

Book Reviews

Early Maps of the Ohio Valley: A Selection of Maps, Plans, and Views Made by Indians and Colonials from 1673 to 1783. By Lloyd Arnold Brown. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1959. Pp. xiv, 132. Bibliography. \$12.00.)

Generally speaking, this volume is a welcome addition to the literature of a much-neglected aspect of Ohio Valley history. Author Brown's selections of fifty-four "maps, plans, and views," some here printed for the first time, are handsomely and much more legibly reproduced than is usually the case. Their usability is enhanced by commentaries which include such information as description, historical setting, circumstances under which made, and location of the manuscript or printed copy for each selection. A general introduction and a bibliography are additional features. All of these components are presented in a very attractive format for which the University of Pittsburgh Press is to be congratulated.

Upon closer examination, however, there are some points which detract from this favorable general description. In the first place, the title of the book does not accurately describe the contents. There are hardly any illustrations that can be called "views," and the "made by Indians and colonials" label is misleading. According to the author's own accounts, the Indians were merely the possible source of part of the information appearing on some of the maps. A considerable number of the maps were drawn by explorers and various officials whose temporary presence would not qualify them as "colonials"; moreover, some were geographers who never set foot on New World soil at all.

In the Introduction, "La Belle Rivière," generalizations—such as, "Politically and socially he [the Indian] was well organized, tribe by tribe, and alliance by alliance" (p. 4)—will not be readily accepted. And classification of "prehistoric man" as separate from "Indian" (p. 3) was disproved long ago. This section is beautifully illustrated with some twenty marginal drawings, but almost half of them are of such nonrelated items as sea monsters, Niagara Falls, sea vessels, and a portion of the Pacific Ocean.

The meat of the book consists of the maps and plans with commentaries on each. They range from a Marquette map of 1674 to a Jefferson map of 1783. With more than five hundred to choose from and the number to be used limited by such considerations as expense, the selection of the maps and plans used is "arbitrary, and the sole responsibility of the author" (p. x). Even so, one is compelled to observe that by elimination of those which have only peripheral relation to the Ohio Valley and those which are virtual duplications, a half-dozen others might have been substituted. And it hardly seems necessary to include some six plans of Fort Duquesne, one of which is also duplicated as a sketch in the Introduction. Elimination of most of these would help to correct the imbalance towards the upper Ohio Valley in the book.

The "selective list" of items at the end of the volume is hardly a bibliography in the usual sense of the word, either of the Ohio Valley or of its maps and plans. While some listings are of specific value, it is left to the reader to discover for himself which of the many volumes of *Mid-America* or of the works of Parkman, Bancroft, or Thwaites, for example, are apropos. And such works as Philip L. Phillips, *A List of Geographical Atlases . . .* (Washington, 1909-), and Emerson D. Fite and Archibald Freeman, *A Book of Old Maps Delineating American History from the Earliest Days down to the Close of the Revolutionary War* (Cambridge, Mass., 1926) are conspicuous for their absence. The bibliographical contribution of this volume is found in the specific references scattered throughout the text. A briefly annotated listing of the maps and plans not included would have been a valuable addition.

This volume more than meets the modest claim of the author that it is "primarily a picture book containing a brief review and summary of the cartographic record left by the men who first explored and mapped the region of the Ohio" (p. x). But it falls short of what it might have been.

Miami University

Dwight L. Smith

Lewis Henry Morgan: The Indian Journals, 1859-62. Edited by Leslie A. White; illustrations selected and edited by Clyde Walton. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1959. Pp. 229. Numerous illustrations, notes, index. \$17.50.)

Dictionary of the American Indian. By John L. Stoutenburgh, Jr. (New York: Philosophical Library, 1960. Pp. 462. \$10.00.)

In 1859 Lewis Henry Morgan, an attorney of Rochester, New York, with a scientific interest in the North American Indians, made the first of four field trips to regions west and north of the Mississippi River. Morgan's objective was to gather as much general information about the Indians as he could and, specifically, to collect the kinship terms used by members of various western Indian groups. On each of his four trips (to Kansas and Nebraska in May and June, 1859, and again in May and June, 1860; to Pembina and Fort Garry on the Red River of the North in July and August, 1861; and to the Rocky Mountains via the Missouri River in May, June, and July, 1862) Morgan kept a detailed, day-by-day journal. It is these four journals that Leslie A. White, professor of anthropology at the University of Michigan and long a Morgan specialist, has edited, annotated, and written introductory chapters for, and that are presented in a handsome volume by the University of Michigan Press. Adding to the intrinsic value of the text itself and making the volume a de luxe publication are a series of sixteen color plates, reproductions of paintings of Indians by Karl Bodmer, James Otto Lewis, George Catlin, and other nineteenth-century artists, as well as over a hundred illustrations which were selected and edited by Clyde C. Walton, Illinois state historian.