reviews

SARMIENTO’S TRAVELS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1847. Translated and introduced by Michael Aaron Rockland. Princeton University Press. $9.50.

This is so good and important a book that Princeton will be missing a chance to be of service to our field if it does not promptly issue it as a paperback at one-tenth the price. No more important visitor than Domingo Faustine Sarmiento has ever come to the United States, and no visitor—not Tocqueville, Bryce, Chevalier, or whoever’s book you are using in your course—ever wrote a better or more revealing work about us. If the picture is somewhat gilded, this is because Sarmiento was responding not only to the reality around him in America (after all, the visit on which the book is based was a short one), but also to what might be called the sacred values of our culture, which he perceived with great accuracy. If he writes as a propagandist, with Chile and especially Argentina in mind, so did Tocqueville, and the image projected may as with Tocqueville, in the long ago, be more important than the imperfections perceived. Certainly no visitor was ever given the power which Sarmiento wielded to try out in his own land what he thought he saw here.

Mike Rockland’s translation is sprightly and accurate, his preface detailed, informative and indispensable for students.

SGL


This small volume is a collection of nine essays on American historiography, only two of which appear in print for the first time. One of the new essays, “The Study of American Intellectual History,” and Higham’s substantive essay, “The Reorientation of American Culture in the 1890s,” should be of particular interest to students of American Studies.

RWS


This is a valuable study of Federalist ideology as it was expressed in letters, newspapers, pamphlets and congressional debates by a group of articulate men representing “an intellectual rather than a sociological stratum,” a Federalist “cast of mind.” The author’s thesis, which reinforces the image of the Federalists provided most recently by David Hackett Fischer and James M. Banner, Jr., is that, however testy they were in response to Jeffersonian America, Federalists were not mere obstructionists but men attempting to prevent what they believed upon reasonable ideological grounds to be the disintegration of the Republic at the hands of the Jeffersonian menace. The chapter on Federalist images of the social order is excellent.

Northern Illinois University Richard J. Twomey


Stressing the themes of democracy, nationality and enlightenment the author has written what he says is essentially a political biography of Thomas Jefferson. But it is much more than that. It is in fact the definitive one volume treatment of the third President—a truly magnificent work.

Northern Illinois University Emory G. Evans


This book argues that Alexander Hamilton “tried to build a firm peace . . . by a
policy of patience accompanied by steady and candid negotiations designed to create a
general awareness of mutual international interests based on peace and commerce," while
Jefferson always tried to prove America's position right and that of other nations
wrong. These two approaches to diplomacy, Lycan says, are still contending in 20th-
century America, and he offers this study to advocates of both. This is a solid book, but it exaggerates Hamilton's peaceable intent, particularly toward France and Spain.

San Francisco State College
Jerald A. Combs

books received

(The Journal does not, as a general rule, review paperback reprints, anthologies or
collections of scholarly essays. We are strongly encouraging review essays rather than
reviews of single works.)

DEEP DOWN IN THE JUNGLE: Negro Narrative Folklore from the Streets of Phila-

ANDRE BRETON-MAGUS OF SURREALISM. By Anna Balakian. Oxford University
Press. 1971. $10.00.

THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF URBAN DESIGN. By Bruno Bettelheim, M. Paul Fried-
berg, Lee Rainwater and Wolf von Eckardt. The University of Chicago Center for
Policy Study. 1971. $9.95.

$7.50.

THE BEST OF THOREAU'S JOURNALS. By Carl Bode. Southern Illinois University
Press. 1971. $8.95.

1971. $12.50.

HENRI MERCIER AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR. By Daniel B. Carroll.

MAIN LINE TO OBLIVION: Disintegration of New York Railroads in the Twentieth

GARDEN IN THE GRASSLANDS: Boomer Literature of the Central Great Plains.
By David Emmons. University of Nebraska Press. 1971. $10.00.

THE ORDEAL OF STEPHEN DE DALUS. By Edmund L. Epstein. Southern Illinois
University Press. 1971. $8.95.

THE BIRTH OF MASS POLITICAL PARTIES, MICHIGAN, 1827-1861. By Ronald

THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT. By Gilbert C. Fite and Carroll Moody. Univer-
sity of Nebraska Press. 1971. $9.50.

CONSTITUTIONAL BRICOLAGE. By Gerald Garvey. Princeton University Press.
1971. $7.50.

THE GREAT CAMPAIGN: Reform and War in America, 1900-1928. By Otis L.

THE DISMEMBERMENT OF ORPHEUS: Toward a Postmodern Literature. By

1971. $7.95.

A CHRISTIAN AMERICA: Protestant Hopes and Historical Realities. By Robert T.
Handy. Oxford University Press. 1971. $7.95.

THE SEARCH FOR AN AMERICAN INDIAN IDENTITY. By Hazel W. Hertzberg.
Syracuse University Press. 1971. $12.00.

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KIERKEGAARD'S PRESENCE IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LIFE. By Lewis Lawson. Scarecrow Press, Inc. 1971. $7.50.


MEXICO. By Robert Quirk. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1971. $5.95.


A BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY OF BLACKS IN AMERICA. By Edgar A. Toppin. David McKay Company, Inc. 1971. $4.95.


TWENTIETH CENTURY INTERPRETATIONS OF BILLY BUDD. By Howard P. Vincent. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1971. $4.95.

