

know the literature of early technology, but it is also vital for them to learn where they can see the actual artifacts which represent the nation's technical progress. Ellsworth fills an important gap by telling his readers what they can find, and where. In general, this book will challenge and serve its readers for many years.

University of Oklahoma

Gilbert C. Fite

The Indian Boundary in the Southern Colonies, 1763-1775. By Louis De Vorse, Jr. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1966. Pp. xii, 267. Notes, maps, bibliography, index. \$7.50.)

In this penetrative study a geographer makes a thorough search into the establishment of the boundary lines between the Indians of the Appalachian frontier and their rapidly encroaching white neighbors. The author treats the period from the issuance of the great proclamation to the eve of the American Revolution as a unit of frontier advance. He deals with three main driving forces. The first was the almost insoluble problem of developing an administrative procedure of frontier control following the French and Indian War. The Proclamation Line of 1763 was a landmark attempt to bring about some tenable solution for the spreading problem of land claimants. A second issue was the importance of land itself in the dynamics of the westward movement and especially in its relationship to the homelands of southern Indians. Finally there was the complex matter of establishing identifiable lines and marks across the rugged Appalachian highlands.

Involved in Indian claims to the eastern highlands were the Catawbas, Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw. De Vorse gives considerable attention to the historical background of these Indians. Some discussion of variable land uses and Indian attitudes toward the territory is also included. Of necessity a summary of administrative Indian policies is included, translated in terms of the successes of John Stuart as a southern Indian agent.

The strong pressures exerted in the earliest phases against the Cherokee frontier were of central concern. These were felt along the Virginia and Carolina frontiers, and from the Watauga area to Kentucky. From 1750 and 1751, with the entry of land scouts Thomas Walker and Christopher Gist west of the Appalachians, friction and confusion existed over the location of a dividing line between colonial and Indian territories. This situation became especially complicated by the agreements made at Hard Labor in October, 1768, and at Fort Stanwix the same month. The Hard Labor and Lochaber agreements made in western South Carolina involved the establishment of dividing lines.

Historians of the westward movement and colonial policies have labored in darkness and in error on the subject of the various lines that were established between the eastern flowing headstreams, Chiswell's lead mines, and the mouth of the Kanawha River. None of these lines provoked more controversy than did that established by John Donelson in 1771. Fortunately De Vorse has been able to clarify the facts behind these interesting surveys. He has done the same for the Georgia and East Florida Indian boundaries.

Throughout this book the reader is given an insight into the monstrous problems of locating lines, of marking them, and of establishing and planting durable landmarks and witnesses. Calls were stated in terms of miles, stream courses, and mountain ranges, but they were no less vague and confusing than those given for small tracts of settler lands.

In the final analysis the question arises as to the ultimate significance of an established Indian boundary. Perhaps the Crown would have attempted to see that it was honored for a time at least, but in the face of the American Revolution it had no real significance.

This study is long overdue, but it needed to be done by a scholar with a geographical orientation. The care with which this author has examined documentary materials and platted his maps gives the reader confidence in the results.

University of Kentucky

Thomas D. Clark

The Death of Slavery: The United States, 1837-65. By Elbert B. Smith.
The Chicago History of American Civilization. Edited by Daniel J. Boorstin. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1967. Pp. viii, 225. Suggested reading, index. \$5.00.)

A group of radio lectures provided the first draft of this book, and unfortunately not enough revisions were made before its printing. Admittedly, space limitations and the fact that the series is directed at the general reader place certain restrictions on the authors, but several other contributors to this series have overcome these handicaps and produced superior volumes. Among them one might mention Samuel P. Hays, William E. Leuchtenburg, Harry L. Coles, and Charles P. Roland. Smith has not performed as well as they.

As a matter of fact, this volume is rather superficial and is characterized by far too little analysis and penetrating interpretation. For example, the chapter on "Democracy and Its Leaders" is primarily a series of capsule biographies of well-known figures; there is no attempt to wrestle with the issues of the changing political situation and the almost constant ferment and shifting of party allegiances of the period under study. The chapter called "There Were Sections" adequately delimits the areas geographically, but it neither describes the strong community of interests between the South and the Old Northwest nor indicates the sharp differences existing within the various sections. Further, the treatment of the Compromise of 1850 leaves chronology of developments confused and provisions of the measures obscure.

More serious than the absence of analysis and synthesis is the inclusion of a number of misleading or incorrect statements. A few of these must be noted. Did the Compromise of 1820 bar slavery in the "vast area north of the southern border of Missouri between the Mississippi River and the Rockies," and did the South during the debates over the Compromise of 1850 "openly accept the right of the federal government to prohibit slavery in the territories" (p. 7)? Was slavery abandoned in the Northeast before the Revolution (p. 19)? Were there 4,215,000 slaves in 1860 (p. 20)? In 1824 did Calhoun