

## Book Reviews

*Yankee Artillerymen: Through the Civil War with Eli Lilly's Indiana Battery.* By John W. Rowell. (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1975. Pp. xvi, 320. Illustrations, notes, maps, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$11.95.)

Possibly no other event in American history has been the subject of so many millions of words as has been the Civil War. And, as might be expected, the majority of the writings on this event have discussed the more publicized battles and engagements of the eastern theater. Rowell's new volume, however, covers the western campaigns of the Civil War as seen through the eyes of a group of young Hoosiers who made up the famous Lilly Battery, officially known as the 18th Indiana Light Artillery. *Yankee Artillerymen* is a fine addition to the books on the western battles and is a well researched, fast moving account of the battery from its recruitment by Captain Eli Lilly in the summer of 1862 through its travels in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia to its mustering out at Indianapolis on June 30, 1865.

The author takes his readers through the early expeditions and engagements in Tennessee at Tullahoma, Hoover's Gap, and Chattanooga and achieves the volume's best reporting in the chapter dealing with the unit's participation in the battle of Chickamauga. In December, 1862, the unit became a part of the famous Wilder's Brigade, and the story of this brigade at Chickamauga in September, 1863, is legendary. According to Rowell, Union General William Rosecrans stated that Wilder's Brigade "deserved the thanks of the country for their actions" at Chickamauga (p. 124).

After Chickamauga the battery played an active role in General William T. Sherman's Atlanta campaign in 1864 and then swept through Alabama and western Georgia with General James H. Wilson's powerful cavalry in 1865. In all, the Lilly Battery marched over six thousand miles during its three years of service to the Union.

This book is well documented and carefully researched and has excellent maps and illustrations. The personal maps which were prepared by young Bugler Henry Campbell and which are now located in the Wabash College Archives are outstanding. Rowell's volume is an excellent companion book

to Glenn Sunderland's *Lightning at Hoover's Gap*, the history of Wilder's Brigade published in 1969. *Yankee Artillerymen* will find a ready audience among Civil War readers and will be of interest especially to Hoosiers. There is still room on the Civil War bookshelf for excellently written books, and the University of Tennessee is to be congratulated on this fine publication and addition to Civil War literature about the western campaigns.

*Corydon, Ind.*

Arville L. Funk

*Cincinnati: A Chronological & Documentary History, 1676-1970.* Compiled and edited by Robert I. Vexler. (Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana Publications, Inc., 1975. Pp. vii, 152. Bibliography, name index. \$7.50.)

The title and foreword of this book promise a useful and valuable tool for the student of Cincinnati history. The foreword explains that political, social, economic, and cultural events have been evaluated and included, as well as a collection of documents illustrating the city's growth. It also indicates that this is one in a series of chronologies of American cities edited by Howard B. Furer. Such a series is an imaginative, needed, and useful venture. One expects a chronology, however, to be a detailed list of events or carefully to set out criteria for selection and elimination. Unfortunately this work does neither. Of the 138 pages of text, sixty-five are devoted to the chronology. There are about fifteen entries per page, a total of between nine hundred and one thousand entries. The first four pages deal with the eighteenth century, pages 4-46 with the 1800s, and 46-65 with the twentieth century.

Considerable selectivity is, of course, necessary in a volume of this kind, but throughout the book continuing questions arise as to the basis for the selection of entries. For example, the election of each mayor is recorded, but the holder of no other position is noted with any consistency. Furthermore, so far as impact on the city is concerned, presidents of Proctor and Gamble, bishops or archbishops of the diocese, and presidents of the University of Cincinnati may well exceed the mayors in importance. Incumbents in these positions have served long terms compared to the typical term of mayors, and their impact as individuals has been sub-