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## Book Reviews

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## *Book Reviews*

### *Confederate Victories in the Southwest: Prelude to Defeat.*

Edited by the Publishers. Albuquerque: Horn & Wallace, Publishers, 1961. Maps. Pp. 201. \$7.50.

This book is the first venture for the publishers and was issued in a limited edition of 1,000 copies. It is a collection of transcripts from *The War of the Rebellion*, the official compilation of Civil War documents, and covers events in New Mexico up to the capture of Santa Fe. A subsequent volume will complete the story.

Horn and Wallace have prepared a useful work for readers of Southwestern history. The reviewer is quoted on the jacket blurb: "He who would appreciate history ought to read a few documents as he who would understand the forest should see the trees."

Booklovers especially will appreciate the publishers' efforts to present a well-manufactured book as designed and printed by Jack D. Rittenhouse of the Stagecoach press.

Since there is more than one series in the Civil War publications, the Series number should be added to the footnote reference in this publication.

### *New Mexico Civil War Bibliography: An Annotated Checklist of Books & Pamphlets.* Jack D. Rittenhouse. Houston: Stagecoach Press, 1961. Pp. 36. \$4.00.

This small publication contains 32 items. The compiler dealt only with printed materials, so the book was not planned as a complete bibliography for the years covered. The Santa Fe Gazette vs. The Citizens of Doña Ana County, Item #7, is published in full in the appendix. The reviewer notices only one additional item that could have been included: Brig.-Gen. Richard H. Orton, *Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion 1861 to 1867*. Sacramento, 1890.

*A Classified Bibliography of the Periodical Literature of the Trans-Mississippi West (1811-1957)*. By Oscar Osburn Winther. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1961. Pp. xxvi, 626. \$6.00.

The table of contents quickly reveals that the articles are listed under topical and sub-topical headings that include the States, for instance, New Mexico; regions, as the Great Plains; and others such as Indians, Fur Trade and the California Gold Rush. Cross references expedite finding a particular article. Each item is given a reference number (for a total of 9,244) which is associated with the author's name listed in alphabetical order.

The cross-the-border areas of British Columbia and Hispanic America are included, although the emphasis is on material related to the history of the United States.

It is incorrect to list #5731 under Negro because it deals with the Indian slave trade. Item #5890 is credited to the wrong author. Otherwise, I suspect that there is a very high degree of accuracy in this very useful and comprehensive work on the West.

*The Whipple Report*. By A. W. Whipple. Edited by E. I. Edwards. Los Angeles: Westernlore Press, 1961. Pp. v, 100. Bibliog., Illusts., Index. \$5.50.

This is Whipple's report of his survey of the international boundary line from San Diego to the Colorado River in keeping with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo that closed the war with Mexico. In a ten page introduction, Mr. Edwards presents a pen picture of Whipple's personality in contrast to that of Lieut. Cave Couts who commanded the military detachment for defense of the surveyors.

Whipple's writing attains the heights of literary style occasionally, but he is much more interested in describing the Indians, with sympathy, than commenting on his official duties. Because of this interest, the report is of greater value to ethnologists; it is not a significant contribution to the history of the times.

*Arizona Territory Post Offices and Postmasters.* By John and Lillian Theobald. Arizona Historical Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona, 1961. Pp. xiii, 178. Illus. and Bibliog. Paper \$3.00, Cloth \$5.00, Leather \$17.50.

This useful publication contains a brief history of Arizona, a discussion of mail transportation, the postal routes, service companies, the postmasters, the public attitude toward the mail service, and an alphabetical list of post offices and masters.

There are several pictures of post offices and a greater number of cancelled mail envelopes. Historical sketches are supplied for some of the post offices.

Through personal contacts and search in archival sources, the authors have not only prepared what is obviously a labor of love, but also a worthwhile addition to reference literature on Arizona.

F. D. R.

*The Charles Ifeld Company.* By William J. Parish. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1961. Pp. xxi, 431. Ills., maps, index. \$10.00.

On a broad yet revealingly detailed canvas, Professor Parish has presented a superb picture of a business enterprise which was born in territorial New Mexico and perished on virtually the day before yesterday. Published as one of the Harvard Studies in Business History, this book sits amidst distinguished company; but it is not overshadowed. It is one of the best business histories this reviewer has read. Professor Parish has demonstrated that he is a most competent and talented historian. His work rests upon solid research-foundations: the company's own archives, interviews with contemporaries of the firm and its managers, and newspapers of the day. Moreover, the author has placed the company's history in a setting made rich by his own knowledge of the business affairs and by a careful investigation of secondary source materials.

To the reviewer, the book seems naturally to divide itself into three parts. The first covers the formative period from

1865 till about the turn of the century. It tells the remarkable story of Charles Ifeld, the German-Jewish immigrant lad of eighteen who became a most successful "multi-risk merchant," importing various articles from the East and selling them, usually on a retail basis, in the vicinity of Las Vegas. As the author himself indicates, Ifeld's business operation closely resembled that of Thomas Hancock, perhaps the most famous merchant of eighteenth-century Boston. (It also resembles that of many Midwestern merchants in the mid-nineteenth century.) Like Hancock, Ifeld needed men in the East—or England, in the case of the former merchant—to supply him with trade goods and generous credit terms. There were much the same problems involved in transporting these goods and in making remittances for them. As Hancock scrambled about for bills of exchange to meet his English obligations, so too did Ifeld search for drafts to cover his debts in New York City. More fortunate than his colonial counterpart, Ifeld could sell the "country pay" (wool, grain, and livestock) tendered by his customers directly to his Eastern suppliers. To be successful at this sort of business, a man had to be intelligent, resourceful, daring and trusting. That Ifeld possessed all these traits is amply shown by the author.

The second part of the company's career began around 1900, when the railroads had completed their dissection of the Southwest, and ended with the coming of World War II. This is also the period in the company's history that is dominated by Ifeld's brother-in-law, Max Nordhaus. While Ifeld poured his merchandising dreams into the creation of a department store at Las Vegas; the younger, more vigorous man turned his energies into more diversified and more specialized fields: the woolen economy and the sheep industry; a chain of country stores and directly owned retail outlets; and finally, wholesaling, with the establishment of branch warehouses throughout New Mexico. The last venture was the most profitable; and by the end of the era, the Charles Ifeld Company was essentially a wholesaling concern.

It is rather difficult to state precisely when the company entered its third and ultimately fatal period. Certainly it occurred after the deaths of Ilfeld (1929) and Nordhaus (1935); but it does not seem to have been determined by the Great Depression. Quite probably the forces that set the company's final form were the revolution in motor transportation and the rapid growth and urbanization of New Mexico—two phenomena whose full effects were seen most dramatically in the immediate post-war years. Till almost the eleventh hour, the Ilfeld Company failed to accommodate itself to the changed and changing circumstances. But here the fault lay not so much with management as with the nature of the firm. It was a family corporation; and like so many family corporations, it had grown old. It had become “a monistic form of administration both in action and ideas. . . .” Its dividend policy was too liberal; its directors were too inbred—and one can easily guess at countless other defects commonly seen in family corporations. The reviewer's sympathies lay with the firm's last manager, Frank Mapel. Hardly had he examined the company, diagnosed its ills (in physical layout, personnel, sales procedure, etc.), and began its cure, than the company's stockholders decided to sell out.

In conclusion, let the reviewer reiterate and underscore his praise of Professor Parish's work. Indeed the only criticism offered—and I should guess the author is (pp. 91-92) aware of it—is that he may have tried too hard to place the Charles Ilfeld Company into the N.S.B. Gras frame of what does and does not constitute a sedentary merchant, a merchant capitalist, and so on. (I often suspect that such labels are more convenient than accurate.) But this criticism is scarcely significant, for this is a very good book—well and often humorously written, fully substantiated by evidence, and adequately illustrated by maps and charts. Professor Parish should be proud of his work and take honest satisfaction in looking back “over the 14 years of its doing.”

Michigan State University

ALVIN C. GLUECK, JR.

## Notes and Documents

### THE NEW MEXICO TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY, 1858-1859

The New Mexico territorial assembly of 1858-1859 played an important, if futile, role in the attempted expansion of slavery into the western territories prior to the Civil War. It was this assembly that in February 1859 adopted "an act for the protection of slave property in the territory," thus setting the stage for possible slave expansion into New Mexico territory.<sup>1</sup> This aspect of New Mexico's role in the sectional conflict has been described elsewhere<sup>2</sup> and will not be recounted here. Information pertaining to the membership of this assembly is not so easily accessible, however, and these notes will attempt to provide some insight into the characteristics of the members themselves. In this manner it is hoped that it will be shown that New Mexico's pro-slavery stand was taken by an assembly comprised not of southern planters but by a group of predominately native-born New Mexican farmers.

The accompanying table shows a list of members of the Eighth New Mexico assembly which passed the act for protection of slave property together with personal characteristics taken from the manuscript returns of the Federal Census for 1860.<sup>3</sup> In all, twelve members served in the legislative council during the session of 1858-1859, and twenty-four members served in the house of representatives.<sup>4</sup> As might be expected, members of the legislative council, or upper house, were somewhat older than members of the house of representatives; median age for council members being fifty-seven years and that of house members only thirty-four years, a considerable difference in age span. The ages ranged from twenty-four years for Antonio G. Cordera of Rio Arriba to seventy-eight for Rafael Vigil of Taos.

The great majority of assembly members were born in New Mexico; only four of the 29 members for whom place of birth could be determined were born outside the territory. One member was born in Vermont, one in Kentucky, one in Missouri, and one in Mexico. Twenty-five members were born in New Mexico.

1. *Journal of the Legislative Council for the Territory of New Mexico, Session 1858-59* (Santa Fe, 1859), 63, 67; *Journal of the House of Representatives of the Territory of New Mexico, Session 1858-59* (Santa Fe, 1859), 67, 70, 79.

2. Loomis Morton Ganaway, *New Mexico and the Sectional Controversy, 1846-1861* (Albuquerque, 1944), 70-71; and Herbert Howe Bancroft, *Arizona and New Mexico, 1530-1888* (San Francisco, 1889), 682-683.

3. Based upon the manuscript returns of Schedule No. 1, Free Inhabitants, of the United States Eighth Census, 1860. The writer used microfilm copies of the original returns located in the National Archives, Washington, 25, D. C.

4. These figures do not include C. Duran of Doña Ana, who was elected but did not actually serve in this session of the council.

MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE OF 1858-1859, WITH A SUMMARY OF  
DATA TAKEN FROM THE MANUSCRIPT RETURNS OF THE UNITED STATES CENSUS FOR 1860.

*Legislative Council*

County	Name	Age	Birth Place	Occupation	Real Property	Personal Property
Bernalillo	Henry Connelly	59	Kentucky	Merchant	\$58,000	\$84,000
Rio Arriba	Geronimo Jaramillo*					
	Pedro Salazar	57	N. M.	Farmer	780	747
San Miguel	Miguel Sena y Romero	44	N. M.	Farmer	5,000	7,000
	Donaciano Vigil	58	N. M.	Farmer	1,500	2,200
Santa Ana	Jesús Baca	60	N. M.	Farmer	7,000	2,720
Santa Fe	Nasario Gonzales*					
Socorro	Mariano Silva	57	N. M.	Merchant-Farmer	1,000	6,000
Taos	Albino Chacón	32	N. M.	Farmer	1,000	2,000
	Lafayette Head	35	Mo.	Farmer	3,000	3,000
	José Benito Martínez	47	N. M.	Farmer	5,000	16,000
Valencia	Juan José Sanchez	60	N. M.	Merchant	4,000	16,545

*House of Representatives*

Bernalillo	Miguel Gonzales	62	N. M.	Farmer	1,000	500
	José Lueras*					
Dona Ana	Mig. Salazar*					



Rio Arriba	Pedro Aragón*					
	Ant. Guad. Cordova	24	N. M.	Farmer	225	503
	Manuel Jaramillo	29	N. M.	Farmer	430	612
San Miguel	Fran. E. Salazar	25	N. M.	Farmer	210	400
	Ant. R. Arragon	41	N. M.	Farmer	400	800
	José G. Gallegos	32	N. M.	Merchant	1,200	4,000
Santa Fe	Manuel de Herrera	58	N. M.	Laborer	9,000	5,000
	Juan Benavides	28	N. M.	Farmer	20	20
	Jesús Ma. de Herrera	40	N. M.	Farmer	300	170
Santa Ana	O. P. Hovey	33	Vermont	Comm. Agent	18,000	35,000
	Nicholas Lucero	49	N. M.	Farmer	5,000	400
	Bonifacio Romero	29	N. M.	Merchant	500	1,500
Taos	Pedro Mares	25	N. M.	Farm Laborer		100
	Mateo Romero	50	N. M.	Farm Laborer	210	300
	José F. Sanchez	37	N. M.	Farmer	600	500
	Pedro Valdez	34	N. M.	Farmer	1,500	4,000
	Rafael Vigil	78	N. M.	Farm Laborer	100	200
Valencia	José Vigil	47	N. M.	Farmer	1,300	1,840
	Francisco Lopez	26	Mexico	Farmer	300	900

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

*Explanatory*

Information in this table is from the manuscript returns of Schedule No. 1, Free Inhabitants, of the United States Eighth Census, 1860. The writer used microfilm copies of the original returns located in the National Archives, Washington 25, D. C. Listing of House members does not include a delegate from Socorro whose last name was Apodaca but first name not given in *Journal*. The writer wishes to thank Linda Malin for her assistance in compiling information for this table.

\* Indicates that writer was unable to locate in manuscript census returns.

Nineteen members of the assembly listed their occupation as farming in 1860. Four were merchants, one listed himself as a merchant-farmer, one as a laborer, three as farm laborers, and one as a commission agent. Surprisingly, there were no lawyers in the Eighth Territorial Assembly.

Property holding for assembly members was quite modest; the median holding for those located in the census returns being \$1,000 in real and \$1,500 in personal property. The members of the council were considerably wealthier than those of the house; the median for the council being \$3,500 in real and \$4,500 in personal property, compared to \$430 in real \$503 in personal property for house members. Henry Connelly of Bernalillo with \$142,000, and O. P. Hovey of Santa Fe with \$53,000 in property were by far the wealthiest individuals in the assembly. On the other hand, however, eleven members held less than \$500 in real property and seven held less than \$500 in personal property.

These personal characteristics of membership illustrate that the assembly was thus comprised of men of modest means who were natives of New Mexico. Their vote for protecting slave property was thus not based upon southern or plantation background.

# The Historical Society of New Mexico

*Organized December 26, 1859*

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1859 — COL. JOHN B. GRAYSON, U. S. A.

1861 — MAJ. JAMES L. DONALDSON, U. S. A.

1863 — HON. KIRBY BENEDICT

*adjourned sine die, Sept. 23, 1868*

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*re-established Dec. 27, 1880*

1881 — HON. WILLIAM G. RITCH

1883 — HON. L. BRADFORD PRINCE

1923 — HON. FRANK W. CLANCY

1925 — COL. RALPH E. TWITCHELL

1926 — PAUL A. F. WALTER

1959 — CALVIN HORN

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