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Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

An Environmental History of Northeast Florida. By James J. Miller. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1998. xvi, 224 pp. List of tables, list of maps, list of figures, foreword by Jerald T. Milanich, preface, references, index. \$49.95 cloth.)

If land managers had read James Miller's *An Environmental History of Northeast Florida*, it is unlikely the wildfires that charred Florida would have forced the evacuation of Flagler County. The controlled burn program the state is now undertaking to prevent such calamities is hardly new, rather it is a land management tool that "was a common practice among Florida Indians before European contact" (127). Early colonists adopted this strategy, and it continued until early this century when "fire was widely regarded as destructive rather than beneficial. As a result, fires were generally prevented or extinguished quickly when they did start, causing an unnatural accumulation of flammable litter on the floor" (127). Although scientists have since revealed the key role fire plays in sustaining ecosystem health, only a disaster could force decision-makers to adopt the common knowledge of our ancestors. Miller's book is an essential read to understand the problems that ensue when "[E]nvironmental decisions reflect public opinion more than scientific understanding of cause and effect" (2).

Miller has followed the path blazed by William Cronon in *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (1983). He adopts Cronon's thesis "that all human groups consciously change their environments to some extent; the dynamic and changing relationship between environment and culture is as apt to produce stability as not" (5). Miller also seeks to reveal the "fallacy of the pristine environment": the belief that Florida was once an untouched paradise unspoiled by humans. Such thinking

is not only folly but dangerous because it "provides a means for wishing that environmental problems would disappear rather than a basis for understanding how they maybe solved" (190). After last summer's unending broadcasts of "Florida in flames" on the local news, Miller's insight helps explain the level of ecological ignorance that permeates a society predicated on celebrity and sensationalism.

Miller's strong point is his study of natural history and Native American culture, where his background in archaeology serves him well. For example, his analysis of burial mounds reveals that the native culture of northeast Florida never reached the level of "ceremonial expression" that existed elsewhere on the peninsula. He postulates that this difference is a result of life in a less abundant environment: "the soils, being largely marine sands, do not support a highly productive agriculture; the sociological and ideological traits associated with the agricultural complex would not have had much adaptive value" (86).

The author's scholarship is credible but suffers, at least in comparison to Cronon, in his appraisal of the European influence. For instance, Cronon explains how the introduction of cattle altered the native habitat. Europeans not only introduced new grass strains, but cattle compacted the soil, reduced oxygen levels, and lowered the soil's carrying capacity. According to Cronon, this resulted in "weedy species" replacing the more vibrant natural habitat. Given the problems ecologists face restoring ranch lands to their earlier state (i.e., Disney Wilderness Preserve), such a discussion merits consideration. Oddly, Miller picks the decline of alligators to parlay the demise of wilderness. Both the Florida Panther and the Black Bear (the two widest ranging terrestrial mammals) are indicator species that would better serve current research. It would have also aided the author to conclude his study at an earlier date, rather than extending his discussion "to 1930s or so" (7), especially since he failed to mention the 1920s land boom.

These issues are relatively minor, and, more importantly, a sequel to this thoughtful volume is essential. Given the author's concluding analysis of the relationship between global warming five thousand years ago and what Florida may expect in the future, we cannot wait too long for James Miller's next book.

Citrus, Sawmills, Critters, Crackers: Life in Early Lutz and Central Pasco County. By Elizabeth Riegler MacManus and Susan A. MacManus. (Tampa: University of Tampa Press, 1998. xv, 544 pp. List of maps, acknowledgments, preface, maps, index, about the authors. \$49.95 cloth.)

In 1923, Elizabeth Riegler MacManus was born in Lutz, just north of Tampa. Always deeply involved with the local community and active in stimulating interest in and recording local history, she founded the annual Pioneer Descendants reunion in Lutz. Between 1995 and 1996 MacManus wrote a history column for the *St. Petersburg Times*, expanded versions of which provide the basis of *Citrus, Sawmills, Critters, Crackers*. With daughter Susan MacManus as co-author, MacManus supplements the text with over eight hundred photographs that will become a treasure for local historians.

The collaboration between enthusiastic local historian and accomplished academic researcher and writer resulted in a first-rate local history, one that surpasses most local Florida history books in its presentation and thoroughness. Eighty-one essays relate stories about Central Pasco County, the region around Lutz in northern Hillsborough County, and the communities of Fivay, Fivay Junction, Tucker, Ehrn, and Myrtle. Some, absorbed into Tampa's urban sprawl, are unknown today except to old-timers.

Based upon the oral history so common to local studies, the essays cover about one hundred years, from the mid-1800s to the mid-1900s. In "Moonshine Filled Lutz and Pasco Residents' Bellies and Their Pockets!" the authors refute notions that the "law-abiding" citizens of yesterday embraced higher values than citizens of the 1990s. As one anecdote explains, "One woman admitted to me that she made and sold moonshine strictly to support her family. She was quite proud of the fact that she eluded Matt Grantham (the law). She used tactics similar to those of a mother bird distracting enemies from her babies' nest, she said, without specifying the details." The lesson is that "[N]early every pioneer knew someone who made moonshine during the 1920s and 1930s. Tampa was a sizable market that was easy to reach" (318).

In another article, "Pioneer Women Were a Colorful Crew," the authors explore uniqueness and idiosyncrasies of eighteen Florida women. For example, there was Sophronia Griffin, identified as a "true 'Cracker' woman" who lived in the community of Myrtle: "She awed us all with her snuff-dipping and spitting skills. It is no exag-

geration to say she could hit a fly twenty-five feet away with a stream of snuff juice. It was a feat children greatly admired" (354).

Citrus, Sawmills, Critters, Crackers is truly a welcome addition to Florida's local histories. The essays, photographs, illustrations, and thirty-three old maps that mother and daughter compiled create a useful and appealing book. Additionally, there is an index (which local histories often lack). The University of Tampa Press must be commended for the excellence of the production. Florida needs more of this type of good, solid, readable, and presentable local histories.

University of South Florida

CHARLES W. ARNADE

Fleeing Castro: Operation Pedro Pan and the Cuban Children's Program.

By Victor Andres Triay. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1998. xiv, 126 pp. List of illustrations, preface, introduction, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$49.95 cloth.)

This book relates a tale of great heroism: how a number of people risked imprisonment by the Cuban government for their roles in sending over fourteen thousand students to live in the United States, while many of their parents remained to oppose the growing authoritarianism of the Castro regime.

Fidel Castro's attempt to make Cuba into a Marxist society began soon after his ascent to power in 1959. Part of his program was the indoctrination of Cuban youth to the tenets of that ideology, drawing opposition from many parents, especially those with children in religious schools. By May 1959, John Baker, an American teacher in Cuba and headmaster of the Ruston Academy, became disillusioned by the Revolution. Over the next year, as the indoctrination proceeded, he began a covert effort to relocate about two hundred children whose parents were involved in the counter-revolutionary underground. These parents feared not only the Communist indoctrination itself, but the possibility that, as had happened in the Spanish Revolution of the 1930s, the children would be rounded up as a means of crushing the parents' opposition. With the aid of an international contingent that included the United States, Italy, Peru, and Great Britain, and under the guidance of the director of the Catholic Welfare Bureau, the program resettled 14,048 children by the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962.

The account of the resettlement program and those involved reads at times like a spy-thriller. Many came very close to being caught with falsified documents designed to get the children on an airplane out of Cuba. Interestingly, several participants concluded that they were greatly aided by the bureaucratic mentality which quickly developed within Cuba's government.

This is not only a very readable story, but the author places the event in the larger context of the Cold War struggle between revolutionary Cuba and the United States. Indeed, in the late 1950s, the United States was encouraging the more educated classes to leave Cuba, and Castro was not opposed to seeing such opposition depart. Later, as the exodus continued, the Commandante changed his mind about allowing so many to leave.

Chapters discuss the ways in which help for the children was organized in south Florida, the trauma experienced by these children in this massive uprooting from their parents and resettlement in a foreign land, and the question of whether it was worth the effort. Operation Pedro Pan is a magnificent example of the kind of "people's diplomacy" envisaged by Florida's late Congressman, Dante Fascell. While there was some help from the federal and state governments, and even cooperation from abroad, the great success of the endeavor was due primarily to the volunteers and religious and private philanthropic organizations.

The author hints toward the end of the volume that a follow-up biographical study of some of the individuals in Pedro Pan would be "timely and enlightening." This reviewer shares that view and hopes that such a study is already underway.

Florida Atlantic University

WILLIAM MARINA

The Southeast in Early Maps. By William P. Cumming. Third edition. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. xiv, 362 pp. Preface to the third edition, preface to the first edition, selected bibliography, chronological title list of maps, alphabetical short-title list of maps, index to introductory essays, illustration credits. \$90.00 cloth.)

For over forty years *The Southeast in Early Maps* has served as the primary reference tool for any historian, geographer, or cartographer studying the exploration, colonization, and territorial development of North America from Virginia to Florida. A professor of

English literature by training, author William P. Cumming devoted much of his professional life to the collection and examination of historical maps. First published in 1958 by Princeton University Press, the original volume included an introductory essay, reproduced sixty-seven plates, and identified and analyzed 450 printed and manuscript maps dating from 1544 to 1775. Critics hailed the work as a significant and definitive contribution to the study of American carto-bibliography. With only 2,500 copies printed in the first two editions, *The Southeast in Early Maps* (1958, 1962) became an increasingly rare and valuable book. At the time of his death in 1989, Cumming was working on another corrected and enlarged edition, which would reflect recent scholarship on the region.

In this third edition, revised and expanded with the assistance of historical geographer Louis De Vorse Jr., the University of North Carolina Press has nearly doubled the number of illustrations and added twenty-four color reproductions of maps from the Cumming Collection in the E. H. Little Library at Davidson College. In his original opening essay, Cumming provides a comprehensive general introduction to early modern cartography and the mapping of the southeastern region in particular. During the "primary" period or the discovery era, European cartographers with little or no first-hand knowledge of America drew maps based on information gleaned from explorers and other mapmakers. Thus, he argues, the contributions of any one map can only be appreciated by studying it in relation to other maps of the same time and place. Cumming is most interested in describing the acquisition of "accurate" knowledge about southeastern coastlines and topography. Contemporary scholars who argue that culture constructs the many and varied ways in which individuals perceive and portray landscape may find his preoccupation with "geographic misconceptions" theoretically dated. In the "transitional" period or settlement phase of colonization, cartographers attempted to represent on one map both property and the lesser-known lands on the region's periphery. Not until the eighteenth century, with the advent of the "modern" period, were the expanding southern colonies aided in their geographic growth by the work of professional surveyors and more skilled mapmakers.

De Vorse's primary contribution to the third edition is an original essay entitled "American Indians and the Early Mapping of the Southeast." Here he explores the important cartographic role played by natives as informants and guides for European mapmak-

ers, as "silent cartographic witnesses," and as artists themselves. De Vorsey concludes with a comparison of Indian and European mapping techniques in depicting distance, objects, boundaries, space, and social networks. His essay is a welcome contribution to an already rich book.

In this revision of *The Southeast in Early Maps*, the author has corrected several structural weaknesses of the earlier editions. First, he eliminated a confusing section called "Reproductions of Maps" which briefly described the plates. Instead, these maps are fully annotated and analyzed in a chronologically ordered section titled the "List of Maps" which appears late in the volume. The maps themselves, whether color or black-and-white photographs, are more readable and some are now produced in quadrants adding to their legibility. Fortunately for map curators and collectors, the author maintained the numbering system adopted in the earlier editions. Four appendices from the original volume have been either omitted (in the case of Indian communities, political divisions and boundaries, and bibliographies containing southeastern maps) or relocated within the text (a list of the "Chief Type Maps in the Cartography of Southeastern North America" now immediately follows Cumming's introductory essay). Finally, the new edition contains a single index and an updated bibliography. These changes all make the volume much easier for professionals and amateurs to use as a reference.

The only major deficiency of *The Southeast in Early Maps* continues to be its omission of significant early Spanish cartography, especially that related to the colony founded in St. Augustine in 1565. Otherwise, the third revised edition—with its new typeset, dust jacket, color illustrations, and essay on Native American mapping—is a beautiful tribute to a dedicated historical cartographer and his lifelong love of the Southeast.

Vanderbilt University

MEAGHAN N. DUFF

A Devil of a Whipping: The Battle of Cowpens. By Lawrence E. Babits. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. xxi, 231 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95 cloth.)

Lawrence E. Babits, examining first-hand accounts, memoirs, and pensions, provides a thoroughly researched monograph on

the Battle of Cowpens, an overlooked confrontation that he argues was the turning point in the American Revolution. Previous historians have failed to mine thoroughly the sources and have neglected the Battle of Cowpens in favor of explaining the broader context of Southern campaigns in the Revolutionary War. Babits seeks to correct this injustice by examining the battle in profound detail, reducing the fighting to increments of time and type. By doing so, Babits aims to prove that Cowpens was a "tactical masterpiece" (xiii) and that the impact of the battle affected the manpower and psyche of the British army in a negative manner.

Babits spends the first half of the monograph in a detailed analysis of weaponry, tactics, the armies, and pre-battle movements and conditions. He argues that American commander Daniel Morgan was well aware of his troops' tactical ability and the amount of ammunition each man held, thus allowing him to evaluate a unit's ability to conduct sustained firing during the battle. The author further reveals that Morgan's force, men from Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia, were proven in battle; most of the militias served previous time in the regular army. More importantly, Babits claims that previous historians have not appreciated Morgan's tactical expertise, especially his use of main-line deployment and reverse slope defense.

While the first half of the monograph is spent setting the stage, the second half focuses on the actual fighting, seeking to understand how war affected the British army. Babits argues that the initial fighting on the skirmish line did not produce high casualties, but it did wear down the physical and mental stamina of the British army. Further, British forces were physically and mentally depleted by the time of main-line fighting; consequently, sleep deprivation and hunger determined British reaction. He attributes British loss to a depletion of "energy reserves to deal with psychological and physical stress" (157).

At times, though, the author appears to contradict his argument. For example, Babits acknowledges that episodes of American retreat, whether ordered or by mistake, recharged the British physical and psychological systems with energy. Furthermore, the author reveals that Morgan's forces left behind a good portion of food that the British army happened upon and consumed the night before the battle. One must also consider how the effect of adrenaline on fighting men might play into Babits's theory of fatigue, especially since the battle lasted only forty minutes.

The Battle of Cowpens might have been significant as the episode that started the British downslide to Yorktown. While the author clearly shows that the battle was more than a militia victory with the aid of regular troops, one will still wonder what he truly believes led to British defeat. On the one hand, Babits suggests it was due to Morgan's tactical expertise and army fatigue. On the other hand, "the cavalry movements explain American success and British failure at Cowpens" (124). More plausible, however, is that victory was the result of confusion, missed orders, and a quick surprise fire. Two incidents made the battle: Third Continental Dragoon leader William Washington's quick reaction to combat the British 17th Light Dragoons, allowing the American militia to re-form and enter the battle again; and lucky timing and firing by the American forces during the main line fighting.

Despite the criticism, this monograph has its merits and is a model study in many ways. It is researched thoroughly, and Babits sufficiently places his work in the larger historiographical context. Babits raises questions about the importance of southern campaigns in the Revolutionary war, human reaction to warfare, and the ability of men from diverse backgrounds to congeal into an effective fighting unit. This work is for all historians.

Austin Community College

CLAYTON E. JEWETT

With Ballot and Bayonet: The Political Socialization of American Civil War Soldiers. By Joseph Allan Frank. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1998. ix, 304 pp. Preface, list of abbreviations, notes, bibliography, index. \$40.00 hardcover.)

The Vietnam War bequeathed many legacies to our society and body politic, including new and revised perspectives for historians. Low morale and emotional trauma took their tolls among troops in the late 1960s and early 1970s, while the government cranked up campaigns to bolster sagging spirits. Scholars quickly asked: if a limited conflict fought to contain communism could inflict such heavy human and institutional damage, then how was it possible for so many men to fight for so long at such high costs during the Civil War?

Thus arose a cottage industry of studies about why men fought in the Civil War. John Keegan's *The Face of Battle* (1976), Earl J.

Hess's *The Union Soldier in Battle: Enduring the Ordeal of Combat* (1997), Gerald Linderman's *Embattled Courage: The Experience of Combat in the American Civil War* (1987), and Reid Mitchell's *Civil War Soldiers: The Expectations and Their Experiences* (1988) all proffered answers. Recently, James M. McPherson entered the fray with *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War* (1997).

Now comes Joseph Allen Frank's *With Ballot and Bayonet: The Political Socialization of American Civil War Soldiers*. Frank, a University of Ottawa political science professor, sees the key to understanding as the introduction of "total war" by the French in the 1790s. "Since the French Revolution, total wars have been fought by citizen-soldiers, many of whom were politically motivated to enlist," he writes; "The backbone of these armies is the politicized soldiers, and they tend to see the war in simply binary terms: as a struggle between good and evil" (148). To prove his thesis with respect to the American Civil War, Frank ranged through collections of soldier's letters and diaries. Eventually, he discarded most mis-sives before selecting the writings of 1,013 soldiers and sailors as reflecting "on broader political questions and the military issues of the war." Frank then utilized "social science categories for defining and classifying the levels of political socialization to provide new insights" (viii).

The author discovered in this sample just the political motivations that he had suspected. At least in the broad sense of the term, he insists, politics motivated hard-core soldiers. Loyalty and military cohesion rested upon an ideological foundation. From whence did these politically sensitive soldiers and sailors derive? Small isolated communities—"Ethnically and culturally homogeneous, the social space of these communities was very narrowly defined," Frank observes. "Community pressure imposed standards of patriotic behavior and therefore pushed youth to enlist," he continues; "The community had a large repertoire of ways to impose expectations on its young men" (30).

With Ballot and Bayonet offers a serious attempt to grapple with important issues, but the book left this reviewer with reservations. On a purely parochial basis, the text virtually ignores Florida and its soldiers. On a higher level, the author has narrowed his arguments to the point that they do not allow a proper weighing of other suggested influences. The work also tends to make a case based upon Union sources, then applies it to the Confederate army without ample justification.

Further, Frank belittles conscription and draconian draft enforcement measures. If Florida's experience proves anything, conscription and draft enforcement played huge roles in keeping Confederate armies viable. If such was the case, the key question changes to: what kept more men from being ideologically or politically committed or else disabused them of such commitments? David Williams's *Rich Man's War: Class, Caste, and Confederate Defeat in the Lower Chattahoochee Valley* (1998) has raised those issues with a convincing portrait of the Confederacy markedly different from Frank's. For so long we have assumed powerful Confederate armies were motivated by grand political and politically based social considerations. Perhaps we have been looking in the wrong direction.

Tampa, Fla.

CANTER BROWN JR.

The Children's Civil War. By James Marten. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. xi, 365 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95 cloth.)

Children often haunt our collective image of war, yet as James Marten observes in his book, *The Children's Civil War*, little if any scholarly attention has been paid to children and the American Civil War. This fresh and fascinating study explores the experiences of children to discover what the war meant to them.

This book is supposed to be a comprehensive look at the topic, and Marten does try to be as inclusive as possible. He discusses boys and girls, black and white, from North and South. He admits that more conventional sources exist for northern white children, but he tries to lessen this imbalance by using games, textbooks, novels, paintings, and WPA interviews with ex-slaves. In addition, he consults an impressive array of works by child psychologists and political scientists who have studied children and war in other times and places. The first four chapters deal broadly with children and war-time society, war imagery in children's literature and schoolbooks, and the conflict's direct impact on children and familial relationships. The final two chapters consider children's responses to the war and how those experiences influenced them as adults.

Marten argues that the Civil War affected children in a variety of ways. For some, the war meant little more than patriotic celebrations and colorful parades; for others, it meant destruction and

death. Children became both symbols and consumers during the conflict. They appeared in paintings, poems, and rhetoric to inspire soldiers and motivate civilians on both sides of the conflict. Wartime textbooks conveyed traditional messages of diligence, piety, and modesty, but added lessons on patriotism and sacrifice. War-themed toys, panoramas, novels, and fairs were all pitched to the young, especially in the North, drawing children into the war as active participants.

Marten situates his study in the larger context of nineteenth-century American attitudes toward childrearing and families, and he discovers that parental relationships with children were already changing on the eve of war. Mothers and fathers were developing closer and more emotional ties to their children, and the exigencies of war only intensified these feelings. Soldiers wrote home constantly seeking to play an active role in their children's lives. They gave advice, described camp life and battles, and urged their children's good behavior. Their service in the army, many soldiers contended, was part of their family obligation—one more important than the traditional role of economic provider. The preservation of family, symbolically and physically, became an unofficial war aim for both sides.

Not surprisingly, Marten's book demonstrates that the war and its aftermath more directly affected southern white children. There are a few scattered examples of southern white children injured or killed during the war, but more commonly Confederate children shared financial loss, displacement, disillusionment, fear, and defeat with their elders.

The war and its consequences also had a dramatic and unique impact on slave children. These children made up a large percentage of the contraband, and for them freedom was profoundly complex. They had opportunities their parents and grandparents sorely lacked, but they also faced harsh cruelty and bigotry. They viewed most white Union soldiers suspiciously and seemed to separate the concept of freedom from the troops that fought for it.

Marten argues persuasively that the Civil War shaped children's attitudes, values, and behaviors into their adult years. Southern children became passionate defenders of their parents' region and continued this strong affiliation with the Confederacy as they aged. The disgrace and degradation they witnessed made them deeply distrustful of the federal government and equally suspicious of emancipated blacks. They exchanged their parents' racist pater-

nalism for racial intolerance and bigotry that sometimes turned violent. Northern children grew up to be fervent Unionists, optimistic and confident about the nation's future. Slave children matured into adults who faced a renewed and virulent racism, disappointment, and poverty. Some would look back bitterly and regret even their freedom.

Civil War children viewed themselves as "products of war" (242). For them, as it did for adults, the war brought terrible suffering and pain. But it also taught them unforgettable lessons about family, race, patriotism, and politics. It was the most significant event of their lives.

University of Akron

LESLEY J. GORDON

General George E. Pickett in Life and Legend. By Lesley J. Gordon. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. x, 269 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 cloth.)

Partly by force of timing and coincidence, and partly as a loosely organized historiographical movement, historians in recent years have approached the Civil War with just as much interest in memory, myth, and legend as they have in immediate experience, historical reality, and traditional biography. Lesley J. Gordon's short and sharp look at the troubled life of Confederate hero George E. Pickett follows the trend, but offers unique contributions as well.

Untangling Pickett is no easy task. The mission is not unlike the desperate charge that made him legendary. Pickett's available, authentic letters are relatively few and unrevealing. Many letters once thought to be his were probably forged by his third wife, LaSalle Corbell Pickett—whose postwar legend-making, in fact, forms a large part of Gordon's book. The charge that bears his name layers postwar recollections with romance, and since then movies and novels have added to Pickett's image a resilient second coat.

That Gordon overcomes these obstacles is testament to persistence and research. Gordon's Pickett was neither an innocent, nor a jovial fop nor was he a bold warrior. Instead, he was a man plagued by constant insecurities, by anxiety, and finally by disillusionment. Though born a privileged youth in Virginia, he rejected

cavalier ideals of discipline and self-restraint. His lack of interest in anything save horses and liquor at West Point helped him finish dead last in the class of 1846, with an incredible pile of demerits stuck to his boots. Only in the army, and then only after he had proved himself a man and a soldier in the Mexican War, did Pickett find a special kind of masculine structure and stability that both suited him and eluded him. Gordon argues that Pickett tested even those boundaries until the end of his career.

The compelling insight here—the book's dominant theme—is that Pickett's anxieties were caused by an alternating unwillingness and inability to live up to the ideals of southern society. That perspective allows Gordon to use social and cultural history in a way not often seen in military biography. It is here also that Gordon uses the postwar writings of LaSalle Corbell Pickett to greatest effect.

Although Gordon exposes Sallie Pickett's conceits and deceits for what they were, she argues that "there are always significant meanings and elements of 'truth' to the images she conveyed" (37). Sallie Pickett's idyllic portraits of her husband—a courageous but peace-loving man; a romantic lover but steel-hearted soldier; a graceful rider but firm leader—were accurate in their meaning. They were ways by which Sallie Pickett confronted what George Pickett confronted in war: attacks on his manhood, his courage, and his ability.

The southern war asked George Pickett to defend social and cultural boundaries that he never fully accepted. Then war blurred those boundaries. Sallie Pickett overdrew her pictures to emphasize extremes and the extreme balance between them, ironically in order to provide the balance that George Pickett sorely lacked.

Military readers will also find much to interest them. Gordon is critical of Pickett's generalship. His inner turmoil, not to mention his already tenuous relationship with Robert E. Lee, made him a dubious choice for leadership on the battle's fateful third day. And failure at Gettysburg unhinged him. He became incapable of decisive action. Inner confusion contributed to his brutal execution of twenty-two deserters in 1864; it was manifest in the disaster at Five Forks a year later.

For all of her innovations, Gordon is still attempting a military biography. Occasionally, the demands of keeping Pickett always at the center frustrate the development of a necessary, broader analysis of other themes, such as southern society at large, myth-making, and Sallie Pickett's clear ambition to be a writer. And while Gordon's argument does not rest solely on Sallie Pickett's postwar writ-

ings (in one particularly crucial section, Gordon describes contemporary attacks on Pickett's manhood and ability [106-107]), she relies almost exclusively on postwar recollections. This is perhaps more a curse than a blessing.

It is also fair to wonder whether a man of such insecurities could truly have tested social boundaries or resisted cultural expectations. Nevertheless, this clearly written book is everything Pickett's charge was not: well conceived, well planned, and well executed.

University of Mississippi

PAUL CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

Admiral David Glasgow Farragut: The Civil War Years. By Chester G. Hearn. (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1998. xxi, 385 pp. List of illustrations, acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, index, about the author. \$37.50 hardcover.)

Chester G. Hearn has provided a lively and readable account of the exploits of David Glasgow Farragut during the American Civil War. He builds on his previous book, *The Capture of New Orleans*, for his analysis of Farragut's command throughout the major naval battles in the Gulf of Mexico. Although Hearn devotes the first forty pages and the final chapter to the non-Civil War years of Farragut's life, the emphasis remains on the naval experiences of this Civil War hero. The narrative at the heart of the book is fast paced and well organized, but does not want for detail. The author uses his considerable journalistic skill to create interesting and detailed accounts of the battles of New Orleans, Galveston, Port Hudson, and Mobile. The battle accounts are energetic and exciting to read. Particular care is devoted to Farragut's battle plans, the armaments of various ships, and the precise timing of particular actions. Hearn has done excellent work in pulling together the details of the very different activities of the Gulf Blockading Fleet to illustrate the amazing organizational and fighting talents of Farragut.

As the title suggests, the book is overwhelmingly devoted to the Civil War years and does little to introduce readers to David Glasgow Farragut the man. The subject of this biography comes through as a seasoned sailor without much interest in anything outside the navy. Aside from an occasional quotation from a letter to his wife about naval objectives and operations, Farragut's intimate family life is ignored. Hearn does acknowledge the presence of the Admiral's son, Loyall, but without much follow up on the relationship between father and

son. Although a ship under the Admiral's command is named for his son, there is no account of the christening of the ship or how it must have been an extraordinary event in the lives of both men.

Furthermore, Hearn only devotes a few sentences to Farragut's choice to join the Union, one that undoubtedly caused him and his wife great concern. Hearn quickly transports Farragut from Norfolk to New York with little mention of the personal distress and inner conflict the decision must have caused. Appropriately, the book focuses the reader's attention on the naval actions and the politics of command, but readers should reference Charles Lee Lewis's two-volume biography (1943) for further insight into the personal life of America's first admiral.

A major contribution of this book is its insight into Farragut's conflict with David Dixon Porter, his foster brother, over naval and political matters. Hearn portrays Farragut as above the pettiness of ambition and personality clashes. Yet, the bits and pieces of Farragut's quoted correspondence show that the Admiral, not unlike other commanders, complained about his problems and difficulties to Secretary of War, Gideon Welles. Further, he is not above engaging in some "finger pointing" at Charles H. Davis for the failure of the river assault on Vicksburg.

There is no shortage of books on David Farragut, dating back to the 1893 biography written by the famous naval strategist, Albert Thayer Mahan. The value of this narrative is its contribution to naval history, specifically the naval engagements of the Civil War. Hearn has synthesized and carefully reinterpreted previous accounts into one volume. This valuable, concise, and well-researched analysis emphasizes Farragut's presence in the major naval battles of the Civil War and is an important contribution to the literature.

Harrogate, Tenn.

CHARLES M. HUBBARD

Lee's Miserables: Life in the Army of Northern Virginia from the Wilderness to Appomattox. By J. Tracy Power. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. xxii, 463 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95 cloth.)

Hard-bitten soldiers in butternut, freezing in the trenches outside Richmond in the winter of 1864 trusted that "the Cause" would survive under the guidance of God and General Lee. When

southern armies surrendered the following spring, contemporaries and then historians quickly sought to deflect blame from the General and his Army of Northern Virginia. Initially, scholars probed the areas of leadership, resources, politics, and foreign affairs, and, more recently, turned their attention to nationalism, religion, and gender in an effort to identify the causes of Confederate defeat. Historians, following the pioneering efforts of Bell Wiley, have also begun to focus on the war from the vantage point of the common soldiers, thereby providing a ground level perspective of both their material and psychological well being. J. Tracy Power's study superbly advances Wiley's work by presenting a social history of a single army (Lee's) in one year of the war (1864-1865). By perusing the soldiers' letters, diaries, and papers, Power discovered why this once proud force seemingly melted away, obliging the surrender at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.

Power's begins his tale in the Spring of 1864, on the eve of the fateful and conclusive Yankee "invasion" of Virginia. The Confederate army gallantly fought a force twice its size, but Lee's men evinced optimism and high morale, believed in inevitable victory, and prayed that this would be the last campaign of the war. Despite some problems of desertion and food shortages, the soldiers shared the calm deliberation and confidence of their commander. Soon, however, the bloodbaths known as the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and Cold Harbor exacted a mental and physical exhaustion resulting from the intensity of combat and high casualties. Critically, the South began to lose good officers—a pattern that dramatically affected the ability of the army to function smoothly. Nonetheless, the men remained optimists as they dug their trenches outside Richmond and anticipated a final battle with Grant.

Unfortunately for the South, months of trench warfare and a costly campaign by Lieutenant Jubal Early in the Shenandoah Valley resulted in sagging morale, commitment, and numbers. Hopelessness and futility emerged and peace seemed ever more distant. The collapse of the army as a cohesive community became apparent, too. Death, disease, and reluctant conscripts with weakened loyalty changed the complexion of depleted units. The utilization of black manpower was a possible remedy. But Power suggests that the strong racism present when Confederate troops encountered African American Yankees at the Crater and Deep Bottom may have doomed any real hope of placing grey-clad black troops in combat—no matter what the politicians or generals argued.

Power paints a painful portrait of an army disintegrating in early 1865. The lack of clothes, shoes, and food took its toll as morale tumbled and desertions increased. Aware of the success of Philip Sheridan in the Valley, William T. Sherman in Georgia and the Carolinas, and George Thomas in Tennessee, doubts grew about ultimate victory. More importantly, Yankee armies threatened the South, compelling many soldiers to decide whether to remain in Virginia or return home and protect their families. The author emphasizes the correlation between defeatism on the home front and the collapse of the army. Power observes that soldiers courageously hung on in dwindling numbers in 1865, fighting for their communities, comrades, or commanders—but perhaps not the Confederacy. As community beckoned, comrades died or deserted, and the commander urged capitulation, Confederate soldiers' will to continue quickly evaporated.

Power has given a detailed and evocative portrayal of the devolution of an army. He maintains his focus on the common soldier, generally resisting temptations to place the commanders or politicians at center stage. Floridians will undoubtedly be pleased with the mention of various infantry units with Lee's army. Some historians, however, may wish that Power had adopted a more critical posture in his analysis. Regardless, both scholars and legions of Civil War devotees will profit from this well-written, solidly researched work.

University of South Florida

JOHN M. BELOHLAVEK

The Burden of Confederate Diplomacy. By Charles M. Hubbard. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1998. xvii, 253 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, bibliography. \$38.00 cloth.)

For over a century, historians have written extensively on the diplomatic aspects of the American Civil War. However, Hubbard is the first scholar since Frank L. Owsley to write a book devoted primarily to the foreign policy of the Confederate government. First published in 1931, Owsley's *King Cotton Diplomacy* offered a lengthy and detailed account of the diverse activities that Confederate diplomats, propagandists, and financiers had performed to further the interests of their cause in Europe. Unlike Owsley, Hubbard does not attempt to provide such a comprehensive survey of Con-

federate foreign relations. Instead, he focuses on the efforts of the Confederate government and its commissioners to secure diplomatic relations with other countries. To achieve this paramount objective, the Davis administration first sent emissaries to Washington to negotiate a peaceful separation from the Union and the transfer of federal property on Southern soil to Confederate jurisdiction. When these efforts failed, the Confederate State Department turned its attention to securing diplomatic recognition from the nations of Europe. From this point, Hubbard examines the events and circumstances in Europe that provided Confederate diplomats with opportunities to obtain both recognition and a possible alliance between the South and Great Britain and/or France. Unfortunately for the South, the Confederate government usually failed to exploit these opportunities.

Throughout his narrative, Hubbard argues that the Confederacy could have won its independence by achieving diplomatic recognition from the nations of Europe through an active and well-planned foreign policy, and that its political leaders and diplomats could have accomplished this feat if they had been more competent and imaginative. However, Jefferson Davis and his cabinet members failed to give diplomacy in Europe the priority it required when they took office. At the start of the war, Davis and most other southern politicians assumed that European dependence on cotton would force the governments of Great Britain and France to normalize relations with the Confederacy. Swayed by this fanciful scenario, the Confederate government initiated an unsuccessful cotton embargo that was intended to coerce the British and French navies into attacking the Union blockade in order to procure the staple in Southern ports. Moreover, Davis became careless in his selection of cabinet officers and diplomats. As a result, his first two secretaries of state proved to be ambitious politicians who took little interest in cultivating friendly ties with other countries. Finally, the commissioners that the Confederate government sent to London and Paris tended to be obtuse proslavery ideologues who spent most of their time complaining about the cool reception that they had received from European governments, while Union diplomats and propagandists actively pursued an effective publicity campaign to prevent the Confederacy from being recognized.

Having identified the problems of inertia and ineptitude that frequently plagued Confederate diplomacy, Hubbard proceeds with a well-organized and articulate account of the events in Europe

during the course of the war in America and the inability of southern diplomats to exploit such events effectively to their advantage. Not surprisingly, he covers such topics as the *Trent* Affair, the Erlanger Loan, the efforts of British sympathizers to pass recognition resolutions in Parliament, the French venture in Mexico, and the mission of Duncan F. Kenner to induce recognition from London and Paris by offering emancipation. Moreover, Hubbard scrutinizes British and French political correspondence to uncover instances when the governments in London and Paris actually leaned toward establishing normal diplomatic relations with the Confederacy in order to facilitate an end to the war and reopen trans-Atlantic commerce. In his view, Confederate diplomats should have acted to encourage British and French political leaders to pursue their momentary inclinations when these opportunities arose. Although Hubbard concedes that Confederate diplomacy became more effective after Judah P. Benjamin became Secretary of State in March 1862, it continued to suffer from communication problems, poor planning, and inflexibility on slavery and other issues.

Some readers might find parts of Hubbard's interpretations too speculative, especially when he postulates possible actions that Confederate diplomats might have taken to improve their standing in Europe. However, most of his narrative is persuasive and supported by voluminous amounts of private correspondence, government documents, and other primary sources. Moreover, he demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the literature of Civil War diplomacy with his extensive use of secondary sources. Within the field of Confederate history, Hubbard's book is a thought-provoking and well-researched specimen of scholarship written in a succinct and readable style.

University of Southern Mississippi

GREGORY LOUIS MATTSON

A New South Rebellion: The Battle against Convict Labor in the Tennessee Coalfields, 1871-1896. By Karin A. Shapiro. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998. xvi, 333 pp. Acknowledgments, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. \$55.00 cloth, \$22.50 paper.)

In 1871, Tennessee joined the growing list of southern states that leased convicts to private entrepreneurs. Many of these prison-

ers went to the coal mines of Tracy City, owned by what soon became the Tennessee Coal, Iron, and Railroad Company (TCIR). In a portent of future events, free miners at Tracy City immediately struck and tried to dynamite the convicts' stockade in an unsuccessful attempt to compel their removal. By 1890, TCIR leased all of the state's prisoners, working about one-third of them in its mid-Tennessee coal and ore mines and subleasing the rest, most of them to coal mine operators in east Tennessee.

By then, all of the Tennessee towns that housed branch prisons of convicts also had local assemblies of the Knights of Labor, many of them biracial, which in east Tennessee were affiliated with the United Mine Workers of America. In July 1891, after the Tennessee Coal Mining Company began bringing additional convicts into its Briceville mines in east Tennessee to replace free miners whom it had locked out, the latter waged the first of four armed rebellions against coal company stockades that would occur in a thirteen-month period, freeing forty inmates whom they placed on a train to Knoxville. Miners conducted a similar rebellion one week later at the nearby town of Coal Creek. Nearly four months later, after the state militia had returned the convicts, miners raided the stockades of Briceville, Coal Creek, and Oliver Springs, not only freeing the convicts but also burning the stockades. In August 1892, the fourth rebellion began at TCIR's mid-Tennessee mines and spread to the mines of east Tennessee, culminating in the deaths of four militiamen at Coal Creek.

The miners also turned to the governor, state legislature, and courts in their battle against the convict lease, which they viewed as an unfair advantage to corporations and an affront to their own status as independent producers and citizens. Governor John Buchanan, head of the state Farmers' Alliance, offered the miners a sympathetic ear but little else. East Tennessee's Republican legislators called for the abolition of the convict lease, but Alliance legislators refused to join them lest collaboration with Republicans place them "in the company of 'Negro-lovers,' potentially jeopardizing their long-term prospects in Tennessee politics" (13); moreover, they wished neither to dim the state's prospects for industrial development nor raise the taxes of property-owning Alliancemen by abolishing the convict lease system and constructing a new penal system. The courts also thwarted the miners' efforts; their worst judicial nemesis, Democratic State Supreme Court Chief Justice Peter Turney succeeded Buchanan as governor in 1893.

Nevertheless, the convict lease soon ended in Tennessee. "By inflicting grievous costs on coal companies and the state," Shapiro explains, "the miners ensured that no lease contract would replace [TCIR's]," which expired on the last day of 1895 (243). But this represented a pyrrhic victory for the miners, whose illegal actions had reduced their union's numbers and influence, which in turn contributed to worsening race relations among their ranks. Furthermore, the state opened its own convict mine, which became highly profitable. TCIR moved to Alabama, and for many Tennessee miners "the promise of southern industrialization remained very much unfulfilled" (247).

Shapiro has written an outstanding and significant book, engagingly written, well illustrated, and copiously researched from manuscript collections and commercial and labor newspapers. *A New South Rebellion* fits well with recent books by Alex Lichtenstein and Daniel Letwin, exploring similar themes in a different but important setting and buttressing their respective arguments about the importance of convict labor to the industrialization of the post-bellum South and the real but fragile viability of interracial unionism among southern miners in the age of Jim Crow. Perhaps this book's most significant contributions lie in its examination of the Knights of Labor in eastern and middle Tennessee, where that organization has been heretofore largely ignored by historians, and in its analysis of the nebulous relationship between farmer and labor organizations, whose efforts to unite in the pursuit of common interests were thwarted by conflicting interests. Although Tennessee's Populist-labor coalition does not comprise the chief subject of this book, Shapiro tells us enough about it to show that it merits further examination.

Georgia Institute of Technology

MATTHEW HILD

Frederick Jackson Turner: Strange Roads Going Down. By Allan G. Bogue. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1998. xviii, 558 pp. List of illustrations, preface, appendix, notes, list of selected works, bibliography, index. \$34.95 cloth.)

Frederick Jackson Turner, known today for "The Significance of the Frontier in American History" (1893), described the "free land" of the frontier as the characteristic that set the United States

apart from other nations. Today "new" western historians, such as Patricia Limerick and Richard White, define themselves largely through their disagreements with major points in Turner's famous essay. Describing the West as region, they see the process of Euro-American movement as conquest rather than settlement. And where Turner saw 1890 as a break with the past (since the census that year declared the frontier gone), they perceive continuity in the problem, which persisted in the Trans-Mississippi (or Trans-Missouri) region to the present. Given the debate their works have generated, historians are indebted to Allan Bogue for his thoroughly researched biography. In addition to bringing Turner to life, he places the scholar in the changing context of American historiography, a valuable contribution in and of itself.

Bogue begins by describing the Wisconsin milieu surrounding Turner's upbringing. As his father promoted the Portage area in a local newspaper, so Turner later promoted the interior rather than the East Coast as the focal point of American history. Turner was a promoter in yet another way as well. Throughout his life, he benefited from his contacts at Johns Hopkins, and later, having assumed the mantle of William Francis Allen at the University of Wisconsin, he perfected the academic art of garnering offers from other universities as a means of advancing his career. Nonetheless, he was always a conscientious and inspiring mentor to his graduate students; his most enduring legacy stemmed from the productive first-rate scholars he trained, including such luminaries as Carl Becker and Merle Curti.

Overall, Turner's career invites reflection on the old adage that one should be careful about one's wishes; they might come true. In 1910, Turner received a professorship at Harvard and found it even more difficult to sustain his scholarly productivity. Professors everywhere will identify with Bogue's description of how teaching and mentoring demands, the lure of outside writing assignments, and myriad personal problems, most involving health, frustrated Turner's efforts to produce his great volume. At last in 1933, the Pulitzer Prize was awarded to Turner's *The Significance of Sections in American History*, produced a year earlier. Tragically, the famous historian had been dead for over a year.

In this superb biography, Bogue demolishes the notion that Turner's scholarship is encapsulated in the Chicago address at the Columbian Exposition. Through careful reading of preliminary drafts, he uncovers a man who constantly revised his ideas, often by

incorporating insights from social scientists. Moreover, by 1910, Turner's presidential address to the American Historical Association acknowledged both continuity and class conflict in the history of the American West. Even more important, Bogue argues that because of Turner's interdisciplinary approach, his insistence on "the integration of recent history in the curriculum, and his concern that history be placed at the service of policy makers," Turner "had as much right to consider himself a 'new' historian as did [James Harvey] Robinson" (272). This splendid biography substantiates that idea conclusively.

A labor of love, this work will prove invaluable for all American historians who want to understand the development of their discipline. Others will appreciate the way that Bogue's work brings to life the background, events, and intellectual milieu that both helped and hindered a man who struggled constantly to develop his ideas and often enjoyed limited success in putting them on paper. Whatever Turner's limitations, his name routinely appears in American history survey texts. After more than a century, the debate he began at Chicago continues, while many others of his era exist only in footnotes or bibliographies as obscure entries. Leading scholars still challenge his ideas and that tells us that Turner's work retains enduring value, making him fully deserving of Bogue's exhaustive examination and careful and brilliant analysis.

University of Central Florida

SHIRLEY LECKIE

Alabama Baptists: Southern Baptists in the Heart of Dixie. By Wayne Flynt. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1998. xxi, 731 pp. Preface, notes, bibliography, index, about the author. \$29.95 cloth.)

In recent years academic interest in southern religion has waxed high on the strength of historians such as Christine Leigh Heyrman (*Southern Cross*), Glenda Gilmore (*Gender and Jim Crow*), Daniel Stowell (*Restoring Zion*), and Paul Harvey (*Redeeming the South*) who have worked to locate black and white religion and especially evangelicalism at the center of the South's cultural, social, and intellectual development. With *Alabama Baptists*, Wayne Flynt, whose pioneering works challenged long-held historical percep-

tions of a one-dimensional, conservative, reactionary southern religion, adds to this growing body of work with a generously detailed, sympathetic, yet judicious insider's look at Baptist life in Alabama over its two-hundred-year history.

His focus on Southern Baptists is welcomed, for aside from a few works such as Harvey's *Redeeming the South*, Gregory Will's *Democratic Religion*, and the work of religious sociologist Nancy Ammerman, Southern Baptists have been among the least studied American denominations, despite their representing the largest group of Protestants not only in the South but in the United States. Drawing on rich manuscript, oral history, and periodical sources, Flynt teases out the mutually reciprocal relationships between Baptist faith and larger political, social, and intellectual aspects of southern life. As a result, this work should be of interest to anyone seeking to understand the wider relationship between southern religion and culture. *Alabama Baptists* furthermore has the advantage of studying one particular group over a two-hundred-year period; thus, readers can witness elements of change and continuity over the full course of the denomination's history.

The book is chronological in structure and lacks a single driving thesis; there are, however, a number of recurring themes that guide the narrative through roughly four time periods. The first two periods are the antebellum, in which Baptists moved from being backwoods cultural outsiders to living at the South's cultural and political core, and the era from 1865 to 1900, in which Baptists experienced exponential growth following the war's devastation. In these two periods, Flynt organizes the material with at least two major themes in mind. First, he observes the ironic persistence of Baptists' identity as cultural outsiders in contrast to their actual position at the center of the state's political, economic, and educational life—an observation that helps explain why Baptists supplied labor and agrarian radicals, Populists, and even a few communists, along with college presidents, Democratic stalwarts, and New South industrialists. In a second and closely related observation, Flynt points out how, on the one hand, Baptists advocated liberal ideals of political freedom and religious toleration, yet, on the other, firmly and consistently held to conservative southern conceptions of gender, anti-Catholicism, and especially race. Conservative stands on these issues helped place white Baptists solidly in the southern middle class, while black Baptists, who found institutional autonomy from whites after the Civil War, chastised their white

brothers and sisters for their contradictory allegiances to soul liberty and paternalistic white supremacy.

Flynt then moves to the period between about 1900 and 1945 to demonstrate how Baptists, according to various social, chronological, and cultural settings, displayed a wide variety of responses to major religious currents of the period, including theological modernism, ecumenism, and the social gospel, as well as to other social and political phenomena such as war, the changing roles of women, progressive social reforms, and the New Deal. In the final period from roughly 1945 to 1998, Flynt details Baptists' roles in the social and political turmoil over racial integration and outlines the denominational fragmentation that occurred in the early 1980s as fundamentalists took over both the state and national Baptist conventions. Flynt's analysis on this latter subject is particularly insightful as he links the denominational cleavages created by debates over integration to the growing theological, cultural, and political rifts between fundamentalists and theological moderates.

The result of this analysis is a lucid, balanced, and engaging look at the ways in which Alabama Baptists influenced and reflected the most important social, political, and cultural developments in the South over the past two hundred years. With its broad interpretational strokes, wonderful anecdotes, and rich biographical detail, *Alabama Baptists* offers both insiders and academic outsiders a full immersion into southern evangelical life and history.

University of Notre Dame

JOSEPH W. CREECH JR.

The Tragedy and the Triumph of Phenix City, Alabama. By Margaret Anne Barnes. (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1998. xii, 319 pp. Foreword, prologue, cast of characters. \$27.95 cloth.)

In 1999, unsuspecting drivers crossing over the Chattahoochee River from Columbus, Georgia, into Russell County, Alabama, would never imagine the sleepy hamlet they had just entered, Phenix City, was for the first half of the century a raucous haven for gamblers, prostitutes, swindlers, and killers. Organized crime so saturated the lifeblood of the city that law enforcement, politicians, and even the military brass from nearby Fort Benning stood helpless to battle what Secretary of War Henry Stimson once called "the wickedest city in America." After the 1954 execution-style assassina-

tion of Attorney General-elect Albert Patterson, only the imposition of martial rule and the dedicated efforts of a handful of reformers combined to tame the city, cast out a bevy of crooked law enforcement officials, judges, and politicians, and incarcerate numerous criminals.

Writing in a narrative style clearly intended for a popular audience, award-winning author Margaret Anne Barnes identifies the cadre of thugs, racketeers, loan sharks, gamblers, and killers which peopled Phenix City and ruled it with an iron fist. Men like Head Revel, Hoyt Shepherd, and Jimmie Matthews created gambling empires based on lotteries, slot machines, and casino operations which were so widespread that step-stools were installed near slot machines so that children could participate. Fresh-faced recruits from neighboring Fort Benning arrived with monthly paychecks and high expectations but soon found themselves broke at the hands of rigged gaming operations, wily B-girls, and prostitutes. Dissatisfied patrons and reformers like Hugh Bentley had little recourse since the police force, mayor, commissioners, and judiciary served at the discretion of the criminal establishment.

The 1954 murder of Albert Patterson, a reformer who represented a real threat to Phenix City, captured national attention and brought correspondents from *Time*, *Newsweek*, and even the *Times* (London) to southeast Alabama. When the case was eventually unraveled (in large part due to the martial authority exercised by Major General Walter "Crack" Hanna) Russell County Deputy Sheriff Albert Fuller, Russell County Circuit Solicitor Arch Ferrell, and Alabama Attorney General Silas Garrett were all implicated in Patterson's death. While it is hardly surprising that a southern community in the 1950s could have government fraud and electoral chicanery enforced with violence, it is unusual that the victims were primarily white and often middle-class. Indeed, the Patterson murder and the subsequent use of the military to solve the crime and crush the Phenix City machine was one of the most important social and political events in pre-George Wallace Alabama.

Barnes's writing is occasionally repetitive and melodramatic, and her characters are static figures, capable of being either completely moral or totally evil with little room in between. In addition, because the book has no notations or bibliography and provides only rare source attributions, it is of limited scholarly value. Unfortunately, Barnes neglects chances to situate the events of Phenix City against the broader backdrop of impending racial, political,

social, and cultural change across Alabama and the rest of the South. Those caveats aside, *The Tragedy and the Triumph of Phenix City, Alabama* is an easy book to read which gets the story right despite the voluminous amount of names, events, trials, and elections it includes. Barnes has clearly spent many days and nights pouring over court transcripts and newspaper copy, and lining up interviews with reporters and historical actors. In short, the book is the best example of what pop history can do: tell a story, educate all kinds of readers about important events they have either forgotten or never knew, and fill a niche that academic historians are often unable or unwilling to fill.

Auburn University

JEFF FREDERICK

Huey Long Invades New Orleans: The Siege of a City, 1934-1936. By Garry Boulard. (Gretna: Pelican Publishing Co., 1998. 277 pp. Acknowledgments, notes, index. \$14.95 paper.)

In the summer of 1934, Huey P. Long of Louisiana was on top of the world. Former governor of Louisiana, the popular United States Senator believed that few things stood in his way to national prestige and prominence. One such hurdle was the New Orleans political machine known as the "Old Regulars." Long sought to destroy the machine, cement his influence in the Crescent City, and later embark on a run for president. The story of this last battle for the soul of New Orleans and the key to Long's political future is tackled by Garry Boulard.

If one thought that the colorful Kingfish had been exhaustively studied, Boulard has found room for another examination. Addressing an incident that other Long studies and biographies fail to fully consider, Boulard has made a compelling argument that Long's siege of New Orleans was key to his national political aspirations. Long believed, writes Boulard, that no one would consider him a legitimate presidential candidate if he could not control his home state. The pesky Old Regulars in New Orleans had fought Long since he entered state office and would surely work against him if he ran for president. He also needed his political machine at top efficiency and strength.

The battle with the corrupt, but terribly effective, New Orleans machine extended to various levels. It was more than a po-

litical fight over influence and control. Boulard highlights the class distinctions between Long and the Regulars. They were everything he was not: educated, pedigreed, snobby, and rich. He despised them just as any uneducated country boy would. They looked down upon Long as a farce, amazed that such an ignorant and crass man could ever win and hold political office. Their rivalry extended as far back as Long's first run for governor when the Old Regulars conspired to keep his New Orleans' vote low. He never forgot that.

New Orleans mesmerized Long. Its mysterious nature fascinated the country boy. He was enthralled by the city's culture, its hedonism, music, literature, and food. Indeed, he spent more time in New Orleans than anywhere else. Ensnared, of all places, in the Roosevelt Hotel, Long ran the state. He was also near Seymour Weiss, his confidante and protector of the Long machine funds. It bothered Long that his headquarters rested in a city over which he had little control.

Using allegations of voter fraud, Long placed New Orleans under a period of "partial martial law" and eventually sent three thousand National Guardsmen to seize voter registration records and stare down local policemen. He also withheld from the city more than \$700 million in state appropriations. In a move that revealed his hatred for Franklin Roosevelt matched that of his animosity for the Old Regulars, Long blocked matching state contributions to New Deal money for relief in New Orleans. By physically occupying the city and constricting its economy, Long weakened the Old Regulars' control over the Crescent City.

Although Long's assassination seemed to end the movement against the Old Regulars, memories of him ushered Long candidates into state office in the next election, finally breaking the Old Regulars' power. The final downfall of the Old Regulars came not as a result of Long's siege, but, ironically, with the rise of Civil Service reform and electric ballot boxes which removed corrupt officials from office and prevented tampering with voter tallies.

Boulard's study has its flaws. The story is framed by a weak introduction and an equally lacking conclusion. There is little to introduce readers, general and scholarly, to the broader context of the Long story. Nor is there much explanation of why another book on Long is worthy of print. One would like to have seen some historiographical discussion of Long, even if it were banished to

the notes. But give Boulard credit for adding to our knowledge of the Long years and further illuminating the colorful Louisiana fire-brand.

Auburn University

GORDON E. HARVEY

Beyond Image and Convention: Explorations in Southern Women's History.

Edited by Janet L. Coryell, Martha H. Swain, Sandra Gioia Treadway, and Elizabeth Hayes Turner. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1998. x, 224 pp. Editors' introduction, about the authors and the editors, index. \$37.50 cloth, \$16.95 paper.)

Here is another rich and important collection of new essays about southern women. Beginning with early eighteenth-century North Carolina, traversing numerous states and subjects, and concluding with mid-twentieth-century South Carolina, these authors have offered an enlightening panorama of southern women's experiences. Drawn from papers presented at the Third Southern Conference on Women's History in 1994, this collection explores the ways that southern women have moved beyond the conventions of their time and place. This book also reveals the exciting ways that historians are moving beyond the conventions of their field, expanding definitions of history, sources, and analysis. Together and individually, these essays offer a great deal to both veteran scholars of specific fields and to those who desire a far-reaching introduction to some of the latest scholarship spanning three centuries.

The first three essays examine eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century white southern women whose activities seemed to threaten the social elite. Kirsten Fischer's essay provides a fascinating description of lower-class women who defied sexual mores and engaged in illicit, interracial, and/or indecent relationships or activities. Fischer's analysis concludes that lower class white women in colonial North Carolina created an alternative subculture of values within the larger society. Moreover, their transgressions often elicited a powerful and stinging response from elite white lawmakers, ultimately revealing the symbolic and perceived threat that these women's activities made to the social order.

Anya Jabour's study of Elizabeth Wirt's white housekeepers in early nineteenth-century Richmond similarly reveals women with little political, social, or economic power who found ways to exert

their independence nonetheless. Occupying a liminal position within the household, they defied the conventions assumed by their elite employers and elevated themselves above the enslaved workers in the household. With impressive skill, Jabour shows us how the writings of elite employers can be used judiciously not only to untangle the motives of those writers, but also the perspectives of their servants.

Cynthia Lynn Lyerly's essay also reveals women's perceived subversive behavior in the late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century South. The women of her study experienced dramatic conversions to Methodism as that denomination swept across the region. By incorporating evidence from across the South, examining the changing definitions of madness during the period, and explaining the decline of women's religious radicalism as the nineteenth century progressed, Lyerly makes an important contribution to the currently expanding body of work devoted to the evolution of antebellum religion.

Moving well into the nineteenth century and into the lives of African Americans in southwestern Virginia, Norma Taylor Mitchell tells the extraordinary tale of an extended family of slaves who carved out remarkable autonomy and influence within a white elite household. This unusual power, Mitchell argues, stemmed from the white owners' physical and mental weakness later in life, the fact that they had no children, the family's urban-political connections, and the slaves' own resourcefulness. Like Jabour, Mitchell ably makes use of the white family's records to uncover the details of the household slaves.

Unlike many of the slaves in Mitchell's study, the slave whom Kimberly Schreck describes eventually lived to see freedom. However, as the Cooper County, Missouri, woman testified in court four times, her owners never informed her of emancipation and kept her in servitude until she learned in 1889 that she was free. Schreck tells the story of Eda Hickman's ill-fated pursuit of her back wages and simultaneously grapples with the definitions of family, slavery, and freedom in the virulently racist postbellum South.

Karen Manners Smith offers a fascinating addition to the emerging literature about southern women writers in her essay about the life and writings of famed Virginia-born author Mary Virginia Hawes Terhune, whose pen name was Marion Harland. Effortlessly bridging Old South and New, as well as Terhune's own divided allegiances to North and South, Smith provides a remark-

ably comprehensive analysis of Terhune's life, especially her conflicted relationship with her native South after the war.

The final three essays take the reader to the middle of the twentieth century and the work of southern women on behalf of African Americans. Long overlooked but increasingly under examination, the black clubwomen at the center of Susan L. Smith's study defied convention by working to meet the desperate and basic public health needs of rural African Americans. By focusing on a health project of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority in the Mississippi Delta from 1935 to 1942, Smith demonstrates that women's volunteer work addressed heartbreaking ills, largely ignored by federal and state programs, and remained a constant and influential presence as federal public health efforts eventually expanded.

Just as organizations of women made pathbreaking efforts to combat the effects of discrimination, so too did lone individuals. Joanna Bowen Gillespie tells the interesting story of privileged white Virginian Sarah Patton Boyle, an Episcopal clergyman's daughter who followed Lillian Smith's example, initiated her own racial self-education, and began writing and speaking for desegregation on the eve of the Civil Rights movement.

Finally, Marcia G. Synott also describes a white apostle of civil rights, Alice Norwood Spearman Wright, executive director of the South Carolina Council on Human Rights. Through a myriad of activities from the 1920s through the late 1960s, Spearman made remarkable efforts to facilitate an interracial dialogue between South Carolina's white clubwomen and black leaders.

While this collection offers little that focuses specifically on Florida history, it is a useful and accessible resource for general readers, undergraduates, and scholars. Because most of the essays come from larger studies which are either already published or in the works, *Beyond Image and Convention* offers less experienced scholars a comfortable introduction to the range and depth of current work about southern women. No undergraduate or newcomer to women's history should complete this book without grasping a rich, broad, and complex perspective on southern women's history. Yet, they will not find themselves mired in historiographical debates either. Likewise, for veteran scholars, this collection offers a quick, succinct, and altogether promising snapshot of some of the latest work in the field.

Emory University

CHRISTINE JACOBSON CARTER

The Moderates' Dilemma: Massive Resistance to School Desegregation in Virginia. Edited by Matthew D. Lassiter and Andrew B. Lewis. Foreword by Paul M. Gaston. (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1998. xvi, 251 pp. List of illustrations, foreword by way of memoir, acknowledgments, abbreviations, introduction, notes, contributors, index. \$49.50 cloth, \$18.50 paper.)

Virginia's policy of massive resistance to the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision continues to intrigue historians. Matthew Lassiter and Andrew B. Lewis make an important contribution to the ongoing discussion with *The Moderates' Dilemma*, a collection of six essays (including one by each editor) which attempt to clarify the response of politically moderate white Virginians to the state's decision to abandon public education rather than accept any degree of integration.

Lassiter and Lewis provide a perceptive introduction which includes a review of the literature on massive resistance. They explain "the moderates' dilemma" as the need to decide which was more important, preserving public education or maintaining racial segregation. Most moderates opposed desegregation of the schools, but they were more upset by the prospect of closed schools. A few moderate politicians and journalists devised implementation plans which could be acceptable to the Court and avert disaster for Virginia's schools. Many parents and citizens' organizations, however, made more substantial contributions to undermining massive resistance and ending the domination of the state's conservative Democrats, led by Senator Harry F. Byrd Sr. who devised the policy. Lewis contributes a thoughtful essay on the "Emergency Mothers" of Charlottesville, nine women who were members of the parent-teacher association at a closed elementary school. Making it clear that their efforts were temporary and would cease with the reopening of the public schools, even if integrated, the women organized a system of schools and secured the services of public school teachers. James Hershman's essay offers an overview of "The Emergence of a Pro-Public School Majority" with particular attention to the Virginia Committee for Public Schools which enrolled 25,000 members. Ironically, Lewis and Lassiter conclude that "by persuading their communities to accept desegregation for practical rather than moral imperatives, white moderates played a central role in limiting the possibilities of more substantive racial change" (19). At first, segregationists denounced the moderates' willingness to ac-

cept gradual desegregation, but "in the long run token desegregation eventually became—often with the support of middle-class moderates—a new rallying point for the forces hostile to school integration" (19).

Amy Murrell contributes a concise and informative chapter on the school crisis in Prince Edward County. She points out that there were moderate voices in the county, most notably the principal at the white high school and two professors at Longwood College, but their numbers were small and they were subject to intimidation. The public schools remained locked for five years while a private academy was established for whites, and blacks were left to their own devices.

Two chapters provide portraits of prominent moderates. J. Douglas Smith tells the story of Armistead Boothe, the first member of the legislature to seek change in the state's segregation laws after World War II. After the *Brown* decision, Boothe asked that the best black students be permitted to attend any school they chose. As Smith points out, however, "Boothe's emphasis on individual, qualified blacks depended upon a conception of the black race as inferior to the white race" (50). Matthew Lassiter's chapter on journalist Benjamin Muse provides an excellent conclusion to the volume. Muse, a former diplomat and veteran of both wars, retired in northern Virginia where he published a newspaper and wrote a weekly column on "Virginia Affairs" for the *Washington Post*. He worked tirelessly urging Virginians to support his plan which called for desegregation in urban areas and in counties where African Americans were not numerous. He believed that Prince Edward County in the heavily black Southside, which was the subject of one of the cases subsumed under *Brown*, was a poor place to begin.

The Moderates' Dilemma provides a thought-provoking analysis of the role of Virginia's white moderates during desegregation. Slow to mobilize, they did not become active until schools were closed, two years after the enactment of the massive resistance statutes. They were most effective after the courts invalidated those laws in early 1959. When arch-segregationists demanded continued resistance, white citizens mobilized by the moderates rallied to the defense of the public schools. Hershman stresses the importance of certain business leaders among the moderates, but Lassiter argues convincingly that it was "rather ordinary parents and other local activists who filled the leadership vacuum and no longer willing to remain silent finally coalesced in the popular

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movement for compliance and open public schools" (184). The essays are well researched and clearly written. By focusing on white moderates, *The Moderates' Dilemma* fills a gap in the historiography of Virginia's massive resistance.

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The *Florida Historical Quarterly* solicits books and reviewers, but gives reviewers freedom to evaluate the books as they deem appropriate. The *Quarterly* accepts no responsibility for their opinions and conclusions.

Book Notes

Public Address in the Twentieth-Century South: The Evolution of a Region. By W. Stuart Towns. (Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers, 1999. 256 pp. \$59.95 cloth.)

A collection of political speeches may not have obvious appeal, but this anthology is worth exploring further. W. Stuart Towns uses this collection of orations to trace the transition of the Old South to the New South. Arranged chronologically, the chapters provide biographical and historical background to explain the climate in which the speeches were made. The selections are diverse, including speeches made by Jessie Daniel Ames, George Wallace, and Jimmy Carter. The final document is Barbara Jordan's keynote address to the 1976 Democratic National Convention, which Towns believes confirms the demise of the Old South. Although this book is a companion to Towns's *Oratory and Rhetoric in the Nineteenth-Century South*, readers need not have read his earlier work to appreciate *Public Address in the Twentieth-Century South*.

Sacred to the Memory: A History of the Huguenot Cemetery 1821-1884: St. Augustine, Florida. By Florence S. Mitchell. (St. Augustine: Friends of the Huguenot Cemetery, Inc. 1998. 65 pp. \$8.00 paper.)

The Friends of the Huguenot Cemetery published this book primarily to raise funds for preserving the cemetery, but also to provide information for visitors. They have splendidly achieved their second objective. Florence S. Mitchell not only wrote the words but also provided the illustrations and rubbings that help make it an attractive booklet. Instead of a dry recitation of facts, Mitchell includes anecdotes that make for lively reading, including

the surprising revelation that no Huguenots lie buried in the cemetery. This slim volume will inspire lovers of local history and aid genealogists.

Henry Bradley Plant: The Nineteenth Century "King of Florida." By Canter Brown Jr. (Tampa: Henry B. Plant Museum, 1999. 19 pp. \$3.00 paper.)

The latest work by award-winning author Canter Brown Jr. is a short biography of Henry Bradley Plant. Published as part of the Jean Stallings Educational Series, this booklet is designed to impart facts rather than offer new interpretations. Nevertheless, it both faithfully relates Plant's story from his early life in Connecticut to his development of Florida's railroads and represents Plant not as a "robber baron" but as a model for Walt Disney, who also shaped Florida's economic development.

Vicksburg: Fall of the Confederate Gibraltar. By Terrence J. Winschel. (Abilene, Tex.: McWhiney Foundation Press, 1999. 129 pp. \$19.95 cloth.)

If the Confederacy held Vicksburg, it would keep its supply lines open and prevent the Union from controlling the Mississippi. If the Union took Vicksburg, it could inflict a double blow on its enemy and damage communications between the eastern and western parts of the Confederacy. Terrence J. Winschel, historian at the Vicksburg National Military Park, narrates this chapter of the Civil War Campaigns and Commanders series in fine style. Although primarily appealing to lovers of military history, this book includes details of civilian life that provide greater understanding of the misery of civil war. Short biographical sketches with illustrations of the key participants break up the narrative; well-drawn maps explain the action. This is an attractive as well as informative read.

The Lines are Drawn: Political Cartoons of the Civil War. Edited by Kristen M. Smith. (Athens, Ga.: Hill Street Press, 1999. 153 pp. \$18.50 cloth.)

A cartoonist herself, Kristen M. Smith explores the Civil War through the eyes of cartoonists, creating a novel approach to this sad episode in our nation's history. Smith arranges the cartoons

chronologically and provides historical context for each. Although she tries to offer a well-rounded view of contemporary opinion by gleaning her cartoons from northern, southern, and British publications, northern cartoons dominate this compilation because more of them have survived. This collection includes stereotyped images that modern readers may find offensive such as Paddy, Shylock, and Sambo. Cartoonists then, as now, relied on such stereotypes to shock their audiences; and Smith's work demonstrates that such racist views were not confined to the South.

"In the Country of the Enemy": The Civil War Reports of a Massachusetts "Corporal." Edited by William C. Harris. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1999. 192 pp. \$29.99 cloth.)

In 1862, Corporal Zenas T. Haines, a journalist with the *Boston Herald*, volunteered for the 44th Massachusetts Regiment for nine months. He continued to write for his newspaper while serving in North Carolina; his reports relate his first experiences of both military life and the South. Intended for a mass audience, Haines's dispatches make entertaining and amusing reading. With a keen eye for detail and a titillating style, Haines describes his comrades' motivations, experiences, and entertainments. Especially important were Union soldiers' ideas about slavery and their support for emancipation.

Pretense of Glory: The Life of General Nathaniel P. Banks. By James G. Hollandsworth Jr. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1998. 360 pp. \$34.95 cloth.)

James G. Hollandsworth Jr. offers this revealing portrait of a man who devoted his life to public service. Nathaniel P. Banks was the son of a millworker who ended his formal education to join his father in the mill. Nevertheless, this self-educated man became Governor of Massachusetts and Speaker of the House. Appointed as a Union General in the Civil War, he lacked experience in military matters, which would have proved less costly had he learned from his early mistakes. After the war, he played an important role in purchasing Alaska, but was accused of taking a bribe. Hollandsworth's story, then, shows how Banks's personal weaknesses prevented him from realizing his early promise. He was a good man who had too high an opinion of his own achievements, which made him unable to correct his limitations.

Early History of the Creek Indians and their Neighbors. By John R. Swanton. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1998. 456 pp. Maps. \$29.95 paper.)

Space and Time Perspective in Northern St. Johns Archeology. By John M. Goggin. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1998. 80 pp. \$29.95 paper.)

These two very different works are now back in print as part of the Southeastern Classics in Archaeology, Anthropology, and History series. First published in 1922, John R. Swanton's book traces the formation of the Creek Confederacy out of the remnants of the separate tribes that inhabited Alabama and Georgia prior to 1700. This ethnohistory includes cameos of all the peoples who contributed to Creek culture. Necessarily, some portraits are more complete than others, but Swanton offers a very comprehensive account of how Native Americans lived. John Goggin's pioneering work, *Space and Time Perspective*, devotes itself to describing and classifying artifacts. Although Goggin made some errors in dating his finds because he did not have the benefit of carbon dating, his chronology remains substantially correct. Since Goggin wrote this book, archaeological methods and interests have changed, but his efforts in developing historical archaeology and inventing underwater archaeology contributed to those changes. Such an innovative yet basic work is a good place for a lay person to develop an interest in this fascinating subject. Despite their differences, these books are both classics in their field, and readers now have a wonderful opportunity to acquire such indispensable reference works.

Caribbean Migration: Globalised Identities. Edited By Mary Chamberlain. (London: Routledge, 1998. 263 pp. \$85.00 cloth.)

This anthology contains essays by historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and geographers, offering a well-rounded perspective to an important contemporary topic. Mary Chamberlain's superb introduction ponders the threat that migrants pose to nation-states and reflects on their contribution to the "global village." The articles investigate the nature of migration rather than its causes and discusses migrants' experiences in the Caribbean, United States, Europe, and South America, dispelling the prevailing assumptions that migration is meant to be permanent. Migrants have always

tried to return home, and as travel and communications have become easier and cheaper, more migrants can retain strong attachments to friends and family at home. Racism is an important factor in the analysis, especially in those articles focusing on the Caribbean. This anthology is relevant to anyone whose ancestors were among the thousands who migrated to the Americas; the issues raised are important to all Americans.