

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.

University of Texas, El Paso

Yasuhide Kawashima

A History of the National Intelligencer. By William E. Ames.
(Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1972.
Pp. xi, 376. Notes, bibliography, index. \$11.95.)

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

distinguished career edited and published by Joseph Gales, Jr., and his brother-in-law William Winston Seaton. These gentlemen devoted their paper to politics in a broad sense, and in their hands it became a product of a very personal sort of journalism. Expressions of their editorial opinions were frequent and normally forthright.

Generally staunchly devoted to Jeffersonian Republicanism in its early years, the paper sided with the National Republicans against the Jacksonians when new parties surfaced in the 1820s. Nevertheless, it maintained an independence and consistency of editorial viewpoint which occasionally found it disagreeing with friends or supporting opponents. At times it merely chose the lesser of two evils, as in the 1840 presidential campaign when it advocated the election of Harrison more out of dislike for Van Buren than from any fondness for "Old Tipp." Under such circumstances the *Intelligencer* developed a character truly its own and many read it as much for its opinions as for the information it published.

A major contribution of the *National Intelligencer* was the extensive publication in its columns of public documents concerning the operation of the federal government. The high editorial standards employed in presenting the texts of documents was one of the paper's hallmarks, and those standards were generally matched in attendant commentary which put the documents in perspective. Newspapers throughout the country quoted the commentaries almost as faithfully as they did the documents themselves.

The *National Intelligencer* was in financial straits for most of its existence, despite the large sums it took in as printer to the federal government. During a twenty-six year period when Washington newspapers almost monopolized federal printing contracts, the *Intelligencer* received at least \$1,000,000 in revenue therefrom. This was in addition to \$650,000 Gales and Seaton received for the printing of the *Annals of Congress* and the *American State Papers* before 1845, at which time major portions of both series remained incomplete (p. 282). Notwithstanding this welcome federal largess, the editors maintained their high degree of political independence.

Ames has written an informative book about a newspaper whose story amply deserved the telling. His account is well organized and interestingly presented, and the history of the *Intelligencer* is effectively interwoven with that of the country. The volume is based upon substantial research, and many readers will be happy to find that the numerous citations are on the same pages as the text to which they refer.