with Meade's pursuit of Lee has "resonated through many subsequent accounts of the Gettysburg campaign," (p. 173) both in the nineteenth century as well as in modern times. Greene judiciously examines Meade's own words, comparing them with the situation and the general's actions, concluding that while Meade's generalship was not without flaws, his performance was "cautious, competent, and committed to combat." (p. 193) He believes Meade's "opportunities often have been exaggerated and his blunders magnified." (p. ix)

Overall, the reader will get more of the “Beyond” than of “The Third Day” at Gettysburg in this book. But anyone possessing a basic knowledge of the Gettysburg battle, who wants to read more on the general subject, will find it rewarding.

Auburn University

JAMES LEE McDONOUGH

Medical Histories of Confederate Generals. By Jack D. Welsh, M.D. (Kent State University Press, 1995. xvi, 297 pp. Introduction, list of abbreviations, glossary, bibliography. \$35.00.)

This book is required reading for Civil War buffs, teachers, researchers, and everyone interested in Civil War history or Confederate medicine. The author recounts the illnesses, accidents and battle wounds of 425 Confederate generals. As a number of these generals served in the United States Army prior to the Civil War, the author also describes medical events which they experienced during the Seminole Wars, the Mexican War and the Indian Wars in the west. To provide follow-up, he traces the health of those who survived the Civil War until their death and whenever the records permit, he provides the diagnosis on the death certificate. In recounting the 425 cases, he describes one or more non-fatal medical events in 325, and fatal events in 96.

Whenever possible the clinical details of the illness or the wound, the immediate care on the field, the mode of transportation to a field or general hospital and the details of the treatment are described. This has required a prodigious amount of research which is well-documented in his endnotes and bibliography.

Dr. Welsh makes no attempt to analyze the effect of the described medical event upon the outcome of a battle or a campaign. He expressly leaves that to others more versed in the military history. Rarely does he describe the location on a battlefield where the injury or death occurred, or the opposing units involved. His descriptions are as objective as possible with no attempt to portray heroes or glorify the event.

The glossary of medical terms suffers, in several instances, from a failure to clearly delineate the concept of the term in Civil War times from the meaning of the term today.

This collection of medical biographies recounts many details of human interest that cast light on the attitude toward illness and disease in the mid-nineteenth century. It is a book the history buff

will enjoy for casual reading and the researcher will use as a valuable source of information and suggestions for further investigation.

Miami, Florida

WILLIAM M. STRAIGHT, M.D.

Gullah Statesman: Robert Smalls from Slavery to Congress, 1839-1915. By Edward A. Miller, Jr. (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1995. xi, pp. 285. Preface, photographs, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

In the early morning of May 13, 1862, Robert Smalls, a slave, stole a Confederate ship, the *Planter*; sailed it out of Charleston harbor and surrendered it, a cargo of guns, and several slaves to the Union squadron blocking the port. This daring act made Smalls an instant celebrity and contributed immeasurably to his later substantial political success. During the remainder of the war Smalls utilized his invaluable knowledge of local waters and placement of Rebel mines to assist Union forces. At the War's end Smalls settled in Beaufort, South Carolina, where he became a landowner, businessman, member of the state constitutional convention, South Carolina assemblyman and senator, and United States congressman.

Although Miller's portrait of Smalls is not particularly flattering, he concludes that Smalls "made the most of the limited opportunities he had and . . . faithfully served the people of Beaufort County and township and his nation." (x) In fact, *Gullah Statesman* adds limited knowledge of Smalls' personal life to Okan Edat Uya's, *From Slavery to Political Service: Robert Smalls, 1839-1915* (1971), but the author more thoroughly places Smalls in the context of his times and in South Carolina political life. Indeed, Miller correctly suggests that *Gullah Statesman* could have been entitled, "The Rise and Fall of the Republican Party in South Carolina." (ix) He is quite critical of Republicans, national and state. The Republicans' real motive in passing the 1866 Civil Rights' Act and the Fourteenth Amendment, Miller declares, was to maintain Republican majorities in congress. Reconstruction survived after 1875 because corrupt politicians could use it as a distraction. The motives of at least some Republicans were undoubtedly more complex.

Miller's discussion of Reconstruction in South Carolina is decidedly one-sided. He emphasizes political corruption and interne-

cine battles among blacks far more than the Republicans' positive contributions and seems to be more sympathetic to the interpretations of older state studies. In the chapter on state reconstruction, Miller cites Simkins and Woody, *South Carolina During Reconstruction* (1932) five times as frequently as Joel Williamson's classic, *After Slavery: The Negro in South Carolina During Reconstruction, 1861-1877*. Neither does he mention, as Williamson does, that the diary used by Democrats to prove the corruptness of Republican Reconstruction might contain some inaccuracies. Changes in pagination and use of terms which became current later indicate that the original diary may have been altered. Miller often quotes negative statements from Democratic newspapers without attempting to counter them and gives a relatively favorable treatment of Wade Hampton, the architect of redemption in South Carolina. It should be added that Miller also severely condemns the violence and racism of more extreme Democrats such as Martin W. Gary and Ben Tillman.

Miller is at his best when tracing Smalls' many political campaigns and the infighting among Republicans. Despite fierce Democratic opposition, a controversial bribery conviction, and frequent opposition within his party, Smalls managed to hold elective office until 1886 and then served several years as collector of customs for the port of Beaufort. He never completely lost his political base in heavily black populated Beaufort County, which Ben Tillman contemptuously referred to as "niggerdom." Smalls also managed to amass significant property, much of which he purchased at tax sales, engaged in business and honestly acquired sufficient wealth to enable him to live comfortably in his former owner's home.

Although one might quibble with some of Miller's interpretations and emphases, *Gullah Statesman* is well researched, engagingly written, and useful to Reconstruction historians.

Florida State University

JOE M. RICHARDSON

The John Couper Family at Cannon's Point. By T. Reed Ferguson. (Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1994. viii, 228 pp. List of photographs, coda, appendix, acknowledgments, bibliography, index. \$25.00.)

Scholars of the antebellum South have often written of the Couper family of St. Simons, Georgia regarding its varied accom-

plishments. Robert S. Starobin, in his analysis of industrial slavery, Thomas P. Govan, addressing the question of slavery's profitability, Kenneth Stampp writing of medical care of slaves, and E. M. Coulter studying scientific plantation agriculture, have found the Coupers worthy subjects. T. Reed Ferguson is the first to attempt a comprehensive study of the family's founder John Couper and his son James Hamilton Couper, a task made especially difficult because the plantation records of John Couper were lost during the Civil War.

In broad outline, the family story is fascinating. John Couper emigrated from Scotland as a sixteen year old indentured servant, landing at the Georgia port of Savannah in 1775. Soon, Couper and his loyalist employer were in exile at St. Augustine, Florida. The young Scot returned to Georgia after the revolution, became a merchant, land speculator, Free-Mason, patron of education, and slave dealer, before purchasing acreage on the virtually uninhabited St. Simons (or St. Simon) Island, south of Savannah in 1794. His first plantation there was Cannon's Point, but he and his son James Hamilton Couper, subsequently owned or managed other large estates in the vicinity, notably Hopeton Plantation where, according to Kenneth Stampp, existed "a model hospital where ailing slaves received the best medical attention the South could provide."

John Couper, who lived until 1850, was by all accounts a knowledgeable, witty, humorous and humane man. E. M. Coulter described Couper as the leader of "a remarkably well-knit social group of high intelligence and culture . . . John Couper was the greatest of these." He served at times as judge, legislator, state constitutional convention member, founder of an agricultural society, and contributor of numerous articles to the *Southern Agriculturalist*. He knew, said Coulter, "something about everything agricultural."

Couper's life at Cannon's Point was disrupted briefly by a British invasion at the close of the War of 1812. Couper lost about sixty slaves on that occasion, but gained a son-in-law, as his daughter Sarah fell in love with and later married a young officer from the British force. The planter prospered after the war, acquiring more land, experimenting with sugar cane and olive orchards, and writing prolifically on various agricultural subjects. His son James Hamilton Couper carried on for the father up to the time of Georgia's secession, but like other land and slave owners of the region, was broken in fortune and spirit by the war, and died in 1866.

Ferguson narrates this tale with skill, judiciously speculating where historical evidence is wanting. He conveys a vivid sense of the social life of coastal planters of that time and place.

The author makes no claim of general expertise in the history of the period, and his limitations there do not detract significantly from the book's merits. Some errors might, nevertheless, have been avoided by more careful editing. The War of Spanish Secession (1701-1714) is called "ongoing" at the time of Georgia's founding in the 1730s; it is elsewhere referred to as the War of Spanish Secession, 1701-1763. We are told that John Couper chaired a committee in 1807 which drafted a resolution "to send to Washington to support President Madison in his opposition to the British." In vain do we look for any evidence of the cotton planter's opinion of President Jefferson's Embargo of 1807.

Least satisfying to students of the period may be Ferguson's handling of slavery at Cannon's Point. The Couper family evidently treated their slaves relatively better than did most owners. Modern scholars such as Kenneth Stampp as well as contemporaries, including no less a critic than Couper's neighbor for a time, Frances Kemble Butler, testified to that effect. But Ferguson argues beyond the evidence he presents when he asserts that the Coupers and their slaves shared a "deep mutual respect and loyalty."

This study relates an always interesting, at times fascinating, family history and contributes to the corpus of St. Simons and coastal plantation history. Scholars of the era will find the work of limited general value.

Gordon College

HUTCH JOHNSON

Iron and Steel: Class, Race, and Community in Birmingham, Alabama, 1875-1920. By Henry M. McKiven Jr. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. xiii, 223 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, tables, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$37.50 cloth, \$14.95 paper.)

They called it "The Magic City" – Birmingham Alabama. In the decades following the Civil War, its boosters touted an idealistic image in an effort to attract a labor force and capitalize on the area's extensive coal and iron deposits to promote an industrial boom out of the ashes of defeat.

Historian Henry M. McKiven, Jr., focuses on the aspects of class and race in this well-organized and carefully documented analysis of nearly a half-century of Birmingham's industrial development. From the start, race was a more important factor than class. Anxious to prevent a unified working-class-conscious front, employers recruited northern and southern whites with a blatant appeal to racial superiority on the shop floor. White workers would enjoy the prosperity of skilled jobs; blacks would be subordinated to the more demeaning positions.

Among McKiven's most engrossing sections is his description of how this played out in the various job categories of iron work. "Puddlers" supervised six two-hour plus furnace "heats" a day, chemically purifying 600 pounds of raw pig iron at a time. "Heaters" processed the wrought iron "blooms," and "rollers" produced bars, plates, and rails. "Patternmakers" and "sand cutters" fashioned cast iron molds for manufacturing finished iron products. These were all skilled jobs of experience and judgement. In Birmingham, they were dominated by white men.

More disagreeable was the task of "top fillers," who labored 80-to-100 feet above the ground in fearful heat amidst choking fumes at the crown of the furnace, distributing iron ore around the hopper. Similarly arduous was the work of "iron breakers," who chopped off "pigs" from the casting machine with sledgehammers, and "carriers," who hefted 125-pound iron bars over to railroad cars 250 times each shift. These were considered unskilled jobs of stamina and brawn. In Birmingham, they were overwhelmingly the lot of black men.

One might wonder why white iron workers did not recognize their common interest with their black cohorts in resisting company exploitation. But most, goaded by corporate executives and politicians, did not transcend their perverse racial attitudes. What is more, they even took steps through their own union work rules to preserve white supremacy in the workplace. "Reinforcing the bond between white labor and white capital," writes McKiven, "was shared devotion to the subordination of blacks."

Companies fostered division and control in a variety of ways: clapboard shotgun shacks for unskilled workers in racially segregated districts, with hogs and chickens roaming freely in the narrow streets; spacious two-story homes for skilled workers, with indoor plumbing and enough pay to make livestock-raising unnecessary. Educational classes emphasized order and discipline; recre-

ational programs discouraged saloon-loitering; company newspapers promoted maintenance of the social order.

The interracial philosophy of the Knights of Labor took the separatist approach of organizing workers into segregated locals. White unions even assisted companies in breaking the strikes of all-black laborers. The emergence of the steel industry in the 1890s—with increased mechanization and the concomitant decrease in skilled craft positions—led to the open shop movement at the turn of the century and the general decline of union strength.

Using demographic studies, census surveys, neighborhood maps, and rigorous detail, Henry McKiven provides a thorough exploration of political, economic, and social conditions in industrial Birmingham. It turned out to be no Magic City after all. Genuine progress for workers, he concludes, would have to await another generation and the actions of the civil rights movement, Congress, and the courts.

Saint Leo College

JAMES J. HORGAN

The CIO, 1935-1955. By Robert H. Zieger. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. x, 491 pp. Preface, abbreviations, introduction, photographs, illustrations, conclusion, notes, index. \$39.95.)

Professor Zieger recounts the familiar tale of how John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers led the industrial unions out of the moribund AFL and sent organizers into the mass production sector. He vowed that the CIO could break the power of the corrupt cabal of financiers that he believed dominated America's economy. Beginning in early 1936, there was a wave of strikes and frenetic organizing campaigns in the rubber, steel, auto, oil, smelter, electrical appliance, textile, and packinghouse industries, among others. The actual conduct of the campaigns and strikes invariably rested on a handful of activists, while most workers hung back until more favorable odds developed. The National Labor Relations Act, and the board it created, greatly facilitated unionization by restoring the jobs and granting back pay to the unionists who had been fired for their labor activities. Despite several sit-down strikes and mass demonstrations, the CIO favored taking disputes off the streets and into negotiating chambers and championed stable contractual relations.

Through the defense buildup and war, 1940-1945, most Americans wanted to crack down on labor, but the Roosevelt administration saw to it that the CIO grew increasingly enmeshed in the federal machinery overseeing defense production. More or less in exchange for a no-strike pledge, President Roosevelt established the National War Labor Board, which allowed union membership to expand through its maintenance-of-membership rulings. War-time strikes were unpopular and numerous, but involved a very low percentage of working time and were often called by the workers themselves rather than the unions.

Postwar strikes were relatively free of corporate violence, reflecting the revolution in labor law in the 1930s and World War II. The public and the government had endorsed collective bargaining. Yet several non-industrial states, including Florida, had adopted so-called right-to-work measures, banning all forms of union security. Moreover, the strike wave of 1946-1947 angered the public, and Congress adopted the Taft-Hartley Act, designed to hinder unionism. Also, the CIO's efforts to move massively into the South bogged down, and the CIO's internal divisions, especially over Communism, nearly wrecked the movement. In 1949 and 1950 the expulsion of the Communist dominated unions deprived the CIO of some of its most effective activists, especially on civil rights matters. But the author agrees with the majority of the CIO that the apologists for the brutal Joseph Stalin regime in the Soviet Union had to be purged. In its political operations the CIO remained more successful in raising funds for Democratic candidates than in consistently mobilizing the blue collar work force. One of its several bitter defeats in 1950 was the loss of Claude Pepper in Florida's Democratic senatorial primary.

This reviewer quibbles with the author's omission or bare mention of innumerable local CIO events around the nation, compelling human dramas lost in the big picture. Space limitations are the obvious reason, but it does make the book a bit drier, perhaps, than a labor history ought to be. Yet Dr. Zieger effectively tells the story of the CIO's major contributions to American society. It brought an angry working class activism into coherent focus in the 1930s helped to win the war against fascism in the 1940s and created labor's best political action vehicle. It also played a positive role in the civil rights struggle, opposed Communism at home and abroad in defiance of many on the left, and established new standards of material well-being for blue collar workers in the postwar period.

This book is the most balanced, best organized, and best documented history of the CIO and an instant classic in the labor history field.

*The University of Texas
at Arlington*

GEORGE NORRIS GREEN

Armed with the Constitution: Jehovah's Witnesses in Alabama and the U.S. Supreme Court, 1939-1946. By Merlin Owen Newton. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1995. xvi, 222pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index, about the author. \$29.95).

This sympathetic account explores the role of Jehovah's Witnesses in the national movement to expand individual civil liberties that unfold during the late 1930s and early 1940s. Tracing the development of two successful test cases initiated by the Witnesses in Alabama, *Jones v. Opelika* and *Marsh v. Alabama*, Merlin Owen Newton places them in their political and legal context. Besides stinging the nation's conscience, these cases, Newton argues, spurred the judiciary to define and uphold First Amendment safeguards.

Newton begins by examining the efforts of Witnesses to spread the gospel. Conveying their message throughout the South, they preached, disbursed booklets, and played records of sermons. Yet as they proselytized, the Witnesses met solid resistance from the "white male elite" in small Alabama towns, where the poor and underprivileged found the sermons particularly appealing. The dominant whites then felt threatened, according to Newton, and began lashing out at the sect. Consequently, many Witnesses suffered imprisonment, physical abuse and/or other forms of persecution at the hands of government officials.

Reacting to such harassment, leaders of the faith launched a widespread legal campaign to confront state and local authorities with the Constitution. To that end, they directed Rosco Jones, a black man, and Grace Marsh, a white woman, to spearhead their crusade in Alabama. The campaign began in earnest in April 1939, when Opelika police arrested Jones and his wife for selling religious booklets without a permit. The case worked its way through the state tribunals and finally reached the U.S. Supreme Court in October 1941. There, lawyers for Jones argued that the creed of

Witnesses required its followers to disburse religious literature without obtaining a license. The Opelika ordinance thus violated freedom of conscience and was an unreasonable restriction on the dissemination of ideas. Despite such reasoning, a divided Court initially ruled against Jones. Only after a media blitz that denounced the decision and praised the dissenters, did the high tribunal cave in, grant a rehearing, and overturn the original ruling. "[C]anvassing of homes and the distribution of religious tracts," the court concluded, "were old and constitutionally protected forms of missionary work" (p. 103).

The second case arose in December 1943, when police arrested Grace Marsh for dispensing similar literature in the business district of Chickasaw, a company owned town in Alabama. Charged with trespassing, she ultimately brought her case to the nation's highest court by maintaining that private property used commonly by the public should be open for distributing religious writings. In January 1946, the Supreme Court sided with Marsh declaring that "the freedoms protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments did not stop at the gate of a company town" (p. 131).

In her final chapter, Newton evaluates the impact that Jones and Marsh had on later reform movements. Here, her analysis begins to drift and becomes too speculative. Instead of ending with the sound conclusion that the litigation won by the Witnesses broadened the meaning of religious freedom and buttressed the notion of equality before the law, Newton suggests that the cases provided a model for succeeding activists to follow. By observing the tactics employed by Witnesses in the 1930s civil rights activists in subsequent decades, Newton contends, learned how to utilize martyrdom to win public sympathy and to shame their oppressors. Yet, since Newton ignores earlier civil rights litigation, one could as easily speculate that the Witnesses modeled their legal strategy after that of the NAACP.

That criticism aside, Newton's small book makes a big contribution to the growing scholarship on the legal history of the South. Extensively researched and well written, *Armed with the Constitution* provides a fitting tribute to the persistent struggle to secure those liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

Daytona Beach Community College

JOHN J. GUTHRIE, JR.

Sex, Race, and Science: Eugenics in the Deep South. By Edward J. Larson. (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995. ix, 251 pp. Preface and acknowledgments, photograph, notes, notes on sources, index. \$35.00.)

In Edward Larson's account of the eugenics movement in the Deep South, his lineup of "good guys" and "bad guys" reverses recent historical scholarship. His villains are pro-Darwinism scientists, mental health reformers, Planned Parenthood, Federated Women's Clubs, the Russell Sage Foundation, birth control advocate Margaret Sanger, feminists, Progressive and New Deal politicians, and physicians. Heroes include Ku Klux Klan-backed and racist politicians such as Alabama's Governor Bibb Graves and Georgia's Eugene Talmadge, Roman Catholic and fundamentalist Christians, and populist organized labor.

In portent of what is to follow, Larson begins by noting that "progressive" non-southern states such as Indiana and California, where scientists and physicians had considerable influence, were the pioneers in compulsory sterilization of "defective" people. The Deep South adopted eugenics late, and then only because of the growing influence of state medical associations and politicized women's organizations.

Eugenicists in America sought to "purify the race" by four strategies: stricter marriage laws; sexual segregation of patients within mental institutions; involuntary sterilization; and restriction of immigration from southern and eastern Europe. Progressive Southerners, anxious for their region to "catch up with" the more enlightened North and West, led the eugenics movement in the Deep South.

Florida was in some ways typical. During the First World War, the state's medical community and women's clubs began to agitate for segregation of the feeble-minded in order to prevent their reproduction. In many ways, this effort merged into contemporary struggles to prevent tuberculosis, venereal disease, undesirable immigration, and efforts to improve maternal and infant welfare. In all these crusades, some level of state compulsion was necessary to protect and improve society.

In other ways, Florida's experience was atypical. By the 1930s when compulsory sterilizations in the Deep South averaged 2,500 a year, Florida experienced a sharp reversal of opinion on the sub

ject. In fact, when compulsory sterilization bills were introduced in the 1933 and 1935 legislative sessions, they were defeated by thunderous ridicule and criticism. Amendments to the bills, for instance, limited forced sterilization to those over 70 years of age, required the operation to be performed on a moonlight night by a clairvoyant, and mandated a statewide referendum on the matter by female voters on a cold Florida day in July. Both the Florida Medical Association and the state's women's clubs withdrew support. At a time when forced sterilization was being enacted, strengthened, or regularly practiced in other Deep South states, Florida was a notable exception.

The author hypothesizes that the change resulted from Florida's promotion of tourism, retirement, and more cosmopolitan environment. But the explanation is not convincing, and it would be interesting to see how the state's small but influential Jewish population and Nazi Germany's active promotion of forced sterilization affected the debate. Furthermore, California, a state also promoting tourism and retirement and boasting a population as "cosmopolitan" as Florida's, continued to lead the nation in the number of forced sterilizations. How did Florida's Protestant and Catholic communities react in 1933 and 1935?

Resistance to sterilization elsewhere came particularly from Catholics and fundamentalist Christians. In fact, the author attributes the South's extreme individualism and traditional religious values as chief factors in the opposition to eugenics.

This is a chilling book. Contemporary American politics, harnessed to opposition against welfare and scientific theories about intelligence, is frighteningly similar to the dominant mood of the years discussed by Larson.

My single criticism of Larson's book is the title. His narrative suggests strongly that class concerns were in fact far more pronounced among Deep South eugenicists than race. Poor whites—especially those confined to alms houses, institutions for the feeble-minded, and mental hospitals—were more likely to be forcibly sterilized than blacks. In fact, this book is about sex, class and science more than it is about sex, race and class. This criticism notwithstanding, Larson's book will take its place beside Jim Jones's ground-breaking *Bad Blood*, the history of the Tuskegee syphilis experiment, as an example of how well-intentioned, progressive, scientists and "reformers" can misuse medicine. It is a model of

thorough scholarship, creative analysis, and graceful writing, and it is as non-polemical as a book can be on such a disturbing subject.

Auburn University

WAYNE FLYNT

Hidden Histories of Women in the New South. Edited by Virginia Bernhard, et. al. (Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1994. viii, 253 pp. Editors' introduction, tables, afterword, notes on the contributors, index. \$34.95.)

Initial forays into the field of women's history focused on the lives and actions of white, middle class, northern women. Southern women, black and white, remained "hidden" within the realm of Civil War and New South History. *Hidden Histories of Women in the New South* attempts to correct this exclusion, by examining the interactions of gender, race, class, and ideology within the context of southern history.

The ten essays compiled for this book were initially presented as papers at the 1991 Southern Conference on Women's History. The authors range from prominent scholars to new Ph.D. graduates. Editors Virginia Bernhard, Betty Brandon and Elizabeth H. Turner, arranged the essays under three general sections—"Institutions of Social Control," "Gender Roles and Government," and "Racial Cooperation and Reform Movements." Each essay addresses the challenge of identifying and defining both the similarities and differences among southern women without compartmentalizing or fractionalizing women's history.

The first three essays examine public institutions that dealt with women who deviated or rebelled against the values of middle class society. Prisons, mental asylums, and birth control clinics attempted to control women's sexual and personal freedom to ensure the maintenance of middle class society. Southern society mandated that white women embody the characteristics of purity, spirituality, and domesticity. African American women were also encouraged to maintain these same ideals, but white society viewed subservience as their most important characteristic.

Though some women rebelled against the confines of gender prescriptions, others turned it to their advantage by justifying their involvement in public policy based on women's inherent duties to "home and motherhood." Elizabeth York Enstam examines Dallas

women who employed gender prescriptions to campaign for better schools, sanitation, pure food and drug legislation, and eventually for female suffrage. Antisuffragists also used gender roles to combat suffrage legislation. Elna Green's article reveals the unique characteristics of southern society that supported antisuffragists and led to their dominance within the region. She also offers a unique look at African American antisuffragists and their reasons, many similar to those of white southerners, for denying black women the right to vote.

Though separate sphere ideology placed both black and white women within the home, differences arose over gender-sanctioned work within the two racial realms. Two articles dealing with United States Department of Agriculture policy and Home Demonstrations Clubs offer new insights into southern progressivism and racial ideology.

Attempting to promote social reform, white southern women not only employed separate sphere ideology, but also, briefly formed alliances with black women. Glenda Elizabeth Gilmore uncovered an attempt by North Carolina women to unite both blacks and whites within the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The inability of white women to treat black members as equals fractured the organization and foreshadowed the underlying racial tension within the future civil rights movement. Christina Greene's essay on the Southern Student Organizing Committee examines the conflict between the majority white organization and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Women within the civil rights movement, especially black women, fought for social equality while also struggling to maintain socially prescribed gender roles. Cynthia Griggs Fleming examines these emotional conflicts through the biography of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson, executive secretary of SNCC and wife and mother.

Hidden Histories of Women in the New South offers a unique glimpse of women traditionally left out of mainstream American history. The use of prison and asylum records, municipal documents, and oral interviews, not only reveals the "hidden histories" of these women, but also provides information for further research into these areas. Readers interested in women and southern history will gain valuable insights from this collection of essays.

Mississippi State University

PATRICIA G. DILLON

Daughters of Canaan: A Saga of Southern Women. By Margaret Ripley Wolfe. (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 1995. Pp. xii, 281. Paper, \$14.95, cloth, \$37.50.)

In this amazing book, Margaret Ripley Wolfe has managed to digest and synthesize the huge outpouring of studies concerning southern women. She includes, not only the findings of recent works (some still forthcoming when she wrote), but older sources antedating the rise of the subfield of women's history. At the same time, her narrative effortlessly weaves together the stories of women of all races, classes, and conditions in the various southern regions.

Furthermore, Wolfe, in the southern tradition, is a wonderful storyteller. With breathtaking audacity, she includes the ribald and racy incidents of those who were courageous and admirable. Always her stories make their point allowing real human beings to spring from her pages. While these women often lived and labored under tremendous disabilities, many had no trouble speaking their mind. In the process, though they often sustained severe losses, they managed to retain their self respect.

At one point, Wolfe characterizes the southern novelist, Walker Percy, as writing in a style that is an "admixture of dry humor and stark realism" (184). She should know, for that is how she writes. What is most surprising for a book of this kind is that, working on the excellent models of synthesis provided by writers such as Nancy Woloch and Sara Evans, Wolfe manages to infuse her narrative with her own well-chosen themes. Furthermore, they are not forced on the material but flow out of it naturally.

The title highlights her view that the South has been more a land of promise than a land of realization for women. From the earliest days, Wolfe argues, southern men evaluated females in terms of the services they provided and their capabilities as breeders. It was the role of the southern woman to serve and to sacrifice and, if respectable, to be pure, however her male relatives and spouses behaved. By the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, however, the myth of the southern lady had emerged as another burden for white women (and with strong repercussions for women of color as well). The burden of that myth continues to haunt southern women down to present day.

In the end, Wolfe finds that the South has undergone tremendous changes. She identifies greater educational opportunities,

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more effective birth control methods, and urbanization that has broken down rural isolation as factors that have advanced the status and opportunities for southern women. Overall, however, she concludes that the region, like the United States in general, has “made more progress in race relations than in sex equity” (204). And she warns that, while “the patriarchy has been eroded; it has not been eliminated” (207).

Although this work synthesizes scholarship both old and new, the author has her own opinions, which she is not afraid to state. She sees, for example, the second generation of female activists as being more helpful to women of the South than the first generation or more recent feminists, especially those from outside the region. Not all readers will agree with her on all these points, but Wolfe obviously knew that when she put herself on record.

Students of women’s history and southern history will welcome this volume that scholars have needed for several years now. It is so entertaining and vibrantly written, however, that many in the general public—especially those from southern backgrounds who want to understand more fully the world of their female ancestors and gain some idea of what the future holds for their daughters—will find this work engrossing.

University of Central Florida

SHIRLEY A. LECKIE

The South Through Time: A History of an American Region. By John B. Boles. (Prentice Hall, 1995. xiv, 569 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, maps, guide to further reading, index. \$35.00).

The South is a place of great diversity in landscapes, environment, peoples and economies, and it has been so since its founding. Yet, it is still often perceived by newcomers and non-academics as a monolith, defined by the myths of the antebellum days. John Boles’ fine survey of the region provides a very readable volume for the public, students, and scholars who want to keep up with the enormous literature on the South’s social, political and economic history.

The South Through Time consists of just five chapters covering the period from first settlement to the modern era. “The Southern Colonies,” discusses Native Americans, early settlement, creation of

the plantation system, origins of slavery, the back country, and even a section on the Latin South of Louisiana and Florida. "The National South" covers the French and Indian War, the break with England, the revolution and the South's vital role in the new nation. Southerners prominent in the revolution, Constitution-making and early presidencies, such as Washington, Jefferson, Madison and others, through their political writings and power, contributed greatly to making the United States a viable nation and the South a leading section.

Boles writes next of "The Southern Nation," the years of growing dependence on King Cotton, the development of a distinctive culture based on slave labor and the rifts that developed because of slavery which finally led to the Civil War. Following the Civil War, the region became, as Chapter 4 is designated, "The Colonial South," a devastated place undergoing reconstruction, return of white rule, racial violence, urban growth, the Populist revolt and its own peculiar style of Progressivism.

Finally, the twentieth century witnessed the rise of "The American South," the years of changes and continuities since World War II. The single most important change was the Civil Rights movement, but other shifts greatly affected the South, such as the growth of cities, the economic boost provided by the defense industry and the political party switch which began in the 1960s. The overview of the politics of race is particularly useful for comprehending the current situation in the South and the nation.

The concise narrative is strong in its emphasis on the many souths within the South and its analysis of the complexity of the region throughout its long history. Politics, society, culture, economic trends, religion and race relations are all adequately addressed using the latest research of many respected historians. Boles accomplishes his task in clear prose spicing it with witty phrases that evoke the flavor of Southern language and culture.

In a comprehensive one-volume history it is difficult to include everyone, but more attention to Southern women, blacks, Native Americans and Hispanics would be a worthy goal. In part, the lack is due to fewer writings on these people. However, the gap is being filled now, and the new research and interpretations should be incorporated into future works claiming to be complete histories. The twentieth century South needs increased coverage; however, until more scholars turn their attention to this time period, a complete synthesis will be impossible. It is time to focus on the years

since 1900, and Boles' study reveals fields in need of additional research.

Nevertheless, Boles demonstrates his broad comprehension of the literature in a flowing narrative and achieves his goal of providing a book for lay readers and non-specialists. *The South Through Time* would make a fine gift to new arrivals to the South who want to understand its past and appreciate its unique culture.

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SUZANNE MARSHALL

America in European Consciousness, 1493-1750. Edited by Karen Ordahl Kupperman. (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. xiii, 428pp. Foreword by Norman Fiering, acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, figures, tables, conference program, contributors, index. \$39.95, cloth; \$19.95, paper.)

These twelve essays are the result of the international "America in European Consciousness" conference held at Brown University in June 1991 to examine whether and how information from the New World was reflected in history, literature, linguistics, religion, and the sciences by European thinkers in Spain, France, and Great Britain from 1492 to 1750. The period prior to 1750 was chosen because the Seven Years' War and the American Revolution led to an explosion of information, making an examination after 1750 unwieldy. In her attempt to examine the assimilation of America into European culture, the editor has thrown a wide net. Although written by authors from a variety of disciplines and diverse in their topics, these essays are connected by a common, albeit sometimes thin, thread: The information coming from America was assimilated "not so much to generate new departures as to reinforce existing proclivities and predispositions, including often contradictory ones" (p. 403). The stream of information between the Old and New worlds is often seen as unidirectional, with Europeans imprinting their culture on the native inhabitants of conquered territories. *America in European Consciousness* seeks to show that the New world had an effect on Europe beyond obvious economic and dietary changes, and impacted on "conscious expression, on intellectual life and articulated forms of culture" (p. x).

The essays are diverse, ranging from "America and the rewriting of World History," and "A Reconsideration of Montaigne's *Des*

cannibales," to "The Holy See and the Conversion of the Indians in French and British America, 1486-1760," and "The Collecting of American Indian Artifacts in Europe, 1493-1750." Although they share a common goal, they present opposing views: Peter Burke, for example, suggests that Europe was barely affected by American knowledge . . ." (p. 6).

A new world brought new problems and questions. As John Headley points out in "Campanella, America, and World Evangelization," it was on the religious front that the New World presented its greatest challenge to the established European order. The discovery of America forced Campanella and others not only to realize the existence of a larger, unevangelized world, but how to deal with it as well. The New World was a new source of wealth and labor, but also had souls to save. Even this opportunity challenged European ideas since there was "confusion in many minds over whether missionaries were recalling natives to Christianity or introducing it" (p. 9). And, as Kepperman explains, "colonization of America forced English backers to think about the essential ingredients of their society in unprecedented ways . . ." (p. 272). She also reviews (in the introduction) the sensitive issue of the European arrival in the New World.

America in European Consciousness succeeds in illustrating that Europeans saw the New World through a shifting lens, struggling to force New World information into Old World molds. It shows that the discovery and conquest of the New World, while enriching Europe, also changed it. Unfortunately, little space is devoted to examining the transforming effect America had on Europe as a whole. Also, "European consciousness" has a narrow and elitist definition here, reflecting only the upper levels of European society, culture, and religious administration. The essays are well written: but their esoteric nature does not recommend this work to the casual reader. Those seeking information on Florida will be disappointed as only two brief references to it are made. Despite these weaknesses, however, this work is a valuable examination of the complex effects Columbus's discovery had upon the Old World.

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BOOK NOTES

Through the pages of *A Portrait of St. Lucie County, Florida*, Lucille Riely Rights invites readers to “take a photographic journey back in time and travel the roads of St. Lucie County, Florida.” It is a fascinating journey. A lucid narrative accompanied by more than 250 photographs and a half-dozen well-placed maps take the reader from the earliest days when Spanish explorers first encountered the native Ais, through the centuries of Spanish and British possession of the peninsula, to U.S. acquisition in the 1820’s. Included is an account of the Spanish treasure fleets and their influence on the St. Lucie County area from the 18th century until recent times. There are also stories of the Second Seminole War which brought the founding of Fort Pierce near the Indian River Inlet, and the Armed Occupation Act which was the catalyst for the first permanent settlers. Succeeding chapters recount the growth of the region through the 19th century with its open-range cattle herds, fishing, trade boats and railroads, towns such as White City and Spruce Bluff, and early agricultural pursuits which included pineapples, citrus, and truck crops. Chapter XVI treats the local population in the early 20th century through the ups and downs of the 1920s and 1930s. Chapters XVII and XVIII address the impact of World War II and the enormous changes wrought in the years since 1945. *Portrait of St. Lucie County, Florida* is the story of a particular place and its people, but it also parallels the growth of peninsular Florida in general. Well-written and profusely illustrated, it will be informative for anyone interested in Florida history. It is available from the St. Lucie County Historical Museum, 441 Seaway Drive, Ft. Pierce, FL, 34945. The price is \$34.00 by mail, or \$30 at the museum.

Written by Mary Collar Linehan and Marjorie Watts Nelson, *Pioneer Days on the Shore of Lake Worth, 1873-1893* has just been published by Southern Heritage Press of St. Petersburg. This limited edition book tells the story of the first 84 families who settled along the shores of Lake Worth. It includes biographical sketches, stories by some of the pioneers themselves, and accounts of The Barefoot Mailman, the Jupiter Lighthouse, the stage line, and the famous Celestial Railroad. It is profusely illustrated by photographs, many

of which are previously unpublished. These are supplemented by a number of drawings by George Potter. The book may be obtained from Lake Worth Pioneers' Association, Attn: Beth Spencer, 1501 Avenue "C", Riviera Beach, FL, 33405 for a donation of \$35.00 per copy.

The recipient of the Society's Charlton W. Tebeau Book Prize for 1995, *Uncertain Seasons* was written by Elizabeth Shelfer Morgan and published by the University of Alabama Press. A work of creative nonfiction, it recounts the daily life of a child in Havana, Florida, a small agricultural community in Leon County near the Georgia border. Her story is interspersed with letters to the family from her Uncle Howard, a lieutenant in the U.S. Army. His letters begin in 1941, describing his military life in North Africa, Sicily, and England. They end with his death in France in 1944. There is a notable contrast between the young girl's innocence on the one hand and her uncle's mature views and his growing distaste for the business of war. Her story is one of changing scenes in a secure family and a well-ordered community as a contrast to her uncle's letters describing the accelerated pace of the world conflagration of which he was a part. The juxtaposition of these two worlds at a time when they were still separate make a compelling story for the readers who know from hindsight that they there were about to converge. *Uncertain Seasons* is available from the University of Alabama Press, 315 University Boulevard East, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35401. The price is \$24.95.

To celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the national League of Women Voters, the Seminole County League has published a limited edition of Georgetown: *The History of a Black Neighborhood* by Altermese Smith Bentley. This small book contains the story of a black community and its contribution to the growth of Central Florida from 1839 to the early 1920s. It includes accounts of business and professional people, churches and schools, and the role of its inhabitants on citrus, celery, and other important economic endeavors in the area. Ms. Bentley was assisted in her research for this work by Brenda J. Elliot. For more information about the book, contact Altermese Bentley at Sanford, Florida.

Hupewea: A Legacy of the Hooper Family of Nassauville, Florida, by William James Jefferson was recently published by W. H. Wolfe As-

sociates, Alpharetta, Georgia. The result of many years of research by Mr. Jefferson, *Hupuewa* recounts the story of an American family from its roots in Africa, to Virginia, through Florida to Nassauville in Nassau County. It begins with the father of Moses Hooper who was brought from Africa to a life of slavery in America. Each succeeding generation is accounted for and there is also genealogical information on the extended families. The book is illustrated with numerous photographs. It is available from William Jefferson, P.O. Box 12776, Jacksonville, FL, 32209. The price is \$55.00 plus \$3.50 for mailing.

Kathleen Deagan and Darcie MacMahon, *Fort Mose: Colonial America's Black Fortress of Freedom* was published by the University Press of Florida in cooperation with the Florida Museum of Natural History. It tells the story of black slaves who escaped from South Carolina plantations and made their way to Spanish Florida. Arriving in St. Augustine, they were freed in return for service to the Spanish king and conversion to Catholicism. In 1738, the Spanish established the fort and town of *Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose*, the first legally sanctioned free black community in what has since become the United States. The site of Fort Mose is now a major point on the Florida Black Heritage Trail and has been designated a National Historic Landmark. The story of Fort Mose and the people who lived there challenges the notion of the American black colonial experience as slavery only, offering a more balanced view of the black experience in the Spanish colonies. The book is available from the University Press of Florida. The price is \$24.95, cloth, \$9.95, paper.

Mallory McCane O'Connor, director of the Santa Fe Gallery, Santa Fe Community College, in Gainesville, Florida, is the author of *Lost Cities of the Ancient Southwest*, published by the University Press of Florida. Bringing together scholarship from architecture, archaeology, and iconography, she discusses 20 sites of Mississippian culture and describes the religious patterns and art works of the inhabitants. She also treats the controversial topic of repatriation of Indian artifacts and the continuing problem of archaeological "looting" of Indian sites. Illustrated with maps, site plans, and photographs of the ruins of ceremonial centers along with sculptures, ceramics, and artifacts, the book depicts the beauty and technical sophistication of the art and architecture of pre-Columbian

America. The site photographs are by Barbara B. Gibbs. The price of *Lost Cities* is \$49.95.

The monumental *Biographical Rosters of Florida's Confederate and Union Soldiers, 1861-1865*, compiled by David Hartman with David J. Coles, has just been published in six volumes by Broadfoot Publishing Company. The result of many years of intensive research relying on compiled service records, diaries, family and local history, descendent's letters, wartime newspapers and the like, the work includes 25,300 names and 136 illustrations in its 2,910 pages. The biographical sketches vary from brief descriptions which include name, rank, date of birth, and date of enlistment and discharge, to longer narrative paragraphs where the information is available. Included is a cumulative, every name index. The book is available from Broadfoot Publishing Company, 1907 Buena Vista Circle, Wilmington, NC, 28405, telephone 1-800-537-5243. The price is \$70 per volume or \$400 for the set of six volumes.

According to Geraldine D. Rasmussen, *Toronita* is a Timucan word meaning "Land of Sunshine and Good Will." It is also the title of her recently published book which she describes as "an adventure into Florida's own colorful pageantry of history." and which deals with both the bad and good times of the Indians of peninsular Florida. *Toronita* may be obtained from Geraldine D. Rasmussen, 1609 S.E. 4th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33301. The price of \$10.95 includes the cost of mailing.

Peninsular Publishing Company has just issued the 1995-1996 *Florida Handbook*, compiled by Allen Morris, clerk-emeritus and historian of the Florida House of Representatives. This 25th edition of the biennial publication is the source for facts concerning the government, people, and lands of the State of Florida. Published in four colors and bound in a cloth hardcover, *The Florida Handbook* may be ordered from Peninsular Publishing, Attn: G. Alford, P.O. Box 5078, Tallahassee, FL, 32314, for \$38.95 plus \$4.00 for shipping.

Serpent in Eden: H. L. Mencken and the South by Fred Hobson and with a forward by Gerald W. Johnson, was first published in 1974. Hobson examined the irascible Mencken's love-hate relationship with the South, including his scathing criticisms of the "Sahara of

the Bozart" as well as his efforts to encourage southern writers to address the traditional values of their region. Applauded for its "engrossing study of this pivotal era," *Serpent in Eden* has just been made available in a handsome new paperback edition from Louisiana State University Press. The price is \$12.95.

The story of General Ulysses S. Grant's race with death to complete his *Memoirs* is fairly well-known in the United States as is the fact that they are considered among the best of that genre. Not so well-known is the furor set off by Matthew Arnold's review essay of that work. *General Grant by Matthew Arnold, with a Rejoinder by Mark Twain* was first published in the 1960s to correct that deficiency as well as to publicize the efforts of the Ulysses S. Grant Association to publish the papers of the general who once said that he had "never entered the army except with regret and had never left it except with pleasure." Arnold's sympathetic treatment of Grant, with its condescending tone toward America, raised the ire of many. Prominent among them was Mark Twain who in 1887 told the Army and Navy Club of Connecticut how he felt. Arnold's essay and Twain's hilarious rejoinder have been published in a second edition, with an excellent four-page introduction by John Y. Simon. This brief action-packed book is available from Kent State University Press, P.O. Box 5190, Kent, Ohio, 44242-0001. The price is \$7.00, paper.

Doris Louise Flexner, co-author of *The Pessimist's Guide to History*, has apparently decided to redress the balance with her new book entitled *The Optimist's Guide to History*. For those interested in an "unabashedly rose-colored view of dozens of joyous milestones in world history," Flexner's little book will be of interest. *The Optimist's Guide* is new from Avon Books and is available in paperback for \$10.00.

Brokenburn: The Journal of Kate Stone, 1861-1868, edited by John Q. Anderson, is now available in a sturdy trade paperback from Louisiana State University Press. The journal, beginning in May, 1861, with regular entries up to November, 1868, reveals much about Kate Stone's everyday life, the books she read, plantation management and crops, maintaining slaves in the antebellum period, the attitude and conduct of slaves during the war, the fate of refugees, and civilian moral. With a new forward by Drew Gilpin Faust, this paperback edition is available from Louisiana State University Press for \$16.95.

First published in 1971, Allen W. Trelease's *White Terror*, was hailed as the first scholarly history of the Ku Klux Klan in the South during the Reconstruction period. In addition to his treatment of the Klan, Trelease also dealt with other night-riding groups such as the Ghouls, the White Brotherhood, and the Knights of the White Camellia. Praised for its "balance of scholarship and readability," and its value for those interested in southern history, *White Terror* has just been released in a new paperback edition by the Louisiana State University Press. The price is \$17.95.

Robert G. Gardner's *A Decade of Debate and Division: Georgia Baptists and the Formation of the Southern Baptist Convention* covers the turbulent 1840s when the Baptists in the South decided that Northern opposition to slavery left them with only one option—formation of a new and separate denomination: the Southern Baptist Convention. Gardner shows that the delegates who gathered at Augusta, Georgia, for the meeting which led to the creation of what became America's largest Protestant group, were not only sympathetic toward the "peculiar institution," but, possessing far more slaves per capita than the average, had a vested interest in maintaining it. With extensive appendices, *A Decade of Debate* has value for historians of religion in America in general and Baptist life in particular. The volume is available from Mercer University Press in paperback. The price is \$15.95.