

penetrating an unwilling countryside. But David Jaffee's Yankee portrait makers and their clientele enthusiastically embraced the culture of consumerism; the impression here is of rural entrepreneurs generating capitalist development from within the countryside. Other authors see a complex mix of motivations in operation. Thus the debate over rural Americans' role in and reaction to capitalism is still far from resolved. This collection points to the importance of considering chronology, class, race, ethnicity, and geography in determining who among rural Americans embraced capitalism, and who resisted. Together with such works as Charles Martin's *Hollybush*, which traces the impact of the cash nexus through folk housing, and Joan Jensen's *Loosening the Bonds*, about farm women, *The Countryside in the Age of Capitalist Transformation*, with its essays of uniformly high quality, will establish the "new rural history" as a stimulating and provocative field of study.

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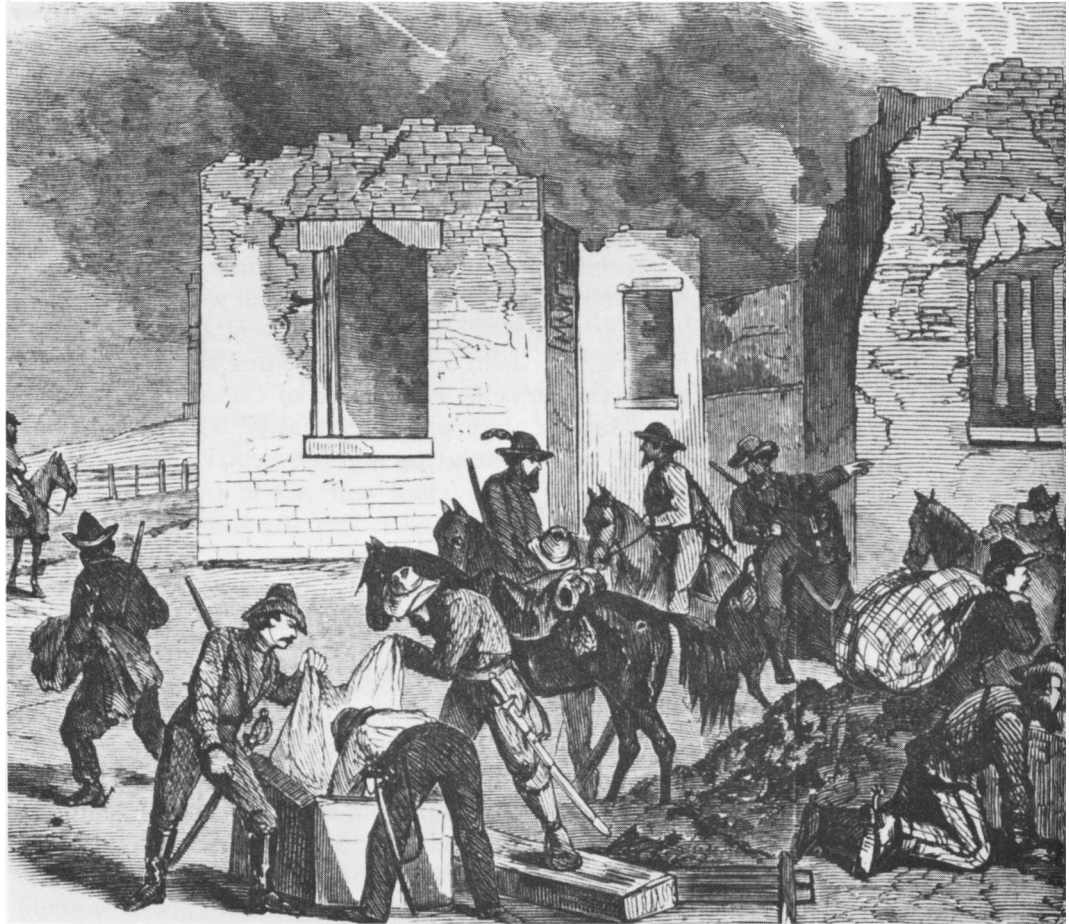
Sally McMurry

Rebel Raider: The Life of General John Hunt Morgan. By James A. Ramage. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1986. Pp. xi, 306. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliographical note, index. \$25.00.)

John Hunt Morgan has finally received a thorough and judicious biography. An exemplar of the Confederate guerrilla chief, he was the object of enormous adulation, romantic excess, fear, and bitter hatred by Confederates and Unionists. His life ended in September, 1864, in an attempt to escape from Federal soldiers who had surprised his command.

James A. Ramage has uncovered all the significant sources on his subject that probably exist. He has a flair for capturing the human interest of Morgan's life and the events and personalities surrounding him. Nowhere is this better illustrated than in Ramage's description of Morgan's raid through southern Indiana and Ohio, and his imprisonment in and escape from the Ohio State Penitentiary. The other great asset of this book is its thoughtful analysis of Morgan's decline, beginning with his second marriage in December, 1862. Ramage blames it on Morgan's emotional attachment to his new wife. Earlier he had gained psychic comfort in the cat-and-mouse games of irregular warfare. Experiencing a satisfying home life, Morgan devoted less care to his command, neglecting details which had earlier made him successful. The book also offers insight into the chasm that existed between the public's perception of a military hero and the reality of his career.

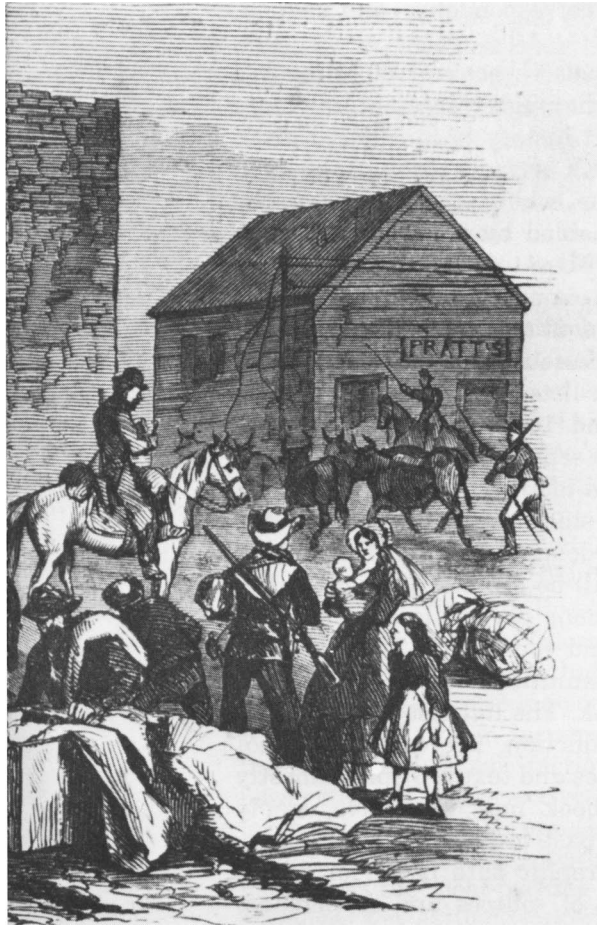
Ramage seems to admire Morgan despite his faults. It is a compliment to Ramage's fidelity to truth that Morgan comes across as a more reprehensible character than the biographer wants him



to be. Morgan and his command were responsible for some of the more insensitive atrocities in the West. Ramage does not go deeply enough into his character to question Morgan's odd penchant for disguising himself as a Union officer and spying on the enemy; he sees this as evidence of a gambler's personality and tries to tie it to the concept of southern honor, a connection that is not tenable. The bushwhacking and cold-blooded murder Morgan not only practiced but apparently enjoyed had nothing to do with honor or chivalry and had less significance for the war effort than Ramage claims. Morgan was an incredibly selfish, unsavory person; the depths of pillage to which his command descended in 1864 and his own determination to desert his men rather than be captured again illustrate his true character. Even if Ramage does not seem to be as deeply aware of all this as is justified by his evidence, he has produced what so few historians have, an interesting book.

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C. C. HASKINS'S SKETCH OF
THE JULY 10, 1863,
LOOTING OF SALEM, INDIANA,
BY GENERAL
JOHN HUNT MORGAN'S TROOPS

Taken from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, August 8, 1863. Courtesy
Indiana Historical Society,
Indianapolis.

Settlement Patterns in Missouri: A Study of Population Origins With a Wall Map. By Russel L. Gerlach. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986. Pp. viii, 88. Illustrations, notes, figures, tables, appendixes, bibliography, index, wall map. \$22.00.)

When census canvassers began requesting inhabitants' state or country of birth in 1850, they provided a major boon to American demographers. From 1850 on the census has gathered essential data about this country's settlement history and cultural characteristics. Researchers have examined population origins in all or parts of many states, including those in the Old Northwest. With the publication of this wide-ranging book, Missouri joins the list. Russel L. Gerlach, a historical geographer, presents Missouri's nativity origins and settlement history through text, tables, and maps. His sources are those used by geographers, historians, and other social scientists: previous studies, the census, church records, local