

pilation, however, does pose some problems for the reader. Examples are referred to by number in the text but by title and author in the appendix. Manuscript sources for the examples are not identified; and unfortunately, only six examples are complete. This is understandable in the case of the lengthy odes or the symphony, but disappointing in the case of Mueller's short hymns, of which only the third is fully given. These hymns contain slight editorial emendations not identified to the reader in the transcriptions, though all the pitches correspond to those shown in the manuscript. Minor but numerous typographical errors also mar the examples.

The second appendix gives melodic incipits for the pieces in Dr. Mueller's violin book. The third appendix assembles the tunes from the 1820 and the 1827 hymnals, and the fourth provides a detailed, annotated catalog of the over eight hundred items in the music collection of Economy Village. While minor oversights appear in this last appendix its careful scholarship will greatly aid future studies of the village's collection.

*Frontier Musicians* is a welcomed addition to the growing body of literature about the Harmony Society. Wetzel's book provides informative and enjoyable reading for the layman while serving the more specialized interest of the scholar.

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Claude K. Sluder

*An Ohio Portrait.* By George W. Knepper. (Columbus: Ohio Historical Society, for Ohio American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Commission, 1976. Pp. 282. Illustrations, maps, index. \$20.00.)

*An Ohio Portrait* was produced as part of that state's celebration of the bicentennial of the American Revolution. Upon seeing the title, this reviewer assumed the book was a pictorial history. It is not. It is studded with photographs and illustrations. But the author does not make statements pictorially; he chose pictures, apparently, to amplify, in some unstated manner, verbal remarks in the text. In contrast with a volume like *The American Albumn* the reader comes away with relatively few visual impressions of change and continuity, or even of what life was like in Ohio over the

past two centuries. Pictures of individuals mentioned in the text abound; other sorts of images are not arranged as parts of pictorial essays.

The book is a word portrait with illustrations. Its coverage is broad, ranging from pre-Columbian times to the present. The emphasis is on succinct description and a brief mention of as many subjects as possible; the goal is to provide information pleasantly. The author succeeds in this purpose, yet the book ultimately is a failure. It is too brief to serve as an adequate reference volume, and follows too conventional a narrative tradition in historiography to provide the reader with themes or interpretations with which to gain much insight into his or her life. Surely professional historians and their sponsoring agencies have an obligation to bring the best of the new social history to bear on their efforts, especially those intended for a lay audience.

Not that the book is a disaster, even in these terms. Clevelanders, for instance, can gain a general understanding of how their city came to be in the modern sense. And all Ohioans will learn a little about many famous persons who led the state's political life or gained popular attention if only for a fleeting moment. But they will not learn much about changing patterns of social organization and their attendant value systems. And the author is prone to boosterism in his account of contemporary affairs.

In summary, this book is a lavish but disappointing effort. It suffers from an unclear purpose and inadequate consideration for the communicative value of visual images.

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K. Austin Kerr

*The Territorial Papers of the United States. Volume XXVIII, The Territory of Wisconsin, 1839-1848. Composed and edited by John Porter Bloom. (Washington: The National Archives, 1975. Pp. viii, 1321. Notes, illustration, maps, index. \$20.10.)*

Covering the closing years of the territorial stage for Wisconsin, 1839-1848, this large volume follows lines well established by Editor Bloom. Texts of documents are accompanied by a variety of explanatory notes and cross references. The index is substantial and comprehensive. These laborious items appear to have been painstakingly performed.