Downes' *Council Fires on the Upper Ohio*. Although Weslager indicates the use of extensive manuscript collections, most of the citations are from previously published primary and secondary works. It is most unfortunate that he has chosen not to include a bibliography. As ethnohistory, it falls short of the high standards set by Wallace or John Ewers; as tribal history, it does not match the quality of recent tribal studies by historians such as Donald Berthrong, Arrell Gibson, or William Unrau. However, it is the only modern history of the Delaware and will serve as a guide until a more balanced history is written.

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The Iroquois were indeed an unfortunate people, who were forced to enter the Revolutionary War in which they did not have the remotest interest. What made the Revolution so crucial for the Iroquois was ironically not the losing side they chose but the great sufferings they had to go through. Even pro-American Iroquois who sought American protection in Schenectady in 1780 experienced unusual misery, suffering famine, cold, and disease. Physical devastation, a civil war, and the disintegration of the confederation accelerated the eventual decline of Iroquoian power. Such is the story Professor Graymont tells in great detail. In writing mainly a narrative history, she makes two important contributions. First, the book explores the Iroquois' political and military activities during the Revolution as has never been done before. The author tells the story well through such colorful figures as Sir William Johnson, Samuel Kirkland, Sir John Johnson, Philip Schuyler, Cornplanter, Blacksnake, and, above all, her hero, Joseph Brant. Second and more important, she fully examines the cultural dimension of the Iroquois, showing how native myth, symbol, and tradition played a significant role in their dealings with the whites.

When the Revolutionary War broke out, the Six Nations of the Iroquois confederacy were determined to remain neutral and resisted pressures from both sides. Graymont points out that the Iroquois' ultimate reasons for supporting the English were not only their traditional friendship with the British but generous supplies of British goods. Totally lacking in such supplies, the Americans failed even to keep the natives neutral. Once the natives fought in the battles of Fort Stanwix and Oriskany in the summer of 1777, their
commitment to the war fully regenerated itself because of the Indian revenge psychology. The General John Sullivan expedition against the Six Nations in 1779, which succeeded in devastating a number of the Iroquoian villages, did not achieve its objective of humbling the Indians and of forcing them to sue for peace. Instead, it made the Indians determined to have their revenge upon the Americans.

Graymont explains the Iroquoian view about the treatment of prisoners, which horrified both Americans and the British. The Indians regarded torture of captives as a religious rite. By the prisoners' pain and sufferings, the Indians believed they could remove the pain and torment from the spirits of their war dead. But those captives who were adopted by the Indians were treated with fairness and even deep affection. With equal feeling and understanding, the author analyzes the fate of the Iroquois, who were doomed no matter which side they chose, as their lands were gradually encroached upon by the whites. Graymont maintains that a British victory might have postponed but would not have prevented their decline. For the pro-British Iroquois who migrated to the Grand River region in Ontario, the process was the same, only slower.

Graymont has produced a well balanced and useful work, one which merits frequent citation. The author's indiscriminate presentation of material, however, makes the reading somewhat monotonous. Her enthusiasm for details leads her to neglect the larger context of problems. The footnotes and bibliography, which do not apparently include some recent general works, also reflect this weakness. Should not, for example, the loyalists' remarkable success in winning Iroquois support be conceived more broadly? What is the significance of the war with the Six Nations, which is treated almost as a separate war in this book, in relation to the entire war? The consideration of such questions could have added more value to this solid work.

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Few American newspapers have ever approximated the influence exerted by the Washington National Intelligencer during the first two thirds of the nineteenth century. Founded at the national capital by Samuel Harrison Smith, the Intelligencer was during most of its