

to the assistance of Bonaparte and received as his reward permanent exile by the restored Bourbons. Ironically, it was the Germans who gave him asylum and they seem to have learned some profitable lessons from this Republican patriot.

The book is marred by carelessness in proof-reading, especially in the spelling of French names and in the use of accent marks. Such defects do not, however, detract from the great value of Professor Dupre's contribution to the historical literature of the French Revolutionary era. Carnot's biography should find many readers in these hectic times so much like those which France faced in 1793.

A. DALE BEELER

*Ballads and Songs of Indiana.* Collected and edited by Paul G. Brewster. *Indiana University Publications, Folklore Series, No. I*, Bloomington, Indiana, 1940. Pp. 379, \$1.00.

This folksong collection consists of one hundred ballads and songs found in Southern Indiana, including many old English and Scottish ballads, and tunes for fourteen of them. As this part of the State was settled more than a century ago, and largely from the South, the collection makes a lively and valuable addition to the store of related folksong surviving in the more isolated regions of the South.

In a brief introduction, Mr. Brewster recounts his four-year experience in working out this project, from the time when as a teacher of English Literature in Oakland City High School, Indiana, he added to an English and Scottish ballad assignment a search for fragments of song titles and opening lines known to students' older relatives. After this hesitant beginning had brought in half a dozen valuable songs, including two corrupt but recognizable Child ballads, he extended his search by arousing the interest of other students, of certain Indiana newspapers, and of the Southern Indiana McGuffey Club, until he had gathered some three hundred texts (exclusive of variants) and almost one hundred tunes, from which he has selected the present delightful collection. Mr. Brewster's prefixes to the various songs bring the reader into the very circle of these hundreds of enthusiastic songcatchers who have made this Indiana collection possible.

Since the people of Southern Indiana are largely of

Anglo-Saxon stock, this collection does not contain foreign folksongs, nor negro songs, though a few have been touched by negro influence. While ballad-singing has died out in Indiana as an active recreation, yet enough people still cling to the traditional old songs to have preserved them in most interesting forms.

Besides an invaluable bibliography for the collection as a whole, the author has prefixed to each ballad a very convenient introduction locating similar English, Scottish, and American texts, and occasionally continental texts. Also, the author has added greatly to the interest and value of his book by publishing variant forms when he has found them in his field, variants that frequently show wide differences, as the traditional *C* form and the Americanized *B* version of "The Frog Went a-Courting." His excellent index of titles, first lines, and tunes adds much to this well-edited volume.

Twenty-seven of these Indiana texts are variants of English and Scottish ballads collected by Francis James Child, and they include such favorites as "The Two Sisters," "Lord Randal," "Lord Thomas and Fair Annet," "Lord Lovel," "Sweet Trinity," "Sir Hugh," and, of course, "Barbara Allen," of which he gives thirteen different Indiana texts.

Among the American songs are four picturesque versions of "Old Dan Tucker," two of "Simon Slick," four stanzas of "Raccoon's Got a Bushy Tail," a text of "Little Nell of Narragansett Bay," and one ballad which is a genuine Indiana product, "Fuller and Warren," gory with a murder and a hanging, besides "Texas Ranger," "Springfield Mountain," and "Fair Charlotte."

In the old sailor song, "The Pretty Mohea" still lives in a cocoanut grove, though in one version (where her name has become *Mauhee*) she invites her friend to her *wigwam*. In "One Morning in May" the forsaken damsel sings the charming line:

"That the wild geese may see me as they are passing by."

In "The Frog Went a-Courting" appear such naturalized forms as jaybird, tick, June-bug, red flea, black flea, and even little fice dog, in addition to such American delectables as black-eyed peas, hominy, and dogwood tea. The old English carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," on the other hand, keeps its gifts as foreign as the twelve days them-

selves, including twelve lions roaring (in Indiana!), ten lords praying, four collie birds, and three French hens.

The most intriguing phrases appear in "Lasso Town for London," *satchel* for *psalter*, *catfoot broth* perhaps for *catnip broth*, and blood that comes "tinkling o'er my knee." In the old song, "The Drowsy Sleeper," the lover says:

"From North Carolina to Pennsylvania

I've crossed the ocean for your sake."

This piques the imagination.

The "Derby Ram" is given in two variants which show the exuberant American imagination feeding fat on the tall tales. Among the numerous nonsense rhymes, "Keemo-Kimo" in three choice variants is the most nonsensical.

But there is no end to the delights of this charming collection. It is a valuable addition to the scholarship of folklore; better still, it is the essence of literature, a refreshment to the fagged spirit.

ELISABETH PECK

*Zachary Taylor: Soldier of the Republic.* By Holman Hamilton, The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis and New York, 1941. Pp. 335, illustrated, \$3.50.

General Taylor, one of the several Americans to become President of the United States because of his military fame, has waited long for a biographer. The present volume does not complete the story, dealing with "Old Rough and Ready" only to the termination of his services to his country as a soldier. A second volume which is to cover the political campaign of 1848, the preliminaries of that contest and Taylor's period as President is in the offing. The biographer of General Taylor, Holman Hamilton, is an able young journalist of Fort Wayne. Like many other men of his calling, he has undertaken to write history. Not only has much history been written by journalists, but it seems to have been easier for publishers to sell the output of journalistic writers than the works of historians trained in the *seminars* of the Universities. It became apparent a few years ago that technically prepared writers of history and biography must pay more attention to style, while journalists must do more careful and extensive research. Fortunately, both schools of writers are now making desperate efforts to overcome their handicaps and with considerable success. Certainly,