

The War of 1812 was, in the eyes of the author, a frontier war which the East had to accept. In a search for virgin soil the frontiersmen felt they had to have free access to the sprawling Northwest. The war treated here is the same struggle which has been described many times before. Little new has been added in this text. But Professor Caruso launches out into lush if not virgin territory in his discussion of the Americanization of Michigan and Wisconsin. He reaches the height of his narrative in describing the activities of Lewis Cass and his associates. Especially good are the passages drawn from the writings of Henry R. Schoolcraft.

*The Great Lakes Frontier* is an episodic study. It gives only limited attention to the people and their struggles to develop a highly domesticated society. It covers little or none of the central subject matter of Professor R. C. Buley's important study of the Old Northwest. There is an extensive and carefully classified bibliography. The amount of original material examined by the author is impressive.

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*Remember the Raisin! Kentucky and Kentuckians in the Battles and Massacre at Frenchtown, Michigan Territory, in the War of 1812.*

By G. Glenn Clift. (Frankfort: Kentucky Historical Society, 1961. Pp. xiii, 281. Endpaper map, appendix, bibliography, index. \$6.00.)

Because the battles on the River Raisin during the War of 1812 have been of special interest to residents of Kentucky, it is surprising that no one from that state has previously published a complete account of these engagements. Now G. Glenn Clift, assistant director of the Kentucky Historical Society, has written a book on the subject, using as its title the battle cry American troops used after the disaster at the Raisin.

If enthusiasm had been enough, the Kentuckians would have annihilated the enemies of their country. General orders for mobilization quickly produced volunteers beyond the state's quota, and Brigadier General James Winchester, appointed by the president to command the western forces, went to work with a will. Preparation and organization took time. On August 3, Governor Charles Scott received an order from the secretary of war to send fifteen hundred infantry to the support of General William Hull at Detroit. In spite of earnest endeavor, it was not until August 19, three days after Hull's surrender, that the detachment set out for Michigan.

All sorts of difficulties slowed the march of the relief column. Indian forays, building of forts, lack of food and clothing, shortages of arms and munitions, and a diversion to relieve Fort Wayne, besieged by Indians, caused many delays. Besides, militiamen were not easy to manage. Animosity toward General Winchester caused a near mutiny, and only the appointment of their hero, William Henry Harrison, as major general in command of the Northwestern Army satisfied the Kentuckians that they would be properly led.

Harrison ordered Winchester to the Rapids of the Maumee to establish a base for an advance to Frenchtown (now Monroe), Michigan.

After a march made almost unendurable by cold, snow, and insufficient food, the Kentuckians reached the rapids on January 10, 1813. After Frenchmen from the settlement had begged for protection from marauding British and Indians, Winchester on January 17 ordered a detachment of 660 officers and men to the Raisin. The author describes in detail the victorious action of January 18, the defeat of January 22 in which Winchester, who had advanced with reinforcements, was captured, the massacre on the twenty-third, and the fate of the prisoners who had been taken to Fort Malden.

Brief biographical sketches of officers of the invading force and of the British and Indians and rosters of the American units follow the text. The end paper is a map showing the route of the Kentuckians. Apparently through oversight, Fort Malden is not shown. There are a bibliography and an index.

A few errors have been noticed. It was not the house of Colonel James Baby but that of his brother, Colonel François Baby, which was General Hull's headquarters (p. 167). This house is now the Hiram Walker Historical Museum in Windsor, Ontario. Billy Caldwell was a Potawatomi, not a Shawnee (p. 168). McDonall should be McDouall (p. 63n). Colonel John Anderson was not in Frenchtown in January, 1813. A manuscript autobiography in the Michigan Historical Collections states that he fled to Ohio on August 20, 1812, and returned in September, 1813 (p. 80n).

Mr. Clift's book is interesting and useful. Written largely from original sources, it contains many quotations from contemporary letters, diaries, and newspapers which bring the reader close to the events they deal with.

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*The Concept of Jacksonian Democracy: New York as a Test Case.* By Lee Benson. (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1961. Pp. xi, 351. Tables, appendices, index. \$6.00.)

The subject of this book, "the concept of Jacksonian democracy," is neither political nor social democracy in the Jacksonian period nor the Jacksonian Democratic party, but a set of six propositions based on the idea that the Democrats and "the opposing party" of the 1830's and 1840's were in leadership, mass support, ideology, and program the agents of certain socioeconomic classes and social groups. The study is an attempt, according to Benson, to answer two specific questions: What empirical phenomena can logically be designated by the concept? Does the concept help us to understand the course of American history after 1815? As the concept is not defined until the last chapter (p. 329) the unwary reader may at first be misled in earlier chapters by the author's apparent search for evidence that might give substance and meaning to the Democratic party as an institution or to democracy as a form of political behavior. The search is, in fact, a much narrower although detailed examination of evidence to validate five of the six propositions. Benson has studied partisan newspapers, party platforms,