for the patriots of 1776—so in 1787 Scott moved his family to Kentucky in search of opportunity. After his stint as state militia commander, he served as governor from 1809 to 1812, the year before his death.

Harry M. Ward contends persuasively that Scott exemplified for two generations the Revolutionary theme of dedication to liberty and its armed defense. Having helped establish a national tradition of service, Scott personified that tradition for Kentuckians from the 1790s to the War of 1812, which Scott presented to his constituents as a second war of independence.

Ward thoroughly presents all that is known about Scott. Although handicapped by the absence of Scott’s personal papers, Ward has done an outstanding job of piecing together Scott’s career, largely from a variety of collateral sources. Those sources are adequate to establish the outlines and sometimes the details of Scott’s activities, but the surviving record is too sparse to permit more than a general impression of his character and personality. The writing is clear but often plodding. The publisher has included maps when needed, but several of the map reproductions are too small in scale to be useful.

This book’s strong point is the author’s diligent and resourceful research. The result is the best life of Charles Scott readers are likely to find. The book advances no important new interpretations of the larger context of Scott’s life, but it is nevertheless of value to those who are deeply interested in the history of the American Revolution, Kentucky, and the Old Northwest.

JAMES HAW is associate professor of history at Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne. He is principal co-author of Stormy Patriot: The Life of Samuel Chase (1980) and is currently working on a life of John and Edward Rutledge.


The politics of the Civil War era, especially in the decade of the 1850s, have long intrigued scholars who have produced a veritable mountain of studies on the subject. William E. Gienapp provides the most recent book-length addition to this literature with his volume on the origins of the Republican party. This work should have the subtitle, “A Study of Party Origins in Nine States” (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa). Herein lies the major disappointment in Gienapp’s otherwise generally fine and important achievement, for he largely ignores the men and events of the remaining northern and western states. If party disintegration, realignment, and
formation were significant developments or otherwise unique in these bypassed states, the reader will remain uninformed about them.

Except for Iowa's political developments, which Gienapp largely summarizes rather than analyzes, his examination of political activities in the remaining eight targeted states is quite good. This achievement derives not so much from ploughing new ground but from honing, refining, and correcting previous studies as well as providing a number of original and penetrating insights of his own. Gienapp supports his views with a mass of statistical evidence in the form of maps, tables, and explanatory footnotes (electoral maps for Iowa are not provided).

Gienapp contends that the disintegration of the Jacksonian party system and the formation of the Republican party were distinctive although related political phenomena. He maintains, additionally, that scholars of the era have not given appropriate emphasis to state and local history, specifically ethnocultural developments, temperance, and nativism—especially anti-Catholic bigotry—as factors germane to the destruction of the old party system and the eventual creation of the new party alignments. Nor have scholars paid enough attention, according to Gienapp, to such issues as the violence in Kansas, the assault upon Charles Sumner, or even the selection of Nathaniel Banks as Speaker of the House, as ingredients crucial to the ultimate success of the Republican party.

This is a useful, well-edited volume. The bibliographical essay will be helpful both to young researchers and established scholars alike, and it is a pleasure to find the footnotes where they properly belong, at the bottom of the page. Although strongly opinionated and highly selective, Gienapp furnishes numerous suggestions for additional investigation and research in the bibliography as he does elsewhere in the book.

Despite limiting his investigation and analysis to nine northerm and western states and despite a writing style that is often ponderous and tedious, Gienapp has produced a useful addition to the literature on antebellum politics. A second volume, designed to bring the study of 1850s politics through the election of 1860, is contemplated. Perhaps the author will include more than the nine targeted states in this companion undertaking.

MORTON M. ROSENBERG is professor of history at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. Among his works are *Iowa on the Eve of the Civil War* (1972) and a variety of articles on national, state, and local history, ranging from the American revolution to the Spanish-American War.


The fate of the United States hung in the balance on July 2, 1863, the second day of the battle of Gettysburg. Harry W. Pfanz has given that day the minutely detailed study it has long de-