



WESTBOUND STAGECOACH ON THE NATIONAL ROAD AS IT EMERGES FROM HIGH BRIDGE OVER POGUE'S RUN (AT WASHINGTON STREET AND PRESENT COLLEGE AVENUE) AND TRUMPETS ITS ARRIVAL IN INDIANAPOLIS

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Into the Old Northwest: Journeys with Charles H. Titus, 1841–1846. Edited by George P. Clark. (East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1994. Pp. ix, 184. Map, illustrations, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$27.95.)

Charles H. Titus was a pious Down-Easter who came to Indiana in 1841 to teach and to become one of the earliest graduates of Indiana Asbury (now DePauw) University. He and his new wife then directed the Male and Female Seminary at Madison, only to leave in disappointment in the spring of 1843. Whether they had ever intended to grow up with the country is not revealed. But thereafter, before taking up a life as a Methodist itinerant preacher in New England, Titus traveled by railroad, stagecoach, canal boat, lake steamer, brigantine, and canoe, circuitously from southern Indiana to the head of Lake Superior, on a visit to Methodist mission stations among the Sioux and Chippewa. Titus edited his own journal of this expedition, and it is this finally published travel account that forms the heart of this book.

Titus's eye for detail and for the incongruous was positively Dickensian; his descriptions of stagecoach and canal boat travel are certainly worthy of *American Notes* and its author. Titus was generally sympathetic to the West and its development, though he clearly felt more at home among New England immigrants than he did among Hoosiers. He shared the anti-Catholicism of most nine-

teenth-century American Protestants and was repelled by the visible Romanism at Detroit and at backcountry missions. But his distaste for Native Americans was particularly strong, revealed both through prejudice, in his account of General Josiah Harmar's defeat, and from observation on Lake Superior. He concluded that missionary activity among Indians was simply unnecessary and futile. Indeed he shared nothing of the Romantics' enthusiasm for unspoiled humans and unspoiled nature. "The roaring cascade, the lofty, craggy rocks, the dense and almost impenetrable forest that still remained as nature had formed it, & the natives of the wood that stood around me, all strove in vain to arrest my attention," he wrote. "My thoughts were far away in the land of the christian, where God is known & worshiped, & the blessings of a civilized life abound" (p. 119). Within a year of writing this, Titus returned to the steady habits of New England, where he remained the rest of his life.

George P. Clark has done well to bring this account of Yankee perspectives on western life to light and to provide it with extraordinarily complete annotation. It is a worthy addition to the honorable genre of western travel literature.

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The Pursuit of Public Power: Political Culture in Ohio, 1787-1861.

Edited by Jeffrey P. Brown and Andrew R. L. Cayton. (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1994. Pp. xxvii, 246. Map, tables, notes, bibliographic essay, index. Paperbound, \$22.00.)

This collection of twelve interesting essays describes and interprets the political history of Ohio from its territorial stage through the antebellum years in relation to ideological, economic, and social characteristics. The authors are experienced researchers and are carrying forward major projects on the subjects they discuss. Not only do they contribute informative views of this state but they provide models for study of other states in the region, in fact of the nation.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century when Ohio entered the Union, its population was quite small, but each decennial census revealed an amazing increase. New Englanders migrating into the state's northern counties and southerners up from the Carolinas, Virginia, and Kentucky made for a mixture of people building a midwestern culture in many aspects.

Early on, as the Federalist party disappeared, the dominant political persuasion was Jeffersonian Republican, withal internal differences. And nearly everyone, it seemed, preferred a republican label of some kind. Nevertheless, the catalyst of Jacksonianism restored a two-party system, Whigs and Democrats; and like other