

For the most part the footnotes have the virtue of not intruding upon the reader's attention, but frequently there is the desire to know more about men, events, or places referred to in the text. The footnote format is radically different, and no explanation is given for this departure from tradition. The book is a contribution to the Illinois Sesquicentennial and should appeal to a wide audience.

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*Three American Frontiers: Writings of Thomas D. Clark.* Edited with an introduction by Holman Hamilton. (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1968. Pp. xxviii, 330. Index of main topics. \$7.50.)

This attractive anthology gathered from the writings of Professor Thomas D. Clark is organized around three types of pioneering: "The Frontier West and South," "The Frontier of Social Change," and "The Frontier of Historical Research." Forty-six selections, drawn from fourteen of the historian's works, represent most of his varied writings over a period of almost thirty years. The most extensive are those taken first from *The Emerging South* (1961), then from *The Southern Country Editor* (1948), *Pills, Petticoats and Plows* (1944), *The Rampaging Frontier* (1939), and *The South Since Appomattox* (1967). The Introduction offers a pleasant biographical sketch and an explanation of the nature and purpose of the volume.

The arrangement of the book is casual, for notwithstanding the breadth of Clark's interests, his writing is concerned essentially with a single topic, the lives of his countrymen chiefly in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. No maps or charts, no masses of statistical data, nothing of computerized quantification, no pseudoscientific jargon mar these delightful essays. Whether the author is recounting one of his colorful anecdotes, describing the landscape, analyzing the myths of southern tradition, or evaluating the changing patterns of race relations, his pages are infused with sympathetic understanding, humane and civilized values, and a genial humor. Readers familiar with Clark's work and those who know the man need not be told of those qualities, but others in search of them will find them in this book in abundance.

*Three American Frontiers* is a volume that may be opened at random and read with pleasure. Another such collection could be made without duplication, and admirers of Clark's historical writing may miss some of their favorite stories and other passages. But they may also be thankful to the University of Kentucky Press and editor Holman Hamilton for having made available this choice harvest from the work of a distinguished scholar.

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