

sixteen; Franklin, five; Gibson, thirteen; and Whitley, two, using these few counties as illustrations. In the case of each county map, the names of bordering counties appear in large, bold-face type, but the name of the county mapped does not appear on the map, being given below in much less conspicuous type. It would seem that the name of the county mapped should appear conspicuously, while the names of surrounding counties should be printed in a less noticeable manner.

Though one may regret these seeming defects in the printing of the many valuable maps, no one can have anything but praise for the work as a whole, nor anything but gratitude to the authors for the vast mass of useful and accurate information presented.

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The *Palimpsest*, well known monthly publication of the State Historical Society of Iowa, is running a series of articles relating to the beginnings of railroads that cross Iowa. The author is William J. Peterson, who contributed an article to the August number, "The Rock Island Comes to Iowa", and another to the September number, "The North Western Comes."

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Letters written by Father Cooney from the front during the Civil War have appeared serially in the *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society* under the title, "The War Letters of Father Peter Paul Cooney of the Congregation of the Holy Cross." The fourth and last installment of this very interesting correspondence appears in the current (September) issue of the *Records*. Father Cooney served as Chaplain of the Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteers. This regiment saw very active service under General Rosecrans, and Father Cooney certainly played a splendid part at the great battle of Murfreesboro. The Letters of Father Cooney are preserved in the Archives at Notre Dame, and were contributed and edited by the Rev. Thomas McAvoy, Archivist at Notre Dame University.

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Dr. Thomas Clinton Pears, Jr., has edited some New Harmony correspondence of his ancestors, Thomas Pears and wife Sarah (Palmer) Pears, for the Indiana Historical Society. The letters were written during the years 1925, 1926,

1927. Most of them were written by Mr. and Mrs. Pears while residing at New Harmony during the Owen régime. The earliest of the letters was written on June 2, 1825, by Thomas Pears to his wife's uncle by marriage, Benjamin Blakewell, a glass manufacturer of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The last of the New Harmony letters of the Pears family was that of Mrs. Pears to Mrs. Blakefield, which bears the date April 8, 1826. Two short letters written to Mrs. Pears about a year later from friends left behind in New Harmony are of interest in connection with the failure of Robert Owen's social experiment. The following paragraphs from the last letter of Mrs. Pears may suffice to arouse an interest in the short collection:

I am really quite at loss as to what to say with regard to our proceedings here; but most people seem pretty well persuaded that they will never come to any good, and I have no doubt that two thirds of the Society would go if they had the means. Mr. Owen is growing very unpopular even with the greatest sticklers for the System. I assure you that Mr. Owen of New Harmony is a very different personage from Mr. Owen in Pittsburgh, Washington, etc. As Mr. Pears is writing I suppose he will give you an account of the public affairs, but indeed that is a most difficult task as they are ever varying, ever changing, never at rest. What one writes one day is perhaps not true the next.

I wish I felt in sufficient spirits to give you a description of the new costume which Mr. Owen has been trying very hard to introduce, and which has actually been adopted by several of the beaux and belles. The female dress is a pair of undertrowsers tied round the ankles over which is an exceedingly full slip reaching to the knees, though some have been so extravagant as to make them rather longer, and also to have the sleeves long. I do not know whether I can describe the men's apparel but I will try. The pantaloons are extremely full, also tied around the ankle; the top garment also very full, bound round the waist with a very broad belt, which gives it appearance of being all in one. A fat person dressed in this elegant costume I have heard very appropriately compared to a feather bed tied in the middle. They are tied round the neck like the girl's slips, and as many wear them with no collars visible, it is rather difficult to distinguish the gentlemen from the ladies. When I first saw the men with their bare necks it immediately struck me how very suitably they were equipped for the executioner.

There were two weddings last Sunday in the Hall. The parties with their bridesmaids and groomsmen were all dressed in the new costume, which is of black and white striped cotton, and as they have as yet but one apiece, and as one of the brides had been working in the boarding school kitchen all the preceding week, and had done a great deal of scrubbing in hers, it could not be very nice. She, poor girl, had first dressed herself very nicely in bridal white, but was persuaded by Mr.

Owen and the bridegroom to lay aside these trappings of the old world, and to draw from its depository amongst the dirty clothes this elegant suit in which she was married. But I have been told that the change cost her many tears.

The ceremony was performed by Mr. Owen, who merely asked each if they were willing to take one another as man and wife; which on their answering in the affirmative, he required them to make a declaration that any after ceremony was unnecessary except in compliance with the laws of the state. They were then married in the usual manner by a Methodist minister. After dinner the bridal party attended by many of the young ladies and gentlemen of the place, drums leading and music playing, took a long walk. Some of the parties were very anxious to have concluded the night with a dance at the Hall; but Mr. Owen very properly negatived the proposal, not that he has any idea of its being wrong himself, but because he thinks it better not to wound the feelings of those who may attach an idea of impropriety to it. One of the brides was a strict Methodist when she first came to Harmony.

Mr. Pears has just come in, and he informs me that he will not be able to finish his letter as he will be obliged to write all day to-morrow as hard as possible. This has been the case every Sunday since he has been Deputy Commissary. Is this not too bad? I scold every Sunday about it, but alas! in vain. Mr. Pears is kept so very busy all the week that he cannot get through the accounts without working nearly all Sunday.

Indeed the day here is only used as a day of recreation, visiting and amusement, military operations, and with some few of work. Those ladies who are in regular employment, having no time allowed them, have some excuse for washing, ironing, and doing their own sewing on the Sabbath. Every Sunday evening there is a meeting at which Mr. Owen reads over the particulars of the expenditures of the society, and the amount of work performed by each occupation, and also the names of the workmen and women, with the characters attached to each.

The title of the pamphlet of ninety-six pages is, *New Harmony: An Adventure in Happiness*, with a sub-title "The Papers of Thomas and Sarah Pears." The pamphlet is Number 1, Volume XI, of the *Publications* of the Indiana Historical Society. Copies may be obtained from the Secretary of the Society for fifty cents each.

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*Pontificia Americana*, "A Documentary History of the Catholic Church in the United States (1784-1884)", edited by Donald Shearer, O.M.Cap., Ph.D., has appeared as Number 11 of the series known as the *Franciscan Studies*. These *Studies* are published under the auspices of the Franciscan, Conventual and Capuchin Fathers of the United States and

Canada. This number (in paper cover) may be obtained from Joseph F. Wagoner of 54 Park Place, New York City for \$1.25 per copy.

This volume prepared by Dr. Shearer is preceded by a sixteen-page carefully documented "Historical Introduction" and accompanied by a calendar of documents, bibliography and index. The documents include those of the various pontificates from that of Pius VI (1783-1799) to that of Leo XIII (1878-1884). The papal Bulls and Briefs are printed in Latin, but each is preceded by a summary in English indicating its contents. It was the purpose of Dr. Shearer in accompanying the documents with historical summaries and explanatory references to give to readers "a concise account of the American Church during the period (1784-1884), from the sole viewpoint of the papacy's contribution to its growth and development." This purpose, he seems to have accomplished well.

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The Minnesota Historical Society has recently published the second volume of *Minnesota in the War with Germany* (Minneapolis, 1933. Pp. x, 290, \$2.50), by Franklin F. Holbrook and Livia Appel. The first volume of this work, which has been edited by Dr. Solon J. Buck, formerly Superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, came out in 1928. (Noticed in *Indiana Magazine of History*, XXV, 68). The earlier volume was devoted to military activities while the final volume deals mainly with the home activities of the citizens of Minnesota as related to the War. Both volumes are illustrated, well-written, carefully edited and attractively printed. They constitute a valuable treatment of Minnesota's part in the World War.