

Presidential candidates from all political parties made Fort Wayne a stopping point on the campaign trail. William Jennings Bryan “captured the imagination” of Fort Wayne and Allen County, which voted for the congressman from Nebraska three times (p. 63). Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin D. Roosevelt paid visits, as well as Charles Lindbergh, spokesperson for the America First Committee (whose isolationist views the *Journal Gazette* sharply disagreed with). The newspaper also took on the Ku Klux Klan. Indiana was the most powerful Realm in the Invisible Empire, and most of the state’s newspapers, as Bushnell notes, were either sympathetic to or silent about the Klan’s intolerance and racism. Not so with the *Journal Gazette*, which sharply criticized the hooded order and “openly campaigned” against it (p. 112).

The *Journal Gazette* continued to espouse views that were contrary to the more conservative climate of Fort Wayne. As the twentieth century marched on, the newspaper supported civil rights, women’s rights (including the right to an abortion), affirmative action, and gun control, and criticized American involvement in the Vietnam War.

Bushnell’s research is extensive and he tells a good story. *Hard News, Heartfelt Opinions* is an excellent starting point for an area that has been long neglected in Indiana history.

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### *The North American Journals of Prince Maximilian of Wied* Volume I, May 1832–April 1833

Edited by Stephen S. Witte and Marsha V. Gallagher

(Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2008. Pp. xlii, 467. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$85.00.)

German naturalist Prince Maximilian of Wied’s North American expedition of the upper Missouri River regions in 1832–34, renowned through the work of Swiss artist Karl Bodmer, represented the first exploratory scientific survey since Lewis and Clark’s journey several decades earlier. Stephen S. Witte and Marsha V. Gal-

lagher’s visually stunning University of Oklahoma Press publication, in three collector-quality oversized edited volumes illuminated by the Maximilian-Bodmer Collection at the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, Nebraska, encompasses the most complete English record of the expedition. The art, descriptive detail, and

annotation of these volumes will aid historians' and other scholars' research of the Old Northwest, the West, Native Americans, and more. This review evaluates the first volume which spans the period May 1832 to April 1833 and includes Maximilian's voyage from Europe to Boston; stays in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia; excursions into the Pennsylvania countryside; and the four-and-one-half months stay in the former communal society at New Harmony, Indiana, before journeying to St. Louis to jump off into the American West.

By the time of his North American expedition, Prince Maximilian had already undertaken two voyages to the Americas; this time he was accompanied by Bodmer and Wied hunter and taxidermist David Dreidoppel. Maximilian's wide-ranging observations extend beyond the natural sciences and will captivate the reader. From the group's Fourth of July landing in Boston in 1832 amidst festivities and fear of cholera, to physical descriptions of urban life in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia juxtaposed with those of the agrarian landscape, this is in many important ways a social history of the early republic. Travel conditions, the strong German influence in Pennsylvania, local rural customs and food culture, and comparative farming practices all share the spotlight with Maximilian's identification of the flora and fauna. Yet this is prelude to his eager anticipation of studying Native Americans,

which is covered in the remaining volumes.

Indianans might be particularly interested in the lengthy section on Maximilian's stay in New Harmony, from October 20, 1832, to March 15, 1833. His observations are a window into this Wabash River town and surrounding area, its activities, as well as many of its local luminaries, such as Philadelphia scientist Thomas Say, French naturalist and illustrator Charles A. Lesueur, and Robert Owens's family. Maximilian noted six hundred inhabitants, steamboat and flatboat activity, a stage that came three times a week from Mount Vernon on its way to Vincennes, and U.S. mail and newspapers that came once a week. Perhaps of more interest than the classifications of local plant and animal species are the largely negative characterizations of the local farm people and their farming practices. He describes their appearance and manners in terms like "dirty," "crude," "shabby," and "very bad" (p. 235). He was even less impressed with what he believed was negligent care of livestock, a primitive interest in cattle breeding, and a crippling focus on raising Indian corn and hogs which foraged everywhere. Nevertheless a great deal about early nineteenth-century southern Indiana life can be gleaned from this volume.

In its presentation and remarkable detail, this volume represents the best of scholarly publications. Yet it also exemplifies what can go wrong when too much attention is paid to

aesthetics and not enough to the vital areas of copyediting and proofing. There is great inconsistency in the formatting of each chapter's chronology—including a glaring error at the front of chapter four noting the year as 1833, when it is in fact 1832. The potential problems arising from

research based upon this volume are obvious.

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### *Canal Fever*

#### *The Ohio & Erie Canal from Waterway to Canalway*

Edited by Lynn Metzger and Peg Bobel

(Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2009. Pp. x, 382. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. \$45.00.)

Ohio has been fortunate in the number and quality of writings on its canal heritage. These works include Harry N. Scheiber, *Ohio Canal Era: A Case Study of Government and the Economy, 1820-1861* (1969); Jack Gieck, *A Photo Album of Ohio's Canal Era* (1988); and Ronald Shaw, *Canals for a Nation: The Canal Era in the United States, 1790-1860* (1990). To that list of worthy studies on Ohio canals should be added *Canal Fever*, a collection of essays about the first, longest, and most important of its man-made waterways.

This significant account explores the ongoing impact of the Ohio & Erie Canal, now in a new phase as the venue for a "canalway," which connects the past, present, and future in a corridor extending from the mouth of the Cuyahoga River at Cleveland some 110 miles south through four counties. The route, now officially recognized as a National Scenic

Byway, seeks to combine "the natural, historic, and recreational resources" along its line (p. 356).

This story is told in great, sometimes even excessive detail, by various qualified historians, preservationists, civic leaders, and canal enthusiasts, all (with possibly one exception) happily self-confessed carriers of a contagion—canal fever. That exception would be railroad historian H. Roger Grant, whose valuable summary of the development of Ohio's outstanding railroad network that forced the canal system into obsolescence, is often disparaging toward the Ohio & Erie Canal, which he refers to simply as a "ditch" (pp. 162, 164, 176).

The book, organized in three parts, opens with an excellent overview of the history of the 309-mile-long canal, as it snaked its way across the state from Cleveland, over summits at Akron (which means high