

those of Miss McElwain, the old-time librarian who ruled with strictness her little kingdom, and of Dr. Will, the general practitioner who always took time to visit in a leisurely manner with his patients. Interesting likewise is her mention of the interurban lines, now entirely faded from the scene, and of the shrill whistle of the steam locomotive which interrupted the famous Joe Jefferson and lesser players in performances at the Opera House before giving way to the low moan of the Diesel.

Miss Santmyer has not only a retentive memory and a quick eye for the interesting anecdote; she has also an admirable literary style, a fact not particularly strange since she has published two novels. She expresses herself with particularity and vividness. For example, in describing a country road which crossed a covered bridge, she writes: "A road like this was not built for anyone in a hurry. It follows every curve of the stream, and when the flat space narrows so that it must cross to the other bank, it approaches the covered bridge at a right angle and then, without any wide graded curve, turns abruptly and disappears into the dark mouth of the tunnel" (p. 258).

Somewhat carried away with her subject, the author asserts, "The town is Winesburg and Spoon River, it is Highbury and Cranford, it is even Illyria and Elsinore" (p. 80). Miss Santmyer's Xenia, however, bears little resemblance to any of these fictional places, each of them unique. Her book, rather, recalls the work of another novelist who once lived near Xenia. I refer, of course, to William Dean Howells and his *A Boy's Town*, which also happens to chronicle the life of another southwestern Ohio town, Hamilton. To say that it deserves a place on the same shelf with Howells' interesting book is to indicate the chief merit of *Ohio Town*.

*Miami University*

Eldon C. Hill

*Benjamin Franklin Wade: Radical Republican from Ohio.* By H. L. Trefousse. (New York: Twayne Publishers, Inc., 1963. Pp. 404. Frontispiece, notes, bibliography, index. \$6.50.)

Noting that there is only one biography of Wade—and this one written shortly after his death—and that most writers who have evaluated him have given an unfavorable view of him personally and politically, Professor Trefousse resolved that a more extensive biography and a reappraisal of the Ohio leader were in order. The biography is based upon extensive research and the reappraisal leaves an image of Wade as a reformer, a humanitarian interested in emancipation of the slaves and the welfare of the Negro, and an aggressive fighter whose tactics furthered his aims, even if his opponents sometimes construed such tactics as too militant.

The author follows Wade's New England background and his early political career in Ohio; his career as United States senator during the stormy decade of the 1850's; his activities during the Civil War period as chairman of the Committee on the Conduct of the War and as a not infrequent critic of Lincoln's policies; and, finally, his break with

Johnson over Reconstruction policies. During this long career, Wade is viewed as a champion of Negro rights and a proponent of free homesteads and, in later years, of woman suffrage and favorable labor legislation. As a loyal Whig, he supported the bank and tariff policies of that party.

Wade's Civil War activities and the part he played in connection with the impeachment and trial of Andrew Johnson are treated with reasonable balance and objectivity; however, the controversial aspects of the 1850's and of Southern Reconstruction are handled in such a slanted fashion as to present the Ohio senator in quite too favorable a light.

The author, in pointing out that his subject advocated equality for the Negro, concedes that privately Wade expressed strong racial prejudice. Then Professor Trefousse states: "But it was precisely because Wade was prejudiced that he believed it imperative to guard against public expression of private irrational notions" (p. 312). Yet, in the very speech which the author cites at length (pp. 115-116) to show that Wade felt strongly concerning Negro rights, the senator, declining judgment as to whether the prejudice was right or wrong, stated also that Negroes were "despised by all, repudiated by all"; that they were "just as abhorrent to the southern states, and perhaps more so, than to the North"; that southern states were pressuring them northward, "and we object to them"; and that "it is perfectly impossible that these two races can inhabit the same place, and be prosperous and happy." The only reference that the author makes to the part quoted above is that the Ohio leader felt there was a serious race problem, and "in his reply to Toombs in March, 1860, he strongly advocated colonization again" (p. 118). Further evidence, not cited in this monograph, of Wade's public utterances disparaging the Negro may be found in a Senate speech in December, 1860, answering charges that the Republican party favored racial equality (*Cong. Globe*, 36th Cong., 2d Sess., pt. 1, p. 104).

*The Ohio State University*

Henry H. Simms

*Turbulent Partnership: Missouri and the Union, 1861-1865.* By William E. Parrish. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1963. Pp. xvi, 242. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$5.50.)

The Civil War years were times of fundamental, indeed revolutionary, transformations in federal-state relationships; and nowhere was the nature and extent of these changes more apparent and troublesome than in a border state such as Missouri. Rejecting secession and fully aware that the economic future of the state depended upon adherence to the Union, the people of Missouri nevertheless showed a considerable sympathy for the social mores of the South and an even greater attachment to the division of power characteristic of the prewar republic.

In the years between 1861 and 1865 Missouri faced and solved, more or less successfully, the numerous problems created by secession