

paper *The Disseminator of Useful Knowledge* was published by the School of Industry. By the close of 1827, the Owen experiment had vanished and the work which remained was Maclure's. The aim of social reform now was definitely committed to use educational means.

In December, 1828, Maclure sought the milder climate of Mexico for his health, and he remained there until his death in 1840. Madame Fretageot left New Harmony for Paris in 1831, and, after a year's stay there, returned to the New World to visit Maclure in Mexico. She died there in 1833.

Dr. Bestor has, by his publication of this correspondence, thrown additional light on the controversy between Owen and Maclure. The letters reveal the practical wit of Maclure and his belief that the test of validity for any system of education is whether it produced citizens who are self-reliant and self-sustaining.

The author has quoted extensively from contemporary accounts of the experiment. The work is well edited. There are full comments and excellent transitional materials, which aid the reader in understanding matters referred to in the letters.

The publication of these letters makes available another important source on the New Harmony experiment.

New Harmony, Indiana

Helen Elliott

Horns of Thunder, The Life and Times of James M. Goodhue Including Selections From His Writings. By Mary Wheelhouse Berthel. (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1948, pp. xii, 276. Illustrations, map, and index. \$3.00.)

A hundred years ago many Americans were leaving the Mississippi Valley to seek the gold of California. But other pioneers were giving their attention to the thinly settled areas of the Middle West. The year 1849, famed for the Gold Rush, was also marked by the organization of Minnesota Territory. This book deals with the early days of that new territory, and with a man who helped build Minnesota: James Madison Goodhue, a pioneer St. Paul journalist.

Goodhue was not a great success, as Americans generally use that word. Born and raised in New England, he was an

indifferent student at Amherst. After graduation (class of 1833), he drifted west. "To supply his want of means," he farmed in Illinois. Then he practiced law in the Wisconsin lead region. There he married a young school teacher. Shifting to journalism, he became an influential (but not prosperous) editor. When the Gold Rush came, many of Goodhue's lead mining neighbors went to California. Preferring to remain in the Mississippi Valley, Goodhue went instead to Minnesota Territory. There, in the territorial capital of St. Paul, he launched the *Minnesota Pioneer*, which he ran from 1849 until his death in 1852, at the early age of forty-two.

Many Western pioneers lived lives more exciting than Goodhue's. Many accomplished more than did this journalist. But the bulk of the early settlers of Wisconsin and Minnesota allowed their experiences to go unrecorded. Goodhue, on the other hand, was highly articulate; and, unlike many frontier editors, he filled his columns with local items. His paper, therefore, became a mirror of his region, and his story has value for all interested in the settlement of the Great Lakes area.

Mrs. Berthel, the competent and careful author of this volume, is well aware that Goodhue is more important as a witness than as a participant in events. Hence, after sketching the editor's career, she devotes most of the volume to reprinting pieces from the *Pioneer*. The selections are well chosen, and their value is increased by excellent illustrations.

This is local history. Some will say that James Madison Goodhue had no national importance, and that none but confirmed Minnesotans will be interested in quotations from a St. Paul newspaper of 1849-1852. But those of us who believe in state history look at it in another way. We feel that the lives of the great national figures tell only part of the story. We feel that those who write our national history in the future will find much of value in books like this, books which deal with local subjects of national significance.

University of Wisconsin

Fred Harvey Harrington

Peter Norbeck: Prairie Statesman. By Gilbert Courtland Fite. Volume XXII, No. 2, of the University of Mis-