

good words for La Salle, who "didn't even know how to follow a compass" (p. 65), and only slight praise for Governor Frontenac. There is occasional recourse to those all-inclusive words of the historical novelist: "probably," "may have," and "must have," with which gaps between fragments of historical evidence are bridged; but the teacher who uses this book as a proper device in junior or senior high school for the development of historical understanding can congratulate Miss Eifert on using these words sparingly and wisely. He can also congratulate her on the fact that the personality of Louis Jolliet emerges with such attractive qualities. Miss Eifert reanimates the intimacies of the Jolliet family, and the result is a pleasing book which should be a useful addition to the public or school library.

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The Jonathan Hale Farm: A Chronicle of the Cuyahoga Valley. By John J. Horton. Western Reserve Historical Society, *Publication Number 116*. (Cleveland, Ohio: Western Reserve Historical Society, 1961. Pp. 160. Illustrations, map, bibliography. Clothbound, \$4.50; paperbound, \$2.25.)

The Jonathan Hale Farm is a delightful and informative volume to read. Opening chapters tell of Connecticut's ties with the Western Reserve of northeastern Ohio and of early years in this area. The main emphasis, however, concerns the life and labors of the Jonathan Hale family and their neighbors in the Cuyahoga Valley south of Cleveland following Hale's arrival from Connecticut in 1810 until his death in 1854. Contemporary source material is used to describe difficulties and perils encountered by the Hales and others in making the slow and laborious trip from Connecticut, how they and their neighbors established themselves in the fertile Cuyahoga Valley, their slow and then more rapid improvement of living conditions, the impact of improved transportation, the evolution from barter to an economy based mainly on money, the beginnings of culture, and the almost endless toil and labor required of early settlers.

The Hales and other pioneers "developed" the Cuyahoga Valley from its "underdeveloped" status into an area with a productive economy in a remarkably short period of time. If we had a number of similar histories of additional families who settled in the pioneer Midwest, our knowledge and understanding of pioneer life and what pioneering involved would be significantly increased. Such studies would help test and evaluate ideas and generalizations regarding early economic development, the genesis of culture, rural versus urban influences, the impact of the frontier on the life of the pioneers, the relationship between improvement in transportation facilities and general economic progress, and so on. *The Jonathan Hale Farm*, for instance, suggests that economic development came from both private and governmental efforts, that the frontier in various subtle ways made the Hales something more than merely transplanted Yankees, and that development of transportation facilities was basic to economic progress, with its resulting cultural life.

The Jonathan Hale Farm supports the view that succeeding generations owe much to their pioneer heritage. Moreover, it clearly indicates that the Hales and their neighbors were generally extremely eager to escape the "privations" and "hardships" of pioneer life. The death of the first Mrs. Hale in 1829, many years in advance of her husband's demise, vividly illustrates that pioneer life was even more harsh and costly to women than to men. There is tragedy in the fact that the first Mrs. Hale lived only a few years in the new brick house, completed in the twenties. Fortunately, the Jonathan Hale Farm is now the Jonathan Hale Homestead, restored by the Western Reserve Historical Society and recognized by Congress as a national historical site. Supported by a bequest from a great-granddaughter of Jonathan Hale, Miss Clara Belle Ritchie, the homestead is now operated as a museum to illustrate life in the Cuyahoga Valley in pioneer days. Such museums are essential as an important means of explaining and interpreting the continuing debt of midwesterners to their pioneer heritage.

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Lincoln as a Lawyer. By John P. Frank. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1961. Pp. x, 190. Appendix, index. \$4.75.)

Lincoln has been examined in as many different ways as any human being who ever lived. His life and all known facts surrounding it have been scrutinized. He has been the subject and, in some instances, the victim of analysis and hypothesis. This volume has the merit of setting itself a modest goal, and the author has the discipline to devote himself to the achievement of that goal. Occasionally, as is true in so many works about Lincoln, the mystery of his greatness proves overwhelming. The writer is tempted beyond resistance to write about the intriguing unknowns of Lincoln in ways far afield from particular and announced aims. When Frank does this (and he has resisted the temptation better than most), his writing takes on the aspect of a wry smile. It is as though he were telling us that he is aware that he is leaving the path that he has set out for himself because he cannot restrain his pen.

A great man happened to be a lawyer. In what ways did his profession affect his life? In what ways did it affect his thought and his decisions?

There is first described the legal practice in which Lincoln participated. From the nature of his practice, from the nature of the cases he handled, from the techniques which he used in handling the cases, the author extrapolates certain generalities about the mind of the practitioner. Having studied the practice and studied the mental set of the practitioner, the author moves boldly into Lincoln's public life both before and during his presidency. Matters of common knowledge among Lincoln lovers are examined from the peculiar point of view of the lawyer studying the lawyer. The Lincoln-Douglas debates, the Emancipation Proclamation, and many other speeches and papers of Lincoln are treated as cases prepared by a lawyer and shaped by his experience during twenty-five years at the bar.