

*He shoots his corn in, row by row,
Between the walls of the valley.*

There is a camp-meeting poem and one dealing with the old wagoner of Indiana in 1850. Johnny Appleseed is not missed, nor the Arkansas Traveler. Texas, Old Man River, Mormons, gold-seekers and trappers all have their innings, in turn. The range is from Ohio to the Gulf and from the Gulf to the golden West. The dangers, the fears, the longings and the democracy of the people of the advancing frontier are the themes of the poems in *American Frontier*. The leveling effect that frontier conditions exercised on newcomers is well set forth in some lines that relate to a group of Michigan colonists of about 1835:

Back home they never would have met
Even at church.
Out here they neighbor side by side,
Knowing well
The sweetness of each other's bread
However raised.

But why write more? The poems must be read in order to appreciate the book.

BERTHA THOMAS LYNCH.

A History of Kentucky. By Thomas D. Clark, Ph.D. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York, 1937. Pp. xvi, 702, illustrated, maps, \$5.00.

Kentucky has had a long history. It has been a history marked by the development of a high civilization, by bitter conflicts and by stirring events. Reaching from the Cumberlands to the Mississippi, the state is made up of sections with diverse interests. The commonwealth has always been both western and southern, while, at the same time bound to the North by strong ties. Much has been written on Kentucky, but the time was ripe for a single-volume history of the state that would bring the story down to the present, and furnish a balanced account of the middle and earlier periods. The new volume is, therefore, timely.

The first chapter is devoted to geography and the economic factor is stressed throughout the volume. The state's history to 1865 is given over four hundred fifty pages, leaving about one hundred twenty-five to the period since the Civil

War. In both the ante-bellum and the later periods, the author deals not only with political and economic developments but also with education and culture. One of the chapters on the middle period is devoted to slavery in Kentucky.

There are no footnotes but there is an extensive bibliography for each chapter. These classified lists of original and secondary matter occupy forty pages near the end of the volume. There is a comprehensive index and three maps—a political map of the state, an topographical map, and a Civil War map. There are fourteen well-chosen illustrations that add to the attractiveness of the volume.

It has not been an easy matter, even for a man reared and educated outside of Kentucky, to write the history of a state so often torn by conflicts. Doctor Clark has attempted to write "a straightforward narrative setting forth the salient points of Kentucky's social, economic and political growth," and has measured up to the standard set for himself. From beginning to end the story is interesting and varied. It is informing and readable. It will furnish the general reader with a generous knowledge of Kentucky's history. The special student will find in the volume the basis for a more extended study, which the bibliography will greatly aid him in making.

WILLIAM O. LYNCH.

The Benton Review Shop of Fowler, Indiana, has brought out a new edition of the *Workbook in Indiana History*, which was first published in 1934. The outlines, surveys, and questions that make up the *Workbook* were prepared by Gale Smith. There is an outline map of the United States, a few maps of the Old Northwest, and a larger number of Indiana. There are also tables of useful figures pertaining to area and population of counties, and a list of cities with the population of each in 1920 and 1930. This *Workbook* should prove valuable to teachers who give courses in Indiana history.

The *Journal of Rudolph Friederich Kurtz* has been recently published as *Bulletin*, No. 115, of the Bureau of American Ethnology (Government Printing Office, Washington). The *Bulletin* sells for sixty cents. The *Journal*, originally in German, was translated by Myrtis Jarrell and J. N. B. Hewitt, and edited by Mr. Hewitt. It runs to 382 pages, and is ac-