

250 other contributors is truly encyclopedic. About 2,300 of the articles are short entries limited to four hundred words each. These sketches describe the history of hundreds of local businesses, leaders, and institutions. In fact, the breadth of coverage is awesome, and it also reflects the richness of the city's diverse past. For example, the encyclopedia portrays Cleveland's ethnic heritage. Included are citations for such obscure groups as the Aitaneeet Brotherhood Association, a society made up of immigrants from Aitaneeet, Lebanon, as well as accounts of such figures as Ivan Zorman, who lived in the United States from age four but achieved his place in the encyclopedia because of his internationally acclaimed poetry in the Slovene language. At first glance some may dismiss this volume as a collection of trivia about a city that by the 1970s had become the butt of jokes throughout the nation, yet the encyclopedia actually is a rich mine of material for the social historian as well as the student of America's political and economic development.

In addition to the short entries the encyclopedia includes 167 signed interpretative essays that examine broader topics such as education, music, philanthropy, and religion. These entries as well as the 40,000-word narrative history of the city at the beginning of the volume are invaluable because they piece together myriad factual fragments to form a larger picture. Thus the editors have successfully explored both the microcosm and macrocosm of Cleveland's past. Anyone interested in urban history or local history certainly should consult this work. It is both a monumental and a model effort.

JON C. TEAFORD is professor of history, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. He is the author of four books on American urban history, the most recent of which is *The Twentieth-Century American City: Problem, Promise, and Reality* (1986).

La Salle, the Mississippi, and the Gulf: Three Primary Documents.

Edited by Robert S. Weddle; Mary Christine Morkovsky and Patricia Galloway, associate editors; Ann Linda Bell and Robert S. Weddle, translators. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1987. Pp. x, 328. Notes, maps, illustrations, tables, bibliography, index. \$39.50.)

In 1684 René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, undertook an expedition to found a French colony on the Mississippi. This ill-fated mission has intrigued historians since Francis Parkman's time. Although several accounts of both this venture and the explorer's overland trek to the Mississippi delta in 1682 are well known, the answers to several important questions concerning the leader's character, the choice of location of Fort Saint-Louis, the assassination of La Salle, and the fate of the settlers remain unclear. The documents in this volume help resolve some of these

problems, cast new light on the experiences of these pioneers, and provide ethnographic data on the inhabitants of the Mississippi valley and Texas.

The first of the three documents in the volume under review records Minet's lengthy shipboard conversations during the Atlantic crossing with two members of La Salle's first expedition, Nicolas de La Salle and Gabriel Barbier. These conversations enabled Minet to write a concise yet informative narrative of the 1682 journey down the Mississippi. Included were valuable ethnographic data on the native peoples. The journal of the 1684–1685 voyage from France to Matagorda Bay sheds light on the difficulties that plagued the second expedition and helps explain the loss of La Salle's supply ships. Minet, who was to be the engineer for the new colony, fell out with La Salle and returned to France where he was imprisoned. His recriminations against La Salle are, therefore, certainly biased, but they nevertheless help historians to understand the flaws in the explorer's character, flaws that contributed to the tragic outcome of this 1684 expedition.

The second of the three documents is the diary of Juan Enríquez Barroto, chief pilot on one of the eleven expeditions undertaken by the Spanish between 1685 and 1699 to locate the French colony and arrest the interlopers. During a seven-month circumnavigation of the Gulf of Mexico, two galleys traveled by day and were rarely out of sight of land. Written in 1687, Barroto's journal contains descriptions of the coast, as well as the mouths of the Mississippi, and provides an idea of living conditions on board these vessels. Although interesting with respect to sea travel, it lacks the human drama of the other two documents and makes for dry reading.

The final document is the 1698 interrogation of Pierre and Jean-Baptiste Talon, two survivors of the settlement. In 1687, as a young boy, Pierre was taken to the Hasanai Indians to learn their language and, after witnessing La Salle's assassination, spent three years living with the natives. Jean-Baptiste remained at Fort Saint-Louis with his family until most of the adult settlers were killed by the Karankawa in 1688. He was adopted into the tribe and remained with it until a Spanish expedition brought both brothers to Mexico City in 1690. In 1697 they were captured by the French and were sent to France where the authorities, preparing the Louisiana settlement of Pierre le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville, questioned them on their experience. Although their young age and the long interval between the events and the interrogation must have clouded some memories, they were able to give important information on the final phase of La Salle's expedition. Their story, although not conclusive, helps to clarify some heretofore puzzling points. The brothers also provided valuable ethnographic and linguistic data on the native peoples of Texas.

Informative introductions help put the three documents in perspective and underline each one's contribution to knowledge of the events. The annotations are helpful and generally to the point. An exception is the statement that the Jesuits siphoned off much of the Indian trade (p. 24). The Talon interrogations are followed by three excellent commentaries: by Mardith K. Schuetz on ethnographic data; by Del Weniger on natural history; and by Rudolph C. Troike on linguistic data.

JOHN A. DICKINSON is chairman of the History Department, Université de Montréal, Montréal, Canada. He has published several articles on relations between the French and native peoples and is co-author with Brian Young of *A Short History of Quebec* (1988).

Among the Sleeping Giants: Occasional Pieces on Lewis and Clark.

By Donald Jackson. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987. Pp. xiv, 136. Maps, figures, notes on sources, index. \$17.95.)

The late Donald Jackson was an outstanding editor and a respected historian. Over the last three decades he produced nearly twenty volumes of journals, letters, diaries, and histories. Among the significant figures in American history about whom he has written are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and George Armstrong Custer, but Jackson had a special interest in the lives of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their magnificent expedition. His *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* is a brilliant work of editing. *Among the Sleeping Giants* does not, however, meet the high standards that Jackson had established in his previous works. Perhaps because of his illness the work is a melange of casual comments, random musings, and leftovers from earlier literary repasts.

Following an introduction dealing with incidents that occurred at the mouth of the Yellowstone River in 1805 are seven chapters, two of which have fewer than ten pages. There is a chapter entitled "If the Spanish Had Captured Lewis and Clark" that incites other "what ifs"—"What if Lewis and Clark Came Back by Sea?" and "What if Lewis Had Not Become An Alcoholic?" The game of "what if" is unending, if diverting; for example, what if Lewis and Clark had captured a Spanish patrol? While this intellectual discussion might stimulate lethargic freshmen, it can easily be overdone unless one possesses the wit of a James Thurber.

Another chapter deals with Lewis's and Clark's search for volcanoes while a third solves the question of the correct name for Lewis's dog. It appears that for seventy years editors and historians have perpetuated the error that the Newfoundland's name was Scannon. Jackson points out with some glee that its correct name was Seaman. Though it is nice to have things set right, this emendation hardly merits a chapter.