detract from its usefulness for laymen, particularly if they reside outside the stone district. It is well annotated, with the footnotes located for the convenience of the reader. Some ten pages are assigned to bibliography, the arrangement of which, however, seems rather unorthodox. By and large the imperfections are minor. Professor Batchelor has done an outstanding piece of work.

Max P. Allen


The appearance of this volume completes the extensive and well-executed history of Ohio. The period treated by Professor Roseboom is that of the Civil War—the years which led to that memorable dispute, the struggle itself, and finally the recession of that conflict before newer issues. The era was a significant one for it witnessed the disappearance of the old Union and the development of a new nation, the decay of the canal system and the coming of the railroad, the disintegration of the Whig party and the organization of the new Republican party. It saw the rise of industrialization, urbanization, the mechanization of agriculture, educational changes, and the beginnings of modern cultural developments.

The reader may be surprised to find that the author opens the volume with a long survey of the rise of manufactures and cities, of changes in agriculture and transportation, and of banking and currency problems. From these he turns to "cultural strivings," "education, the professions and the churches," and to the reform crusades for temperance, women's rights, better conditions in prisons and welfare institutions, and for peace. In this manner he uses half of his pages before getting to the political and sectional difficulties which are generally considered to characterize the period and to be the causes of the Civil War. This first half is somewhat factual and statistical and therefore does not make fascinating reading.

An interesting and at times dramatic narrative runs through the second half of the book in which the story of
political change and of Ohio's part in the Civil War is told. It is not a belief in the greater significance of political history that leads to the suggestion that a different arrangement of the chapters would have made for greater interest. Certainly those parts of the economic and cultural history reflecting the influence of the war might have been reserved for chapters near the end of the volume. The style needs more sparkle. Sentences like the following are all too rare: "The troopers who chased Morgan's raiders across southern Indiana and Ohio rode through miles of fried chicken and hot biscuits."

One may wonder whether the author is consistent when he attributes conservativeness to the "dead hand of frontier individualism" in one place (p. 118) and to "poverty and isolation" of the hill regions in another (p. 127). The same criticism may be made in respect to the statement that the constitution of 1851 "took no account of the changing economic life of the State" (p. 134), just after describing anti-bank, anti-corporation, and taxation provisions. Is there a third illustration? Clement L. Vallandigham is referred to in the statement (p. 407): "His was not the voice of the West but only of the lower Ohio Valley . . . ." But "The chief centers of strength of the Ohio Copperheads lay in the . . . north central and northwest central parts of the State, a conservative Democratic area . . . ." and "unlike Indiana and Illinois, Ohio's southern counties, with a few exceptions . . . were Unionist [p. 409]." One might also ask for some explanation of the "older churchless frontier" (p. 214). The careful reader who notices footnotes will be surprised at the few newspapers cited and a comparatively extensive dependence upon secondary accounts as contrasted with original sources. Robert S. Fletcher's *A History of Oberlin College* is a recent work of excellent character which was not noticed in the citations.

Many of these criticisms are items which may easily be counterbalanced by more numerous and more important virtues. Certainly the work is superior to any previously published history of this period in Ohio; many of the chapters are excellent, as for instance, the chapter "Nebraska and Nativism"; and the picture of the influences and forces at work is comprehensive and clear. It takes its place as an important volume in an important history of Ohio.

John D. Barnhart