

that the Battle of Fallen Timbers "opened the entire Northwest Territory to white settlement." He has "Coridon" for Corydon, Indiana (p. 71). It seems quite unlikely, therefore, that the early chapter in the history of Indiana can be evaluated very highly.

There are certain features about the story of the Harmony Society that make this work interesting and which make an adequate history very desirable. The society existed for almost a century. It formed three different communities, not one of which was entirely successful, but all of which were probably more successful than is generally realized. The success that attended cooperative effort was rather marked, while ultimate failure or dissolution was probably due to celibacy and the lack of a scheme of recruiting enough new members. It is very interesting to note the author's preference for the freer play allowed individual initiative in the Harmony scheme of communism rather than what he regards as the regimentation of our present administrative procedure.

John D. Barnhart

Arthur St. Clair, Rugged Ruler of the Old Northwest, An Epic of the American Frontier. By Frazer Ells Wilson. (Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, c. 1944, pp. xiii, 253. \$3.00.)

When the United States extended its authority to the area that is now Indiana, the governor who exercised that authority was Arthur St. Clair. A scholarly life of St. Clair has not been written, and, although this biography has its virtues, it cannot be considered as filling that need. It may call attention to the need and to the opportunity which the subject offers.

The author has made an extensive study of St. Clair's life. He has previously published *The Treaty of Greenville* (1894), *The Peace of Mad Anthony Wayne* (1909), and *Advancing the Ohio Frontier* (1937). In the present work he described the various phases of his subject's activity in the Seven Years' War, in the Revolution, and in the Old Northwest. He "adopted a sympathetic rather than a critical attitude," but he did not hide the unfavorable traits of St. Clair or the unfortunate occurrences in his life. One ex-

ception may be noted. He omitted the governor's confirmation of land claims which seems to have been to the advantage of his sons, John Murray St. Clair and Arthur St. Clair, and which seems to have been clearly contrary to law (Francis S. Philbrick, ed., *The Laws of Indiana Territory, 1801-1809*, pp. lxxviii-lxxix). On the other hand, he discussed at some length the events leading to a court martial of St. Clair during the Revolution, the disastrous campaign of 1791 which also resulted in a court martial, and the contest with the Jeffersonians which led to his removal from the governorship of the Old Northwest Territory.

The author's conclusions are easily distinguishable from his statement of facts. Although often more favorable than the facts seem to warrant, the reader may discount them as he thinks advisable. The discriminating reader will likely get from the facts a different opinion than the one expressed by the author, and will question the use of the term "Epic" in the title. The epic story is that of the frontiersmen whom St. Clair misunderstood and not the story of St. Clair.

A few errors of statement, a few typographical errors, and other less important features detract slightly from the general character and trustworthiness of the work. It does not seem to be longer than William H. Smith, *The Life and Public Services of Arthur St. Clair* (2 vols., Cincinnati, 1882), and it lacks the documentation of this earlier work. On the whole it seems that its chief service may be in calling attention to the need of a new and scholarly reconsideration of St. Clair's life.

John D. Barnhart

Jefferson Davis and His Cabinet. By Rembert W. Patrick. (Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Louisiana University Press, 1944, pp. xi, 401. \$3.75.)

This is easily the most scholarly and refreshing study of Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet that has been written to date. While at times it appears that Dr. Patrick is overly sympathetic with the Confederate President and his advisers, a general estimate of the work justifies the conclusion that he has made a valuable contribution to the history of the South. It has been too long the tendency of writers to attribute the failure of the Confederacy to a mediocre administra-