

REVIEW NOTICES

A C. S. Rafinesque Anthology

Edited by Charles Boewe

(Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland Publishers, 2005. Pp. viii, 271. Illustrations, index of genera, general index. \$45.00.)

American naturalist and New Harmony, Indiana, resident C. S. Rafinesque is remembered among scientists for devising Latin scientific names for more plants than any other naturalist. But nomenclature was only one of his many scientific passions, which ranged from archaeology to zoology. This volume, arranged in nine sections and accompanied by editorial introductions, presents some of Rafinesque's published writings in those other areas of inquiry. All of these pieces are rare—several discovered only within the last few years—and their recovery and reissue will help broaden understanding of Rafinesque's wide-ranging achievements.

The Sword and the Pen

A Life of Lew Wallace

By Ray Boomhower

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press, 2005. Pp. x, 164. Illustrations, list of sources, list of historic sites, index. \$15.95.)

The tradition of writing historical biography for young readers seems to have fallen out of favor with many authors and presses, leaving student and general reader alike to fall back on Internet-published biographies of inadequate length and often dubious attribution. Enter the IHS Press with this well-produced biography of Hoosier soldier and author Lew Wallace. The volume nicely balances text and illustrations and also recommends further reading and historic sites associated with Wallace. Librarians at every school and public library in Indiana should acquire this book for their young readers' section.



*A Lost American Dream
Civil War Letters (1862/63) of
Immigrant Theodor Heinrich
Brandes in Historical Contexts*
By Antonius Holtmann

(Indianapolis: Max Kade German-American Center, 2005. Pp. vi, 103. Illustrations, figures, maps, notes, appendix, bibliography. Paperbound, \$6.95.)

Theodor Brandes emigrated from Prussia to Oldenburg, Indiana, in 1853. In October 1862, Brandes earned \$800 as a paid substitute enlisting in the 83rd Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment. His subsequent letters, transcribed from the original German, detail the 83rd's actions during Grant's approach to Vicksburg but stop before the surrender of the city, due to Brandes's death from sickness. The letters also provide a window into the thoughts of a soldier who was fighting not for abolition or for the Union, but for the monetary gain that his service brought to his family.



Herndon's Lincoln

By William H. Herndon and Jesse W. Weik

Edited by Douglas L. Wilson and Rodney O. Davis

(Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2006. Pp. xxxviii, 481. Appendix, illustrations, editor's annotations, corrigenda, index. \$35.00.)

Because he was Abraham Lincoln's law partner for nearly two decades

and because he systematically collected information about the martyred president from former friends in Illinois and Indiana and because he revealed intimate secrets about Lincoln's lineage and love life, William Herndon drew attention with his "history and personal recollections of Abraham Lincoln"—a book still considered to be the most influential, and controversial, biography of Lincoln ever published. This critical edition brings together all of Herndon's strengths in an accessible and documented format. The full text of the original 1889 edition appears, followed by an appendix identifying material added to a revised 1892 edition. Endnotes to both text and appendix serve to document textual changes—in the wording, spelling, layout, and editing performed by Herndon and Weik—and to identify sources. The most common attributions point to Lincoln's *Collected Works* (online at <http://www.hti.umich.edu/l/lincoln/>), to Ward Hill Lamon's *Life of Abraham Lincoln* (1872), and to the editors' previously edited volume of Herndon's research materials, *Herndon's Informants* (1998). An introduction by the editors sketches Herndon's life, describes the process by which he collaborated with Hoosier Jesse W. Weik in authoring the text, and summarizes scholarly debates about Herndon and his research methods, especially as they relate to the story of Lincoln's love affair with Ann Rutledge. After more than a century, *Herndon's Lin-*

coln remains an essential read for every serious student of the life of Lincoln; this volume is now the essential edition of Herndon's work.



Sommerfrüchte (Summer Fruits)

A Brief History of the First 31 Years of the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, Indiana

Translated by Eberhard and Ruth Reichmann

(1898; Ferdinand, Ind.: The Sisters of St. Benedict, 2005. Pp. 84. Illustrations, appendices. Paperbound, \$15.95.)

In 1898 a Benedictine nun sat down to write a short history of the Sisters of St. Benedict during their first three decades in Ferdinand, Indiana, "the right place for a convent where the fruits of virtue and the blossoms of piety . . . should be blooming and ripening" (p. 9). This document, whose original author remains unknown, details the construction of the convent and the work of the sisters, mother superior, and priests. Historians of American Catholicism will be particularly interested in the author's account of the schools operated by the sisters. The text appears in German and English, supplemented with a generous collection of period photographs.



Aristocrat and Proletarian

The Extraordinary Life of Paxton Pattison Hibben

By Stuart G. Hibben

(Tamarac, Fla.: Llumina Press, 2006. Pp. iii, 234. Maps, illustrations, references, list of publications, index. \$29.95.)

Into a lifespan of only forty-eight years (cut short by a fatal bout of influenza in 1928), Indianapolis native Paxton Pattison Hibben packed the roles of diplomat, politician, soldier, war correspondent, linguist, journalist, and humanitarian. Author Stuart Hibben, a distant relative, highlights and celebrates Paxton's courage in renouncing an aristocratic upbringing to champion the cause of the weak and helpless—specifically, the starving children of Russia's famine of 1921-1923. These actions earned him scorn from many countrymen, praise from the Soviet Union and, ultimately, the contradictory title of "aristocratic proletarian."



Tray Chic

Celebrating Indiana's Cafeteria Culture

By Sam Stall

(Cincinnati, Ohio: Emmis Publishing, 2004. Pp. 120. Illustrations, recipes. Paperbound, \$22.99.)

What is a Hoosier? According to Sam Stall, a true Hoosier is someone who still eats in a cafeteria. Stall sets out to explore what he calls the "cafete-

ria culture" of Indiana by looking at seven different cafeterias, each a fixture of central and south-central Indiana for decades. Anyone who has eaten at Laughner's, MCL, Gray's, Poe's, Jonathan Byrd's, Shapiro's, or Marian's will enjoy reading about the history of each cafeteria, the modern business practices required to keep these old-fashioned restaurants profitable in the twenty-first century, and the continuing commitment of the families who run (or in the case of Laughner's, ran) each.



Indiana Sporting Life
Selections from Traces of Indiana
and Midwestern History
 Edited by Ray Boomhower

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 2005. Pp. 109. Illustrations, selections for further reading. Paperbound, \$19.95.)

This book is the first of a thematic series that will reproduce articles from the Indiana Historical Society's magazine, *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*. These nine articles cover a wide range of sporting topics—including baseball and basketball (five of the nine pieces), boxing, fishing, motorcycle racing, and horse racing—and feature little-known subjects such as Erwin G. "Cannon Ball" Baker of early twentieth-century motorcycle racing fame and the Creek Chub Bait Company of Garrett, Indiana, as well as the far more famous Crispus

Attucks Tigers of 1950-1951 and baseball player Gil Hodges. This generously illustrated volume should appeal to sports fans of all ages.



Presbyterian Pioneers
Confronting the Culture,
1843-2006
The Indiana Attica-Williamsport
Presbyterian Church

By Carol Parks Morrison

([Longwood, Fla.]: Xulon Press, 2006. Pp. ix, 433. Illustrations, bibliography, appendix. Paperbound, \$21.99.)

Using church records and local history sources, Carol Parks Morrison has written an extensive history of two Presbyterian congregations that, during the course of their long history, became one. Although most of Morrison's chapters are organized by successive pastorates, the author's eye for detail yields a story that brings out the important role played by lay members of the two churches—in particular, the women. Beyond the obvious appeal to members of the churches, the book will also prove useful to anyone interested in the history of Attica and Fountain County, and to those studying the history of Presbyterianism in Indiana and the Midwest.



*She Got Up Off the Couch
And Other Heroic Acts from
Mooreland, Indiana*
By Haven Kimmel

(New York: Simon and Schuster, 2006. Pp. xiv,
304. Photographs. \$24.00.)

After 20 years of burrowing into the corner of the family couch, eating junk food, and reading science fiction, Indiana mother Delonda Jarvis did something that shocked her family: She went to college. Or as her youngest daughter, Haven Kimmel, writes, she “stood up, brushed away the pork rind crumbs, and escaped by the skin of her teeth” (p. 5). So begins the sequel to *A Girl Named Zippy* (2002), Kimmel’s initial look into small-town Indiana life. Here, she strikes a slightly more serious and emotional chord, highlighting her mother’s struggle to leverage some financial and emotional independence from a restrictive marriage and from Midwestern culture.

