Approximately half of the volume deals with three general subjects: the dioceses, the bishops, and the clergy. The papacy was most responsive to boundary changes requested by the American bishops. "If the appointment of suitable bishops was one of the important ways of fostering the nascent Church," concludes Father Trisco (p. 166), "the Holy See must in general be praised for its efforts to choose the best candidates." He also lauds the Propaganda’s activity “to strengthen the Western clergy in quantity and quality” (p. 224).

The last three chapters deal with the material aid the papacy gave the young Western Church. Too little space is given to the contributions of the religious orders and their educational efforts, although the tragic story of the Poor Clares is presented in great detail and most objectively. The chapter on “Discipline” is devoted chiefly to the troubles and resignation of Frederick Rese, first Bishop of Detroit.

The published work, in the main, comes out of a doctoral dissertation presented to the Pontifical Gregorian University in 1959. It was based in a large measure upon manuscript materials in the Vatican Library, especially the extensive files of the Propaganda’s archives. It is written from the point of view of Rome, but by an historian who has an excellent acquaintance with the American Church history of the 1820-1860 era. It is a study of the Church internal, and the political and non-religious facets (in this reviewer’s opinion) receive too little space and attention. It is almost as if the Church existed in a vacuum. Although such subjects as sectionalism and slavery, the Indian problem, and Know-Nothingism and bigotry receive mention in the Introduction, these are bypassed in favor of a discussion of topics upon which the papal archives shed more light.

The many footnotes attest to the intensity of research and the erudition of the author. Many are Latin excerpts from the sources; some cite French and Italian documents.

The book is a kind of historian’s history. It is an important chapter in Midwestern history and in Catholic Church history. It is Father Trisco’s first monograph, and it reveals a depth of scholarship which presages a bright future for a budding historian of the Catholic Church in America.

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This splendid monograph was written for those who have a wide understanding of the mid-nineteenth century American scene. Professor Hine has presumed a reader appreciation of the foreign relations and the degree of western exploration of that period, and even an elementary knowledge of American art. The scholar who delights in a tightly constructed, widely researched, and well-written work will rejoice that this study is precisely what the title specifies.
Professor Hine has interwoven into his account of Edward ("Ned") Kern the parallel lives of his brothers Benjamin and Richard. All three were caught up in a restless society whose "fever was the result of a contagious Romanticism" (Preface, vii). The spectacular beauty of the still-unexplored West mesmerized them. Its savagery almost extinguished them: brother Benjamin was killed by the Utes in 1849; four years later Richard was cut down by the same people.

The theme of this fine contribution to the *Yale Western Americana Series* is the way in which the artist-scientist Ned Kern acted upon and, above all, was subject to America's period of Manifest Destiny. While most of the research was done at the Huntington Library, the author has tracked down manuscript material and Kern illustrations all over the United States. The product of these labors will be welcomed by historians of the trans-Mississippi West and the greater Pacific region. Likewise, researchers engaged in either domestic art history or the development of scientific study by Americans will surely wish to examine *Edward Kern and American Expansion*. The Kerns epitomized that fast-fading generation which dared pry into every aspect of man's natural environment.

Historians of the Pacific will want to read Chapters V and VI which deal with the United States Navy's North Pacific Exploring Expedition. That ambitious project, concurrent with Perry's opening of Japan and stretching over a number of years, deserves greater attention than it has heretofore received.

Approximately a fourth of the book is devoted to index, bibliography, and appended illustrations. There are thirty-six pages which sample Kern's paintings, sketches, and cartographical notes. In addition, and quite as fascinating as Kern's illustrations of Zuni and Navajo Indians, are the daguerreotypes of the Kern brothers. Unfortunately these latter are not dated and one can only guess when the bearded, youthful faces were caught for posterity. Why there is no map in a book which absolutely demands one is a mystery known only to the author and the publisher.

This biographical study is filled with a variety of fresh information. For example the author notes that the western paintings of the period which stand as noteworthy reflections of the Hudson River School of landscape painting may in reality be more the creation of the eastern lithographers than trans-Mississippi artists. Professor Hine recalls the significance of the guano craze in the 1850's when one of the primary tasks assigned the Navy was to search out likely guano deposits whose powers were said to make a ship's mast sprout into leafy bower. On occasion the Pacific explorers armed themselves and demanded oriental cooperation in their scientific labors. Such temerity will surprise only a few readers. Edward Kern's role embodies what was finest and what was most sinister in the onrush of the occidental. Unfortunately the earnest desire to seek out scientific truth never actually sublimated the Caucasian's overwhelming sense of ethno-cultural superiority.

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