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 northern 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.

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Gettysburg: The Second Day. By Harry W. Pfanz. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1987. Pp. xx, 601. Illustrations, maps, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. $34.95.)

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-

served. Probably more volumes have been written about Gettysburg than about any other event in American history, but none is clearer or more firmly grounded in research than this one. It is certainly among the best ever written about the battle. The author sets forth the development of the second day of the battle and introduces readers to the people in the fight, from the leaders to the rank-and-file soldiers, from the brilliant to the foolish.

Pfanz is an excellent writer, and the style and organization of this book make it eminently readable. The historian must search out the truth in often conflicting personal narratives, reconciling or choosing among them. The battle of Gettysburg produced thousands of accounts, and the author has done an outstanding job bringing some of these together to tell part of this epic story. He has made his choices well. If points are to be disputed, such dispute is one of the aspects of Civil War history that makes it so abidingly interesting. Pfanz documents what he says, and his notes are logical, well reasoned, and add immeasurably to the work.

The first and third days of that monumental struggle were deadly in a straightforward way: head-on clashes of mighty masses of men, bloody and devastating. This book is the story of Robert E. Lee's attempt to win the fight on the second day of the battle by turning the Union left and of George G. Meade's successful defense against it. It was a day of boggling complexities, of mistakes, of ingenuity, of seemingly superhuman effort, of courage, savagery, pain, kindness, and death spread across the fields and hills south of the town. To tell the story coherently and to breathe historic life into the people who were there and figured into the scheme of things is difficult. Harry W. Pfanz has spent a good portion of his life tramping the ground of Gettysburg, searching the libraries, seeking new material to enrich the mountains of the old, developing an understanding of what happened on that crucial day. He has put it into writing, and readers are the richer for it.

JAMES A. TRULOCK is a past president of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table. He and Alice Rains Trulock have recently completed a Civil War biography of Union General Joshua L. Chamberlain, a prominent participant in the second day's action at Gettysburg. An excerpt from this book has appeared in the *Civil War Quarterly*.

Corncribs: In History, Folklife, & Architecture. By Keith E. Roe. (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1988. Pp. xi, 103. Illustrations, map, bioliography, index. $24.95.)

Observers of changes in the Midwest's rural landscape generally recognize that the form and function of agricultural structures reveal the evolution of occupational processes and technologies. Some of these structures, including corncribs and summer kitchens, are still commonly seen even though the particular occupa-