

New Mexico Historical Review

Volume 62 | Number 1

Article 9

1-1-1987

Book Reviews

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Recommended Citation

. "Book Reviews." *New Mexico Historical Review* 62, 1 (1987). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmhr/vol62/iss1/9>

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Book Reviews

The Old Army: A Portrait of the American Army in Peacetime, 1784–1898. By Edward M. Coffman. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986. ix + 514 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$35.00.)

Edward Coffman is one of the nation's leading military historians. In this thick volume, richly detailed and well illustrated, he turns his talents to characterizing and personalizing the "Old Army"—the regular establishment that took root under the Confederation and endured through the nineteenth century until the Spanish-American War. As the subtitle indicates, this is a portrait of the peacetime army. It does not address the War of 1812, the Mexican War, or the Civil War; nor is it a history solely of the Indian-fighting army, although that commands major attention. The Old Army drew its main justification from the Indian frontier, but it also garrisoned the coastal fortifications, explored and mapped the continent, engineered rivers and harbors, constructed other public works, imposed Reconstruction on the South after the Civil War, and served other national purposes.

This is institutional history, not a history of campaigns and battles. In eight long chapters, arranged with the Civil War as the rough dividing point, Coffman dissects and analyzes the institution. He examines organization and composition, command and staff, logistics, discipline, morale, desertion, training and education, politics and professional rivalries, and all the other institutional dimensions that gave distinctive identity to the Old Army. He assesses the origins, competence, and performance of the officer corps and the enlisted complement. Social history is essential to his characterization, and chapters dwell at length on the daily lives of officers, enlisted men, and women and

children in rude and isolated frontier forts, in coastal fortifications, and in the refined surroundings of urban centers.

Coffman has produced a work of admirable professionalism and enduring significance. Research is broad and deep, in official sources, private papers, and published reminiscences. His lengthy study of nineteenth-century military affairs equips him to write with assured authority. Interpretations and conclusions are sound and fortified by illuminating detail and anecdotal illustration. The specialist will find little to dispute and will welcome a treatment more thorough than any other. The lay reader may be intimidated by a text that could have been profitably slimmed, but persistence will be rewarded with an unrivaled understanding and appreciation of the subject.

The Old Army is destined to take rank as one of a handful of standard accounts of America's regular army, and the only one of such comprehensive scope. It is unlikely to be superceded for a generation or more.

Robert M. Utley
Santa Fe

Arms, Indians, and the Mismanagement of New Mexico: Donaciano Vigil, 1846. Edited by David J. Weber. (El Paso: Texas Western Press, 1986. xx + 50 pp. Illustration, notes. \$10.00 cloth, \$5.00 paper.)

Donaciano Vigil is well known to most *nuevomexicanos*. As soldier, statesman, landowner, and *patrón*, his life spanned the last years of Spanish New Mexico through the entire Mexican period into the first thirty years of the United States territorial era. He campaigned against "*indios bárbaros*," rebels who murdered Governor Albino Pérez, and *tejanos* who invaded New Mexico; served as secretary to Manuel Armijo and as a member of the department's Assembly; participated in the early U.S. territorial government as secretary and acting governor; became governor in 1847-1848; served three years as territorial secretary; and finally was a long-time rancher in the vicinity of Pecos Pueblo. With such activity, involvement, and his friendship toward *norteamericanos*, it is understandable that Vigil has been a controversial figure, then as now.

David J. Weber, well-known professor and chairman of the history department in Southern Methodist University and eminent scholar of New Mexico, brings to light in this brief monograph two of Vigil's petitions to the Assembly in June 1846. Vigil requests in the first address that Mexico permit arms to enter New Mexico duty free from the United States to counter the depredations of raiding Indians. In the second petition he urges that only native-born *nuevomexicanos* be appointed to governmental positions since the unhappy experience of three outside officials in the preceding decade had resulted in mismanagement, misunderstanding, disharmony, and rebellion. The two documents were found in the Ritch Collection at the Huntington Library and in the Mexican Archives of New Mexico at Santa Fe.

Vigil's petitions are published for the first time in this bilingual study. Following the editor's introduction discussing the proposals, Vigil's life, and Weber's methodology, the first document is presented in English and then in

Spanish, preserving the abbreviations and original terms of the handwritten manuscript. The same approach is used for the second petition. The reader may thus compare the editor's translations with Vigil's Spanish and refer to Weber's extensive notes in the final section for additional information and sources.

Although neither petition was granted, both are documents of considerable importance. As primary sources, they describe conditions in New Mexico just before the war between Mexico and the United States. They also show the divided opinion of nuevomexicanos toward norteamericanos. Furthermore, they are of more than regional interest because they reveal weaknesses in Mexican administration and defensive measures for New Mexico. Finally, Vigil's own language is depicted in them, including his use of such phrases as "indios bárvaros" and "hijos del Paiz." As an hijo del pais himself, he naturally expresses his concerns for New Mexico, his *patria chica*.

The Texas Western Press of the University of Texas at El Paso again has demonstrated its dedication to high quality work pertaining to Southwestern Americana. Weber's extensive contributions make this bilingual monograph truly valuable to laymen, scholars, and researchers.

Oakah L. Jones
Purdue University

Nelson A. Miles: A Documentary Biography of His Military Career, 1861-1903. Edited by Brian C. Pohanka. (Glendale, California: Arthur H. Clark Company, 1985. 327 pp. Illustrations, notes, index. \$35.00.)

Few army officers of the late nineteenth century equalled the accomplishments of Nelson A. Miles. A native of Massachusetts, Miles entered the volunteer forces as a private at the outset of the Civil War. Forty years later he retired as lieutenant general after a career spanning the Civil War, Indian campaigns, and the Spanish-American War. A "brave peacock," as Theodore Roosevelt once called him, Miles proved a conscientious and practical soldier, though one prone to contentiousness to the extent that it flawed his otherwise distinguished service. Given such characteristics, the man would seem an attractive candidate for a major biographical study. Although several biographies of Miles exist, none fully explores his complexities and motives.

The present volume offers more fodder for such a project. Building on a manuscript located in the U.S. Military Academy Library, editor Brian C. Pohanka has crafted a useful documentary chronology of Miles's army life. The book covers his service in the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Red River War of 1874-1875, the 1876-1877 Great Sioux War, the Nez Perce War, the Geronimo campaign, the Wounded Knee crisis, and the Spanish-American War. Appropriately enough, the volume is heavily weighted toward the Indian wars, the area where Miles made his most lasting contributions. Each section contains relevant orders, circulars, and official reports highlighting his various promotions, assignments, and accomplishments.

Of special value are the interesting and well-written introductory passages prepared by the editor to enhance and provide perspective to the reproduced

documents, although a few errors exist. Captain Frank D. Baldwin's fight with Sitting Bull's Hunkpapas occurred on a tributary of Redwater River, not on Redwood Creek, and it was December 18, rather than December 23, 1876. Pohanka's comment that the Wolf Mountain battle of January 8, 1877, was indecisive (p. 90) must be disputed. The battle was strategically important because it reinforced Miles's policy of segregating the respective followers of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse on opposite sides of the Yellowstone River. After Wolf Mountain, Crazy Horse's disheartened Sioux drifted south and surrendered at the Nebraska agencies.

Despite the general excellence of presentation, two concerns exist. First, the identity of the author/compiler of the Miles manuscript has not been clearly established nor discussed. Was it indeed Miles, as is intimated in this volume, or did one of his associates pull together the documents presented here? Second, much of the manuscript's narrative concerning Miles's derring-do among the Indians comprises verbatim excerpts from *Record of Engagements with Hostile Indians within the Military Division of the Missouri from 1868 to 1882*, compiled at the behest of General Philip H. Sheridan and published in 1882. This reproduction somewhat neutralizes the anticipated originality of the manuscript.

The documentary record is augmented with numerous photographs of Miles, many previously unpublished. In sum, Pohanka has rendered an important service in making this record available. The volume makes it clear, however, that Miles warrants comprehensive biographical treatment.

Jerome A. Greene
National Park Service

Custer for President? By Craig Repass. (Fort Collins, Colorado: Old Army Press, 1985. vii + 127 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$37.50.)

Americans fancy themselves a big-hearted people with a special fondness for gallant losers. They have forgiven George Washington for his blunders at Long Island and Germantown, Robert E. Lee for Antietam and Gettysburg, and Douglas MacArthur for the loss of the Philippines. Nevertheless, the public's compassion can be oddly selective. America still holds a grudge against George Armstrong Custer for losing a relatively minor battle at the Little Big Horn on June 25, 1876.

It is not enough to say that Custer met defeat because he underestimated the size, prowess, and tactical skill of his opposition—errors occasionally made by even able commanders. Americans need to believe that there was something terribly flawed in Custer to justify his downfall. He has been depicted as a glory-hunting egotist and as a uniformed clown whose earlier successes were the results of dumb luck. In the 1950s and 1960s, such respected Western writers as John Humphreys Miller and Mari Sandoz asserted that Custer let political aspirations cloud his military judgment. They alleged that Custer drove his Seventh Cavalry to the point of exhaustion and flung it against impossible odds in the hope of winning a big enough victory to secure for himself the 1876 Democratic presidential nomination. This theory instantly embedded itself in the popular imagination, and it has been further popularized by the

1970 film, *Little Big Man*, and Evan Connell's recent best-seller, *Son of the Morning Star*.

In *Custer for President?*, Craig Repass traces the Custer-White House myth to its sources, the uncorroborated hearsay testimony of an Arikara scout given thirty-six years after the battle. According to Repass, the elaborate conspiracy theories spun by Miller, Sandoz, and Connell are fabrications, and in this instance, his arguments are convincing. By examining contemporary newspapers and manuscript collections in the National Archives and the Library of Congress, Repass also reveals how the Grant Administration and certain army officers sought to evade any responsibility for the Little Big Horn disaster by turning Custer into a scapegoat.

Unfortunately, *Custer for President?* possesses an unbalanced and amateurish character. Repass is such an unabashed Custerphile that one is forced to question many of his minor conclusions. While defending Custer from a host of unsubstantiated charges, Repass levels some equally reckless accusations at his hero's critics. Finally, the author failed to bolster his case by reading widely in the rich and voluminous literature on Reconstruction and Gilded Age politics or by examining the personal papers of many prominent politicians who played important roles in the election of 1876.

While not without some merit, the irritating defects found in *Custer for President?* limit its usefulness.

Gregory J. W. Urwin
University of Central Arkansas

Ten Days on the Plains. By Henry E. Davies. Edited by Paul Andrew Hutton. (Dallas: DeGolyer Library/Southern Methodist University Press, 1985. xvi + 178 pp. Illustrations, map, notes, index. \$21.95.)

The post-Civil War conquest of the West was to many an Easterner a sojourn into the exotic, whether considered from the point of view of financiers, artists, or soldier-authors such as Henry E. Davies. In one sense that is what this small journal of one such "trip into the wilds" was. Organized by Lieutenant General Philip H. Sheridan, it included journalists, social luminaries, and businessmen from New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago, along with several of Sheridan's old military friends, including Davies.

A holiday spirit prevailed as the group departed Chicago, and they agreed that trophy cups would be purchased and awarded to the first to kill a buffalo and an elk. They took the train as far west as Platte City, Nebraska, where Colonel William H. Emory of Fort McPherson met them. Here the famous scout William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, selected by Sheridan to guide the hunt, joined the group, and they began their ten days on the plains. By the time they reached Fort Hays, Kansas, the plains were littered with the carcasses of more than 600 buffalo and hundreds of elk, antelope, and wild turkeys that the hunters had slaughtered; Davies closed his journal by pronouncing the hunt successful and great fun.

In another sense, however, this book is a document of the conquest and amalgamation of the West into American society during the troublesome, post-

Civil War years. Calling upon extensive research compiled for his recently-published *Phil Sheridan and His Army*, Paul Andrew Hutton, of the University of New Mexico, shows how the hunt was indicative of a close, working relationship between the business community and the military establishment, how Sheridan's policy of destroying the "Indians' commissary" (the great herds of bison) led to the final defeat of the plains Indians, and how Buffalo Bill, a popular frontiersman and scout, began the transition to theatrical star and American hero.

The book is the second volume in the DeGolyer Library Publications Series and is handsomely produced by Southern Methodist University Press.

Ron Tyler

Texas State Historical Association

War, Revolution, and the Ku Klux Klan: A Study of Intolerance in a Border City. By Shawn Lay. (El Paso, Texas: Texas Western Press, 1985. xi + 201 pp. Maps, notes, index. \$20.00.)

Shawn Lay's book is the kind of close, detailed study of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s that probably tells us more about why the secret order became so powerful in so many places, and why its power usually proved so ephemeral, than studies undertaken on a national or regional scale are apt to do. To explain as fully as possible what it was that made the Klan attractive to thousands of El Pasoans in the early twenties, Lay goes far back into the city's past, back to the Mexican War and the beginnings of Anglo-American settlement. Of the 159 pages of text in Lay's book, nearly a third have to do with the pre-1920 history of El Paso. For some readers, that may seem a bit too much by way of background. For this reader, though, the treatment of El Paso's social heritage, of the effects of the Great Revolution in Mexico after 1910, and of the super-patriotism and vigilantism inspired by the First World War provides a clear understanding of the complex circumstances into which Klan organizers moved and made rapid headway in 1921.

Lay sees substantive, plausible reasons why El Paso men would be drawn to the Klan. The city did have a lengthy history of corrupt and unresponsive government. Vice of virtually every kind flourished openly across the Rio Grande in Ciudad Juárez and inescapably affected the moral life of El Paso itself. Many of the city's newcomers had migrated from the southern United States and thus were especially susceptible to the Klan's calls for white supremacy, understood locally as Anglo supremacy over the huge Hispanic population. Despite its militant rhetoric, Frontier Klan Number 100 was generally law-abiding and non-violent, content to make itself felt mainly in local politics. Yet outside of one local schoolboard election, El Paso Klansmen had little success at the ballot box. Heavily Catholic and non-Anglo, El Paso continued to be "socially and economically dependent on peaceful coexistence" and thus ultimately a place where "moderation and common sense prevailed" (p. 159). By mid-1924 the El Paso Klan was in eclipse.

Lay relies primarily on local newspapers in putting together his basic narrative. Yet he has also resourcefully used census data, local government

and school records, personal interviews with a few survivors from the Klan years, and a variety of other materials. If the story he tells is mainly local, he also is able to put what he has to say in its appropriate national context. The result is an exceedingly thorough monograph, one of the best studies in Klan history done up to now.

Charles C. Alexander
Ohio University

The Last Frontier: A History of the Yukon Basin of Canada and Alaska. By Melody Webb. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1985. xiv + 416 pp. Illustrations, bibliography, notes, index. \$24.95 cloth, \$12.95 paper.)

The challenge of Alaskan history, like the challenge of any frontier is to blaze new trails through uncharted territory. Melody Webb's book, *The Last Frontier*, is a pioneering and thoughtful analysis of the history of the Yukon basin in northwestern Canada and Alaska. Anyone familiar with Alaskan literature realizes that the shortage of solid secondary works upon which historians can draw makes it very difficult to construct a "meaningful synthesis" of Alaska's frontier history (p. xi). But at the risk of sounding like a stock broker who describes the collapse of the market as an "excellent buying opportunity," it is the sparseness of the secondary literature which makes Alaskan history such an exciting field, and the author has done an excellent job of meeting the challenge.

Webb's goal in this book was "to perceive the history of the Yukon as an extension of the westward movement" (p. xi). The framework upon which her history is built is the Turner Thesis, and especially Turner's theories of successive frontiers. "While no one theory can explain or define human behavior," she admits, "Turner's metaphorical concept of successive frontiers provides a highly effective scheme for organizing complex and contradictory information into a meaningful synthesis" (p. xi).

The evolution of the Yukon Valley, from a trading frontier to the "enduring frontier" of wilderness Alaska today, is the story told in these pages. She describes the economic and technological advances, as well as the new "frontiers" which came with traders, missionaries, miners, road and railroad builders, steamboat men and bush pilots. The story is grounded in rich detail, and the author shows a sure knowledge of the facts of wilderness life. Her years of service with the National Park Service in Alaska undoubtedly helped the author appreciate the hardships suffered by the pioneers, such as mosquitoes, which continue to plague anyone who sets foot in Alaska in the summer. Certainly the mosquito is part of Alaska's "enduring frontier" heritage, and the author has found some excellent quotations to give a feel for what they are like. Bishop Charles Seeghers' 1877 description could have been written in 1987. He said the little pests are "uncooth [*sic*] enough to fill your spoon before you take it to your lips, you open your mouth either to speak or breathe and half a dozen of mosquitoes sail into your throat and give you a fit of coughing" (p. 73).

Webb has used previously untapped sources in the National Archives and

elsewhere, and the book includes lengthy footnotes and an admirable bibliography. This book is highly recommended for anyone interested in the history of Alaska or the American frontier.

Terrence Cole
Anchorage, Alaska

The Birth of the National Park Service: The Founding Years, 1913–33. By Horace M. Albright as told to Robert Cahn. (Salt Lake City: Howe Brothers, 1985. xii + 340 pp. Illustrations, index. \$19.95 cloth, \$10.95 paper.)

When Stephen Mather, first director of the National Park Service, died in 1930, a congressman concluded, "There will never come an end to the good he has done." Among the greater of Mather's contributions was his success in 1915 in convincing twenty-five-year-old Horace M. Albright to remain as his assistant as together they worked for the establishment of the National Park Service. In 1917, a year after the Service was created, Albright, the youngest member of the Park Service's headquarters staff, became its acting director when Mather was sidelined due to illness. When Mather returned in 1919, Albright took on a dual assignment as superintendent of Yellowstone National Park and as Mather's special field assistant. For the next decade Albright divided his time between Washington and Yellowstone. In so doing he developed a great fund of credit with scores of dignitaries, including presidents and members of Congress, whom he conducted through the nation's western parks. With Mather's retirement in 1929, Albright took over as director. At that time, as an accomplished lobbyist masking as tour guide, he knew personally about one hundred members of Congress, including nearly all who served on committees that authorized and appropriated Park Service funds. In 1933, Albright retired from the National Park Service, but his involvement with the nation's parks continued for another half century.

Albright's memoir comes as a rich and entertaining supplement to Donald Swain's 1970 scholarly biography. Initially reluctant to produce such a work, Albright in 1984, well into his nineties, agreed to cooperate. The success of the undertaking flows from the importance of Albright's contributions, the acuity of his memory, and the persistence of his collaborator, Pulitzer Prize-winning-journalist Robert Cahn. For twelve years Cahn conducted with Albright a series of oral history interviews, which he then converted to this absorbing and gracefully written first-person account.

Albright devoted his public career to upgrading national parks, acquiring private property within their borders and reducing the encroachments of livestock and timber interests. Occasionally the encroachments came from supposed allies. Such a situation occurred in 1921 when Secretary of the Interior Albert Fall proposed an "All-Year National Park" near his ranch in New Mexico's Three Rivers area. Albright comments, "Fall was fond of saying that this would be a different kind of national park. Indeed it would be, allowing hunting, grazing, timber cutting, irrigation projects, and mining, thus introducing into a national park nearly every possible form of commercial exploitation" (p. 130).

One might have expected a more thorough treatment of Park Service conflicts with the Department of the Interior's Reclamation Bureau and the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service. Despite this minor shortcoming, Albright's memoir is assured a place among major studies of the twentieth-century-conservation movement.

Richard Allan Baker
Historian, United States Senate

Yellowstone: A Wilderness Besieged. By Richard A. Bartlett. (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1985. xiv + 436 pp. Illustrations, map, notes, bibliography, index. \$24.95.)

Since its creation in 1872, Yellowstone National Park has fascinated and inspired Americans. It is the oldest park, and, with the possible exception of Yosemite, the most majestic and romantic. Most histories of the park constitute little more than grab-bags of stories and anecdotes. Although Richard Bartlett's survey is by far the best researched and contains much valuable information, it suffers from many of the same weaknesses. Whatever the entertainment value, the most important questions concerning the park's past and future receive little attention.

Students of national parks will not find any major new interpretations or ideas in this book. The same themes appear in the standard works of Ise, Runte, Reiger, Haines, and others: Congress' initial neglect; the park's early isolation; the depletion of game by commercial hunters; the defacement of natural wonders; the role of the army in policing the park before 1916; the dominance of private enterprise in running the lucrative concessions; the railroad's role in attracting tourists; and the transforming influence of the automobile.

This is an excellent mosaic of life at Yellowstone, richly detailed. But as in any mosaic, the detail often obscures larger form and substance. The writing is breezy, high-spirited, jocular, and occasionally banal and corny. At one point dollars become "shekels" for some reason (p. 317). We learn that "[p]eople have their idiosyncracies" (p. 220). Mountain lions demonstrate a "lethal pounce" (p. 330). We discover the license number of the first automobile to enter the park (p. 86). We find out where those who owned the first photo concession in the park were born (p. 153), and we get not just a biography of the architect who designed the Old Faithful Inn, but a discussion of whether he had a drinking problem (pp. 180-81, 184). The book concludes with a sentimental story about how a future president of the United States, "one of the great ones," might catch his or her first glimpse of the park from "the mattress in that tiny bunk area over the truck cab while mother and teenage sister sit inside it beside dad, who is driving. Propped on his elbows, hands on his ruddy cheeks, the boy gazes at the pines, the mountains, the geysers, thrills at the sight of an elk or a moose, and observes Old Glory waving in the breeze at a ranger station" (p. 398). This detail may well captivate visitors to park bookstores, but professional historians will find much of it bloated and tedious.

Bartlett's book is divided into five parts: visitors, concessionaires, superintendents, "raiders and defenders," and a brief history of the park since 1940. About seventy-five percent of the book is devoted to the period before 1916, when the National Park Service was created. Although the volume is subtitled "A Wilderness Beseiged," there is virtually no discussion of the threat posed by too many visitors, nor does the author spend much time looking at the park as anything other than a pleasure ground for tourists. We do not find out what the park might have been or might become. Nor do we ever discover how the vision of environmental groups concerning the park's future differed or differ from that of the National Park Service. The author deserves credit for meticulous scholarship in the most important primary sources, including the Yellowstone Park Archives and National Archives in Washington, but this book will do little to provoke thought about the past and future of the national parks in the United States.

Donald J. Pisani
Texas A&M University

River Runners of the Grand Canyon. By David Lavender. (Tucson: Grand Canyon Natural History Association/University of Arizona Press, 1985. 147 pp. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$27.50.)

Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Richard Marks recently complained that commercial helicopter and other aircraft excursions into the Grand Canyon of the Colorado were disrupting the park's tranquility. In 1985, forty charter firms operated along the periphery of the Grand Canyon, carrying sightseers down to the river below and often disrupting hikers and floaters with the sound of rotor blades and aircraft engines. These modern-day problems associated with use of the Colorado River were unforeseen by the heroes of David Lavender's *River Runners of the Grand Canyon*. As late as 1954, only 200 people had traversed the length of the Colorado since John Wesley Powell's expedition in 1869. By 1970, the number of river floaters had risen to 10,000 a year.

Lavender focuses on river-running pioneers between 1869 and 1960. He recounts the exploits of the most notable Grand Canyon explorer, John Wesley Powell, who journeyed down the Colorado three times, beginning in 1869. The value of Lavender's work, however, is found in his discussion of less well-known, but equally important, adventurers. George Flavell, who floated down the Colorado from Green River, Wyoming, to Needles, California, in 1896, experimented with a new method of running rapids by rowing into them stern-first. A year later, Nathaniel Galloway used the same technique to maneuver his specially designed, narrow-beamed, low draught craft down the Colorado. Subsequent rivermen capitalized on the lessons learned by these experimenters to develop the present-day Colorado River craft and river-running techniques.

The first explorers on the Colorado River had various motives for braving its perils. River runners such as Charlie Russell and Ellsworth Kolb in 1907 hoped to produce a documentary motion picture of the river. United States Geological Surveyors during the 1920s investigated the river solely for its

hydroelectric potential. Still other, later day expeditions, such as those sponsored by Norman Nevills and Otis ("Dock") Marston, capitalized on the national interest in recreational floating through the Grand Canyon. Whatever the explorers' goals and objectives, Lavender finds the Colorado an able leveler as various parties negotiated the river's treacherous rapids.

Lavender is able to bring these early Colorado River expeditions to life through a rich use of historical materials and his gift as a writer. His synthesis of works found in three manuscript collections—the Huntington Library, the Utah Historical Society, and the Grand Canyon National Park Library—provides a valuable contribution to Colorado River lore. The author is obviously well-versed in the geography of the river, and this knowledge is imparted to the reader. Exploring expeditions of the magnitude related in this book are often laborious affairs, punctuated by moments of sheer terror and exhilaration. Lavender carries the reader down the Colorado River in much the same manner. He conveys the monotony of each expedition without depriving one of the excitement and danger of running the Colorado's challenging rapids.

With *River Runners of the Grand Canyon*, David Lavender continues a tradition of providing historical works for both a general and a professional audience. Neither group will be disappointed with his latest work and will see in it the author's unusual ability to document little known historical events with the romance and color of a great western novelist.

Alan S. Newell
Missoula, Montana

The Long Campaign: A Biography of Anne Martin. By Anne Bail Howard. (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1985. xiii + 220 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$12.95 paper.)

Anne Bail Howard's *The Long Campaign*, a biography of Anne Martin, is not a historical analysis of her place in American history, nor is it a political analysis of her campaigns for the United States Senate. The author appears to have a strange love/hate relationship with her subject. Howard seems to identify positively with the young Martin growing up with a father who did not force her into the limiting contemporary stereotypical role for women. However, when Martin as a young woman is unable to find her place in society, largely because of her non-traditional upbringing, Howard becomes critical of her decision to enjoy the upperclass social life of Europe. When Martin finally finds her life work and joins Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters in the English women's movement, the author is as unsympathetic to the radical Martin as she is to the socialite Martin. Only in old age when the state of Nevada finally honors Martin for her work on behalf of women's suffrage in Nevada, does the author once more seem sympathetic to her subject.

There is little empathy for the woman who led the Nevada Suffrage Association to victory after a three-year battle. There is almost no sympathy for the campaigner for the United States Senate. While the enormity of the task facing Martin is acknowledged, the reader gets the impression that Martin was a fool to try for the Senate. This reviewer, who was involved in the fight

for equal rights for women in several states and in the nation has been "foolish" enough to run for Congress and now lieutenant governor, finds herself empathizing constantly with Martin, page after page, and sensing in the author that strange phenomenon of women being antagonistic toward women politicians, judging them by male standards, and not understanding that for women politicians, the rules are different from those applied to men. The question needs to be asked, when have new goals ever been achieved without "foolish" risktakers?

The book is an interesting first biographic study of Martin's life. Someone, perhaps a historian of women, ought to make a comparative study of the nation's first women to seek Congressional office and analyze the factors which inhibited some and permitted others, such as Jeannette Rankin, to win. A study comparing the candidates following the passage of the federal suffrage amendment with those of today, following the passage of the New Mexico equal rights amendment and the defeat of the federal amendment, might reveal if women in politics have advanced their goal of being part of the decision-making process which affects their lives.

Marjorie Bell Chambers
Los Alamos, New Mexico

Plains Woman: The Diary of Martha Farnsworth, 1882-1922. Edited by Marlene Springer and Haskell Springer. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1986. xxv + 322 pp. Illustrations, index. \$27.50.)

When I first discovered Martha Farnsworth's diaries in the Kansas State Historical Society's Manuscript Division several years ago, I was struck by the author's energy, tenacity, and perspicuity. An avid journal keeper, Farnsworth left sixteen volumes totaling 4000 pages and covering thirty years except 1900-1902 for which the volumes are inexplicably missing. There is no doubt in my mind that the Farnsworth narrative will entice, indeed enthrall, anyone interested in western women's social, domestic, and early Kansas history.

Farnsworth's personal story is an engrossing one. Born in Iowa in 1867, Farnsworth moved with her family to Winfield, Kansas at age five. At age twenty, she moved again, this time on her own to Topeka in 1887. Two years later she married a man wracked by consumption, alcoholism, jealousy, and an unmanageable temper. She endured three miscarriages, the death of a child, and murder threats from her husband before he died after six years of a miserable marriage. Although Farnsworth vowed that she would never marry again, she did so within seven months. This union lasted twenty-nine years and produced happiness, but no children, for the couple. During these years, Farnsworth faced the challenges and trials of a wife, mother, teacher, waitress, nurse, social worker, and suffragist.

Farnsworth's writings are not just the history of an individual woman, but reflect an era as well. They begin with rural life in Kansas of the 1880s and conclude with descriptions of the suffrage movement and prohibition in the state during the 1920s. Supplemented by an author's introduction, explanatory

notes, and illustrations, the diaries reveal the development and progress of Kansas from frontier to modern state.

By resurrecting and publishing the writings of Martha Farnsworth, the Springers have performed a real service to the many scholars and other readers who probably would have never discovered her as long as she remained, unedited and unknown, in Topeka.

Glenda Riley
University of Northern Iowa

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Book Notes

The Adventures of Captain Bonneville, U.S.A., in the Rocky Mountains and the Far West. By Washington Irving. Edited by Edgeley W. Todd. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. liv + 421 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. \$12.95.) This reprint of this classic account of the Rocky Mountain fur trade has a new foreword by James P. Ronda.

The Galvanized Yankees. By Dee Brown. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. 233 pp. Illustrations, map, notes, bibliography, index. \$7.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1963 edition that told of Confederate prisoners who were recruited into the Union Army to serve on the frontier.

General George Crook: His Autobiography. Edited by Martin F. Schmitt. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. xxiv + 326 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$9.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1946 edition with a new foreword by Joseph C. Porter.

The Custer Myth: A Source Book of Custeriana. By W. A. Graham. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. xxii + 413 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$35.00 cloth, \$14.95 paper.) This reprint of the 1953 edition makes readily available this invaluable collection of memoirs and documents pertaining to Custer and his last

battle. Fred Dustin's comprehensive bibliography is indispensable to Custer researchers.

With Custer's Cavalry. By Katherine Gibson Fougera. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. 285 pp. Illustrations, \$23.95 cloth, \$7.95 paper.) This reprint of the 1942 edition makes available one of the classic frontier army memoirs. Katherine Gibson, the author's mother, was an admirer of George and Elizabeth Custer, and the book provides insights into their lives as well as those of less famous military families of the 1870s and 1880s.

An Army Doctor's Wife on the Frontier: The Letters of Emily McCorkle FitzGerald from Alaska and the Far West, 1874-1878. By Emily McCorkle FitzGerald. Edited by Abe Laufe. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. xi + 352 pp. Illustrations, map. \$9.95 paper.) This Indian Wars memoir tells of life on the military frontier, with particular emphasis on the 1877 Nez Perce War. Joan I. Biddle has written the foreword.

Fort Griffin on the Texas Frontier. By Carl Coke Rister. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. xv + 216 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. \$7.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1956 edition with a new foreword by William H. Leckie.

Texas. By Mary Austin Holley. (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1985. viii + 410 pp. Map, table, appendix. \$17.95 cloth, \$9.95 paper.) This is a facsimile reprint of the 1836 classic published by G. Clarke and Company of Kentucky. Marilyn McAdams Sibley has written a new introduction for the book.

Early Times in Texas or, the Adventures of Jack Dobell. By John C. Duval. Edited by Mabel Major and Rebecca W. Smith. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. xxiv + 284 pp. Illustrations, notes. \$22.95 cloth, \$7.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1936 edition of this classic memoir of the Texas Revolution.

Dream of Empire: A Human History of the Republic of Texas, 1836-1846. By John Edward Weems. (Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press, 1986. xxi + 363 pp. Notes, bibliography, index. \$22.50 cloth, \$10.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1971 edition, with a new foreword by Joe B. Frantz.

The WPA Guide to Texas. (Austin: Texas Monthly Press, 1986. xxxiii + 718 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendixes, bibliography, indexes. \$24.95 cloth, \$14.95 paper.) This reprint makes readily available once more the 1940 Federal Writers' Project guide to Texas. Don Graham of the University of Texas has provided a new introduction.

The Great Frontier. By Walter Prescott Webb. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. xviii + 433 pp. Map, charts, tables, notes, bibliography, index. \$9.95 paper.) Reprint.

The Great Salt Lake. By Dale L. Morgan. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. 432 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$28.50 cloth, \$10.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1947 edition.

Historic Sketches of the Cattle Trade of the West and Southwest. By Joseph G. McCoy. Edited by Ralph P. Bieber. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1985. 459 pp. Illustrations, notes, index. \$29.95 cloth, \$9.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1939 edition.

The Wagonmasters: High Plains Freighting from the Earliest Days of the Santa Fe Trail to 1880. By Henry Pickering Walker. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. xii + 347 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, notes, bibliography, index. \$11.95 paper.) This is a third printing of the 1966 edition.

Robber and Hero: The Story of the Northfield Bank Raid. By George Huntington. (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1986. xliii + 125 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. \$5.95 paper.) This reprint of the 1895 edition of the classic account of the raid of the Jesse James gang on Northfield, Minnesota, has a new introduction by John McGuigan.

Sand in My Eyes. By Seigniora Russell Laune. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. 256 pp. Illustrations. \$7.95 paper.) This reprint of the 1956 edition, with a new foreword by Anne Hodges Morgan, makes this delightful account of pioneering in Woodward, Oklahoma, available once more.

Uncle Valentine and Other Stories: Willa Cather's Uncollected Short Fiction 1915-1929. Edited by Bernice Slote. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. xxx + 183 pp. Appendix. \$6.95 paper.)

The Horsecatcher. By Mari Sandoz. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1986. 192 pp. \$16.95 cloth, \$5.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1957 edition.

Basic Horse Care. By Eleanor F. Prince and Gaydell M. Collier. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1986. xvi + 314 pp. Illustrations, charts, tables, appendix, bibliography, index. \$19.95.)

Morgan. By Leo P. Kelley. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1986. 183 pp. \$12.95.) Fiction in the Double D western series.

The Ham Reporter: Bat Masterson in New York. By Robert J. Randisi.

(Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1986. 178 pp. Bibliography. \$12.95.) Fiction in the Double D western series.

Back to Malachi. By Robert J. Conley. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1986. 179 pp. \$12.96.) Fiction in the Double D western series.

The Third Reel West. Edited by Bill Pronzini and Martin H. Greenberg. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1986. ix + 177 pp. \$12.95.) This collection of short stories that were made into western films includes works by Bret Harte, Peter Kyne, O. Henry, John M. Cunningham, James Warner Bellah, and Dorothy M. Johnson.

Judy Dater: Twenty Years. (Tucson: University of Arizona Press/De Saisset Museum, University of Santa Clara, 1986. xxv + 128 pp. Illustrations, bibliography. \$50.00.) James L. Enyeart provides an introduction to this retrospective of the photographer's work.