

the 1820s revivalists were pointing to Universalism as evidence of the need for redoubled emphasis on sin; Universalism was, in the words of an evangelical newspaper in 1835, "the reigning heresy of the day It is poisoning more minds, and ruining more souls, than any, if not all other heresies amongst us" (p. 159). In the 1840s Universalism may have been the fifth or sixth largest denomination in America. Although the movement declined thereafter, it had played an important role in the widening confidence in human nature and modified views of the atonement that were important features of nineteenth-century American culture.

One indication of scholarly neglect of this significant religious movement has been the absence of a reliable, comprehensive history. Russell E. Miller's volume supersedes Richard Eddy's *Universalism in America* (1886). It is neither critical nor interpretative, but in the welter of names and facts that it presents may be found leads to dozens of worthwhile scholarly topics. The accounts of opposition to denominational consolidation, of frontier circuit-riding, and of early college-building all contain information of interest to specialists in Indiana history.

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The Union Cavalry in the Civil War. Volume I, From Fort Sumter to Gettysburg, 1861-1863. By Stephen Z. Starr. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1979. Pp. xiv, 507. Illustrations, notes, maps, appendix, bibliography, index. \$27.50.)

Stephen Z. Starr plans to tell, in three volumes, the story of the development of the Union cavalry from a mass of untrained, poorly equipped, and badly led but eager volunteers in 1861 into a powerful striking force by the close of the war in 1865. Volume I of Starr's series is a very well researched and readable account of the period from the recruitment of cavalry regiments in 1861 to the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863 when the Union cavalry first demonstrated that it could compete with the Confederate cavalry that earlier had been able to outride and outfight the Yankees.

The author explains why two years were needed to bring the mounted service to this stage of effectiveness. First, unlike the Confederate troopers, the northern recruits had little experience in riding or caring for horses. Second, there were very few officers with any knowledge of cavalry service. Third, time

was needed for the government to procure modern weapons, adequate clothing and equipment, and suitable horses. Fourth, the high command did not use the cavalry effectively. Instead of combining the cavalry into a single, independent force as the Rebels did, the Union troopers were split into small details assigned to infantry units and used as escorts, couriers, and scouts by the infantry officers. When the Union cavalry units were united into a single organization in early 1863, they progressed so rapidly that they prevented the Confederate cavalry from playing a significant role in the Gettysburg campaign—an important element in the final Union victory.

The author concentrates his story on the experiences of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac in Virginia and does not mention the differences in the conditions and development of the service in the other Union armies. This omission is somewhat surprising since the introduction uses General James H. Wilson's campaign through Alabama in 1865 to illustrate the ultimate effectiveness reached by the Union cavalry. Wilson's troopers were veterans who learned the cavalry business in Kentucky and Tennessee, and information about their early development and training would have been appropriate. Also, the western cavalry seems to have progressed more rapidly in the early years and were fighting as independent units earlier than the eastern cavalry. Perhaps the author plans to cover the development of the western cavalry in a later volume.

Starr has performed a valuable service by pulling together the significant story of the cavalry from widely scattered sources into one very readable book. The volume should become the most valuable single source for future historians studying the use of cavalry in the Civil War.

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The Churches and the Indian Schools, 1888-1912. By Francis Paul Prucha. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1979. Pp. xii, 278. Illustrations, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. \$16.50.)

If one is looking for a study showing the ways in which the various churches conducted schools for Indian children between 1888 and 1912, this is not the place to look. The book does not enlighten the reader as to how these children were schooled; one learns, for example, of "sexist" curricular emphases only in the appendix. And while the author does acknowledge that the Indian is almost incidental to his story, Reuben Quick Bear,