

to found the University of Virginia. This enterprise aptly fits the author's theme: Jefferson's commitment to make reason rule all aspects of human endeavor. Being only human, Jefferson failed to live up to his ideals, and it is this human side of Jefferson that Cunningham's biography unfortunately neglects. The care with which Cunningham has presented the events of Jefferson's public career, however, will make his book a much-consulted source.

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Gamaliel Bailey and Antislavery Union. By Stanley Harrold. (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1986. Pp. xvi, 301. Illustration, notes, bibliography, index. \$28.00.)

The past generation has seen an outpouring of biographies of antislavery figures, some volumes pedestrian, some inspired, most somewhere in between. The best have not only illuminated their subjects but have served as vehicles for major reinterpretations or important new insights into antebellum reform. Gamaliel Bailey deserves full-length biographical treatment as much as any previous subject, and Stanley Harrold's work falls into the inspired category. It is impressively researched, is in discourse with the relevant secondary literature, and is conceptually coherent. It presents a solid account of Bailey's life and provides valuable, although not striking, insights into the larger antislavery movement.

Bailey (1807-1859) was born in New Jersey, studied medicine in Philadelphia, and edited a Methodist periodical there before settling in Cincinnati in 1832. Almost by chance he found himself attached to the faculty of Lane Seminary as a physiology instructor. The famous Lane debates of 1834 swept Bailey into the immediate abolitionist movement. Soon he found himself on the staff and later editor of the leading western abolitionist organ, the *Philanthropist*. Bailey made the periodical a voice for "moderate" abolition, Liberty party politics in Ohio and Indiana, and opposition to the radicalism of William Lloyd Garrison.

Late in 1846 Bailey moved to Washington, D. C., to edit the *National Era*, which under his leadership became the most widely read antislavery journal in the country. Bailey's greatest coup, albeit an unwitting one, came in 1851 when he began to serialize the hitherto unknown Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Bailey also served as a leading antislavery lobbyist in Washington and was an intimate of Salmon P. Chase, Joshua R. Giddings, and Charles Sumner. Ironically, even though Bailey gave early support to the organization of the Republican party, it was that party's absorption of antislavery politics that sent the *Era* into a slow decline.

Bailey's personal papers have been lost, so Harrold's book is necessarily a public biography. It places Bailey in the context of his times, analyzing his political and economic thought as well as

his views on reform. In short, this is a competent work that will probably stand as the definitive biography of its subject.

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Travels to Hallowed Ground: A Historian's Journey to the American Civil War. By Emory M. Thomas. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1987. Pp. ix, 155. Maps, illustrations, index. Clothbound, \$19.95; paperbound, \$9.95.)

Inspired by visits to a dozen battle sites, Emory M. Thomas, professor of history at the University of Georgia and author of several scholarly books on the Civil War, offers a dozen brief meditations on the great conflict. He begins with Gettysburg, backtracks to John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, and from there proceeds through selected episodes of the war to Joseph E. Johnston's surrender to William T. Sherman at Bennett Place near Durham, North Carolina, on April 26, 1865. One of his recurring themes is the contrast that he perceived, during his travels, between the noble past and the tawdry present. The louts of today litter the scenes of past glories and sufferings—of which they know next to nothing—with the plastic detritus of a civilization gone soft.

Some of the meditations come off nicely and may be read as small-scale prose elegies on the horrors of human conflict. Others, for example the short one about Fort Pulaski on its island near Savannah, Georgia, fall rather flat, even though Thomas uses Percy Bysshe Shelley's "Ozymandias" to reinforce his point about the vanity of fixed fortifications and neatly slips in an allusion to Heracleitus's philosophy of history.

Indiana readers may be interested in the author's references to General Lew Wallace at the battle of Shiloh (the general's failure to bring his division decisively into action at an opportune moment is charitably ascribed to muddled orders and to the complexities of the terrain) and to novelist Kurt Vonnegut, whose optimistic speech on nuclear peace, given in New York City in 1982, sets the tone for the penultimate essay entitled "Protruding Entrails and Petersburg." One regrets, from the hard-core Hoosier point of view, that there are no allusions, once Thomas has dealt with Shiloh, to the participation of the numerous Indiana volunteer regiments in the other engagements he has chosen as starting points for his reflections. Indiana was present with distinction at several of them.

The attractively printed text is flawed in minor ways. Some of the illustrations are a bit murky. It is difficult, for example, to see