

Book Reviews

Edited by Rebecca Tolley-Stokes, East Tennessee State University

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Daniel, Larry. ***Cannoneers in Grey: The Field Artillery of the Army of Tennessee, 1861-1865.*** Tuscaloosa: Fire Ant Books, 2005. ISBN 081735168X.

The 2005 edition of *Cannoneers in Gray* is revised and expanded from Larry Daniel's 1984 book of the same title that won the Mrs. Simon Baruch University Award from the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) and

the Fletcher Pratt Award from the Civil War Roundtable of New York. Daniel provides a detailed account of the experience of the Army of Tennessee, and especially the field artillery or “long arm” of the army during the American Civil War. Readers follow the army through preparation for and participation in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Stones River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Atlanta, Franklin, and Nashville.

Daniel describes the disadvantages that the Army of Tennessee faced from the very beginning of the war. Commanders such as General Braxton Bragg, who fought in the Mexican War, never appreciated or understood the effectiveness of properly employed weapon artillery. Artillery was most effectively used when massed for defensive warfare. Too often the Confederate leaders dispersed the batteries among brigade-sized units and tried to use them offensively with the infantry. Also, the Confederates were disadvantaged in terms of number of guns, ammunition, horses, supplies, and artillerymen. While it is impressive to learn what the Confederates accomplished given their disadvantages, losing thirty percent of their guns at Missionary Ridge and fifty percent at the Battle of Nashville was a clear indication that the war was going badly for the Army of Tennessee.

Daniel has written several books on the Western Theatre of the Civil War. In *Cannoneers in Gray* he writes in an easily-read style that does not get mired in too many technical aspects of artillery. His accounts of battles are understandable and include observations from the Confederate and Federal soldiers' point of view. At the book's conclusion, a bibliographical essay and extensive notes clearly indicate the author's considerable research in locating unpublished reports, soldiers' diaries, letters, and the personal papers of veterans. Another major source cited is the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. This revised edition cites additional sources discovered since the original edition. New to the revised edition are five maps that show artillery emplacements and battlefield orientation. Appendices include organizational tables of units participating in different battles, battery profiles, and prewar military backgrounds of artillery leaders. The book also includes several informative tables and an index.

While this book is clearly written, it could be improved with pictures or a guide to the various types of cannon and a glossary for terms relating to artillery. Daniel expanded and improved his informative book about the experience of the artillery in the Army of Tennessee. This edition will be

appreciated by military historians, Civil War enthusiasts, and academics researching the Western Theatre of the Civil War. Academic libraries and institutions specializing in Civil War history should seriously consider selecting this book.

Eric Arnold
Library Departmental Supervisor
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Eli N. Evans. ***The Provincials: a Personal History of Jews in the South.*** Chapel Hill: U of NC Press, 2005 (1973) ISBN 0-8078-5623-1.

It's not hard to find information about Jews in the South. Histories both broad and intimate exist. But none so well pairs the broad sweep of Jewish history in America, focusing especially on the South, with the personal details of family history as Eli Evans' *The Provincials: a Personal History of Jews in the South*.

Evans weaves fascinating, quirky details into his narrative while anchoring *The Provincials* with the big events and issues of Jewish history in the South. For instance, in the 1880s the Duke family, for whom Duke University is named, wanted to compete in the burgeoning tobacco industry in Evans' hometown of Durham, North Carolina. The cigar and snuff markets were already secured, so the Dukes turned to hand-rolled cigarettes, a fad that had been sweeping Europe. In Russia, Jews were employed to roll cigarettes for Russian royalty. Buck Duke brought a group of these Jewish immigrants to Durham to roll and pack cigarettes—the beginnings of the Jewish community in that southern city.

Post Civil War Reconstruction, anti-Semitism, World War II and the Holocaust, Zionism, Civil Rights—Evans looks at these critical events in the broad perspective of the Jewish South and through the prism of his own family. For years, his father, a merchant, was mayor of Durham. His uncle Monroe was mayor of Fayetteville, North Carolina. And Evans' mother was a committed Zionist—in addition to her many community duties—when few in the South were brave enough to espouse such views.

Oftentimes, Jews in the South formed such far-flung communities that one synagogue had to serve several denominations, much like one church

serving Catholics, Methodists, and Baptists. Learning to negotiate among these differences informed Evans' father's mayoral position: "My father once told a city council meeting that 'being president of a congregation of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform members makes handling a group of twelve city councilmen a cinch.'"

Evans' rich picture of his community as it reflected the wider world makes *The Provincials* a rewarding read, both for its personal details and its broad history. Although originally published in 1973, this classic has been updated and now includes historical photographs.

Michal Strutin
James H. Quillen College of Medicine Library
Johnson City, TN

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Frank, Andrew K. ***Creeks and Southerners: Biculturalism on the Early American Frontier*** Lincoln: U of Nebraska Press, 2005. ISBN 0803220162.

Creeks and Southerners: Biculturalism on the Early American Frontier by Andrew K. Frank is a recent addition to the *Indians of the Southeast* series edited by Michael D. Green and Theda Perdue of the University of North Carolina. Frank is an assistant professor at Florida Atlantic University. He also wrote *The Routledge Historical Atlas of the American South* (1999).

Race and ethnicity are seen as narrowly defined and inflexible. The purpose of this interesting book is to examine the cultural, political, and economic lives of several bicultural children of Creek and European American heritage during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is Frank's thesis that although it was not easy, these offspring were often able to exist in both the Creek and European American colonists' worlds, rather than having to choose one cultural or ethnic identity, until the removal of Native Americans to the western United States forced a choice. Frank traces their interaction beginning in the 18th century, continues through the Revolutionary War, and ends with a discussion of the removal of Native Americans that occurred during the nineteenth century.

This is primarily a story of the interaction of European Americans and Creeks living in the southern United States. Frank notes that many African-

Americans lived among and married Creeks during this time. However, because of racism, the children of African- Americans and Creeks could not live dually in Creek and Southern society. He leaves these intriguing stories to other works.

Frank traces the entrance of European-Americans to Creek society and highlights the lives of several persons of bicultural heritage as they participated in deerskin trade and other enterprises, and sometimes served as interpreters and diplomats.

Throughout this work Frank discusses the different viewpoints of European Americans and Creeks concerning cultural identity. He also addresses how each society regarded paternity. To European-Americans, race and ethnicity had a great deal to do with the paternal line. Children of bicultural heritage were seen by European-Americans as better than Native-Americans because of their European parentage, but were often not seen as equal to white men. Creeks generally regarded persons whose mother was Creek to be a member of Creek society. During the 19th century however, some members of Creek society made it clear that those of bicultural heritage must choose to embrace their Native-American culture or would no longer be welcomed.

This is an interesting study of the many problems and challenges of racism and ethnic and cultural identity on the early American frontier. Its extensive research and documentation produced over thirty pages of notes. This book is not for the beginning American History student, but would make a useful addition to upper level undergraduate and graduate academic collections.

Jennifer Newcome
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Granville. Granville Musuem Inc., editor. Mt. Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2005. ISBN 0738517836.

Granville tells the story of a Tennessee riverboat town situated on the western edge of the Cumberland Mountains and settled in the early 1800s

by Scotch-Irish descendants from Granville County , North Carolina . These early settlers and their slaves made their living through farming tobacco, corn, hay, hogs, and cattle. Many 45 wheel paddle boats passed through Granville along the Cumberland River on their way from Nashville , Tennessee to Burnside , Kentucky . Much emphasis in *Granville* is placed on farming, churches, education, military volunteers, and founding families. An entire chapter is devoted to the soldiers from Granville who served in the U.S. Armed Forces; the chapter explains that some farms in the town served as training bases for Army engineering companies who learned to build pontoon bridges across the Cumberland River during World War II. This book, compiled by the local Granville Museum , charts the evolution of the town from farming community to tourist attraction.

Granville is part of the “Images of America” series by Arcadia Publishing, which focuses on printing pictorial collections of local and regional history. This short work has a brief table of contents, an introduction, and eight chapters made up of over 200 archival photographs with captions. The introduction and chapters are very informative and easy to follow. One slight flaw is that the authors wrote almost entirely in passive voice. Also, a map of Tennessee would have proven useful; although the captions provide many references to rivers and neighboring towns, a person unfamiliar with Tennessee 's geography would quickly become confused. The back cover includes a small icon of the state with a star that presumably indicates Granville's location, but this does not assist a reader in relating the town to other landmarks within the state. This publication would serve as an intriguing and undemanding introduction to local history in north-central Tennessee . Any library with an interest in this area would find *Granville* an excellent addition to their collection and an attractive read for their patrons.

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Horn, Tammy. ***Bees in America : How the Honey Bee Shaped a Nation.*** Lexington: U Press of Kentucky, 2005. ISBN 0-8131-2350-X.

Anyone with any interest in history or agriculture will appreciate Ms. Horn's work on the honey bee and the influence of the bee in America. This work is scholarly (47 pages of bibliography and footnotes and an index), entertaining, and a trivia lovers dream. Who knew that Aristaeus managed to domesticate bees for the Olympian gods, that many Africans were acquainted with bees; and slaves therefore knew much about honey production? English settlers first tried to send bees to the Colonies in 1609 but the ship was blown off course. Since there was no awareness of depression, homesick colonists were labeled as "idle drones." Originally there were skeps, round straw hatlike affairs used to bring bees to the colonies. There are photos and descriptions of the improvements in the field, such as Lorenzo Langstroth's development of movable hives.

Ms. Horn also documents the women such as Margaret Murray Washington (Mrs. Booker T.) who achieved some notoriety in the patriarchal times. She follows and quotes from the early publications and diaries. She describes the influence of honey and beeswax as a trading or bartering product. The Mormons, Shakers and Moravian influence are discussed, the literary parodies, even tall tales.

In chronological order, *Bees of America*, follows the development of the country, including the agriculture to industry landscape, the training of WWI veterans to be beekeepers. Pesticides have been a problem for birds and bees. Foulbrood and mites have long been enemies.

In her conclusion Ms. Horn states, "We cannot continue to take for granted honey bees or their keepers." After reading this excellent book, it will be hard to ignore their contributions to our way of life! The book cover says Tammy Horn teaches at Berea College and learned beekeeping from her grandfather. She's an excellent researcher as well. Academic and public libraries as well as agricultural collections will want a copy of this interesting book. Recommend it to curious minds! It deserves a wide audience!

Lynetta Lewis Alexander
Reference Librarian
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Leonard, Bill J. *Baptists in America*. New York : Columbia University Press, 2005. ISBN: 0-231-12702-2

In this comprehensive study, Bill Leonard traces the history of Baptists from their origins in seventeenth-century Holland and England to the countless, diverse Baptist groups that grapple with nearly every issue in American culture today. His study of Baptists in America is truly a study in contrasts. From the 25-member congregations tucked in the hollows of the Appalachian Mountains to the 18,000-strong mega-churches in major cities across the United States ; from Jesse Jackson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Bill Clinton to Jerry Falwell, Jesse Helms, and Tim LaHaye; Baptist churches and their members have represented a wide range of theological, political, and social viewpoints. Many divisions have been surprisingly dramatic. Early Baptists divided over questions of free will and Predestination. American Baptists in the nineteenth century divided over the issue of slavery. During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s Baptists faced off against one another as segregationists and leaders of the movement for racial equality. Today, Baptists continue to grapple with social and moral issues and the future of their denomination.

Leonard, a church historian from Wake Forest University , presents an incredibly detailed and unbiased account of the diversity of Baptists in America . With chapters on Baptist beliefs and practices, Baptist groups, denominations, and sub denominations, ethnicity and race, and women in Baptist Life, Leonard explores the dramatic divisions among American Baptists. There are more than thirty million Baptists in the United States today. They represent the largest Anglo-Saxon and African American Protestant denominations in the nation. Their considerable size gives Leonard the opportunity to present a case study in the interaction of religion and culture in the recent history of the United States . This study is particularly relevant right now. Not only Baptists, but all Americans seem to be more divided than ever over the intersection of religion and politics, abortion, civil rights, and gay marriage. Baptists are one of the most fragmented denominations in the United States , but they continue to “multiply by dividing.”

Leonard does jump from topic to topic, making this a challenging read from cover to cover. But the substantive amount of information, plus a detailed subject index and extensive bibliography, make this an excellent source on Baptist history for public and academic library collections.

Jenny Cole
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Livingston, Carolyn. ***Charles Faulkner Bryan: His Life and Music.***
Knoxville: U of Tennessee Press, 2003. ISBN: 1-57233-220-4.

Dubbed "dean of all the classical hillbillies" and "America 's Kodaly," Charles Faulkner Bryan possessed a wealth of abilities and accomplishments concerning Appalachian folk music. This biography explores his career as music educator, folk music performer, researcher and composer. Livingston writes of his early musical influences during his childhood in McMinnville, TN. She describes the challenge of financing his education at the Peabody College for Teachers and the Nashville Conservatory during the Great Depression. Other accolades include being the first Tennessee musician to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship, study at Yale, and performances of his secular cantata *The Bell Witch* at Carnegie Hall.

Livingston, who is a professor of music at the University of Rhode Island, first became aware of this composer after reading about Tennessee Tech's acquisition of his papers. Bryan was the subject of her Masters thesis. Livingston 's writing reveals a connection to the composer as a fellow native Tennessean and as the daughter of one of his early students. He instilled into her mother a "sense of value for the folk ballads and hymns of Appalachia ." She sang those songs as she finished her household chores and shared them with her elementary students.

The book is divided into two parts: "See Me Cross the Water: Early Years, 1911-1945" describes Bryan 's childhood, influences, education and career. "Give Ear and Hear My Voice: Postwar Years, 1945-1955" describe his studies at Yale and the maturing of his career. Two appendices list his musical works. The first is chronological and the second is annotated. Excerpts from Bryan 's scores are included, as are photographs. Livingston documents her research in notes and a bibliography. Clearly intended for study at the academic level, this biography appeals to those interested in Tennessee history, folk music, Appalachian studies, and music education.

Livingston includes rare stories such as Bryan 's construction of a "Turtle Uke" at age 12, and how his family sold Goodyear stock to aid in the purchase of an ancestral home shortly before the stock market crash of 1929. The text, filled with his fascinating life, flows easily without overloading the reader. Some facts are repeated for emphasis and cohesion. A required purchase for Tennessee academic libraries supporting Appalachian culture, history, music and education programs. A supplemental purchase for those with a local history or Appalachian collection.

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McCauley, Michael P. ***NPR: The Trials and Triumphs of National Public Radio***. New York : Columbia U Press, 2005. ISBN: 0-231-12160-1.

McCauley's *NPR: The Trials and Triumphs of National Public Radio*, focuses on the history of NPR in the United States, specifically the history of its non-commercial news programs. The journey begins in 1912, with the first Radio Act regulating audio broadcasting. The creation of nonprofit educational radio stations in 1920s, the Educational Television Act of 1962, the creation of National Educational Radio in 1963, and a historically profound moment in 1967 when Dean Coston engineered a landmark communications bill, are a few of the milestones in the history of NPR. Coston, an aid to President Johnson, discovered that someone had removed "radio" from the proposed bill—Coston worked all day and night to restore "radio" back in the language. Soon after NPR was incorporated, on March 3, 1970.

McCauley records the efforts of people of NPR who "left an indelible mark" on the industry: William Siemering, an educational broadcaster from Buffalo, influenced the NPR planning board by writing a mission statement titled "National Public Radio Purposes, 1970, 1st meeting"; Frank Mankiewicz was largely responsible for NPR becoming an important international news organization, gaining it significant visibility—but he also brought NPR dangerously near to bankruptcy in the 1980s. Another

director, Doug Bennet, knew “how to raise money” and “work with the 280 [member] stations.” (70)

The book covers over 30 years of NPR's struggles and successes. McCauley focuses on financial problems—NPR's search for funding from the government, listeners, and private corporations. McCauley describes how NPR's journalists attempted to balance personal intellectual ambitions with the realities of the marketplace and politics. Philosophical rifts between staff members, competition with commercial and state radio stations are also mentioned. Facts about the network's operations, program development, clarification of organizational mission (or lack thereof), keeping abreast of new technologies, the Internet, etc., all played a role in NPR broadcasting. The author asks several important questions: are journalists forced to taint their ideals? What does it take to survive in a highly competitive market requiring constant expansion to accommodate an increasingly wide and diverse audience? The reader may draw their conclusions from facts provided by McCauley—NPR has flagship news programs including All Things Considered, Weekend Edition and Weekend Edition Sunday. These programs reach an audience of more than 20 million every day, and in total more than 27 million. McCauley's book truly outlines public radios struggles and triumphs.

This book has a well-researched bibliography, notes with primary and secondary resources, and an index. This text, with Jack W. Mitchell's book, *Listener Supported: the Culture and History of Public Radio* (2005), is among the first books concentrating on the topic of the history of NPR.

Michael P. McCauley is associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine .

Wanda M. Rosinski
The University of Tennessee , Knoxville

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McWilliams, James E. ***A Revolution in Eating How the Quest for Food Shaped America***. New York : Columbia U Press, 2005. ISBN: 0-231-12992-0.

McWilliams examines the culinary history of colonial America. The main focus of this fascinating story is on the history of American cooking origins.

The book includes accounts of culinary development in the new colonies, peoples' attitudes, cultural, social and political influences, and descriptions of what was grown and who grew it. McWilliams describes the tastes and eating habits for each colonial region. He explores the interactivity between diverse cultures in the new world—English, German, Dutch, Native American, and African—and the effects of interactivity on culinary development. The challenges brought by historical, geographical and sociopolitical conditions of the “new” land are also profiled. Through negotiation of the unknown and unaccepted (maize and pork for instance), and through interaction with African slaves and Native Americans, new American regional cuisines were born. The book is full of intriguing stories of how sugar, pork, corn, cider, beer, scrapple, rum, and many other foodstuffs that became the main diet of colonial America. Food choices in each region were dictated by the culture of the new settlers, environment, availability of labor force, tools and equipment. The socio-economical spectrum and religious beliefs also played a role.

McWilliams argues that what shaped America's culinary history influenced the independent spirit of the “new nation:” “food and drink and the land on which Americans produced them predisposed Americans to adopt a radical political ideology that, while unpopular in England, did an effective job of articulating American political concerns from Georgia to Maine effective enough, anyway, to help a largely fragmented nation fight and win political independence.” (320) At one point the author writes that he hopes “to move the field of American culinary history to another level [since] we know what colonial Americans ate ... [author attempts] to explain not only what colonial Americans ate but also why they ate it.” (16).

There are many books and articles published on the subject of culinary history in the United States ; McWilliams' book is a rarity due to its concentration on a very specific topic narrowed to the time period of colonial America. The book is scholarly and meticulously researched. Notes at the end of the book are in depth and explanatory. The book has an extensive bibliography and index. An abundance of primary and secondary resources, and reproduction of (some for the first time) historical illustrations would make this book an excellent addition to the collection of any university, college and public library.

McWilliams teaches at Texas State University, San Marcos, specializing in colonial and early American History. The author earned his Ph.D. in history

at Johns Hopkins University in 2001. McWilliams's articles have been featured in the *New England Quarterly*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Washington Post*. He also writes a monthly books column for the *Austin-American Statesman* titled "Politics and Prose".

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Meador, Clifton K., MD. ***Symptoms of Unknown Origin:A Medical Odyssey***. Nashville: Vanderbilt U Press, 2005. ISBN: 082651474X.

Many librarians experienced a variety of careers before finally settling on librarianship. Rather than experience a different career, Dr. Clifton K. Meador's book, *Symptoms of Unknown Origin:A Medical Odyssey* (or, as he abbreviates, "SOU's"), allows us perspective on a case-by-case basis into the physician's realm, and provides applications to library science.

Fresh out of medical school, Meador describes the beginnings of his career. His idealism provides the notion that he will quickly diagnose the exact cause and logical cure for each of his patients' symptoms. Unfortunately, he soon learns that this is an impossible task for him or any doctor. As his career expands to a variety of assignments and he encounters what other doctors have labeled "problem" patients, Dr. Meador realizes that "the mind and the body were one – not separated, not disconnected" and begins to treat each patient in a unique manner in order to better treat them. Dr. Meador systematically determines that not every patient's symptoms are caused by a "missing chemical or element." With each of his patients, Dr. Meador applies the "Bio-psycho-social Model" theories of Dr. George Engle and the bedside diagnostic practices of Dr. Joseph Sapira. Meador teaches himself to actively listen, ask open-ended questions with ample "wait" time, and leaves each patient with the hope that he will help them find a cure for their ailments by admitting at the end of each appointment, "I don't know what you have... yet ." In describing several of his successful and not-so-successful cases – some in cringe-inducing detail – he illustrates that SUO's can have emotional or psychological causes and it is just as important for a doctor to lead the patient to discover these as it is for a doctor to find that "missing or chemical or element."

In a style that the author describes inspired by the work of Berton Roueche (“Mimicry, they say, is the highest form of flattery.”) – easy to understand, interesting and sometimes entertaining for even non-doctors – Dr. Meador has written a book that provides excellent examples, lessons and techniques applicable to doctors, future-health care workers and anyone (even librarians) for providing the best service to their patients – whoever those patients may be.

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Nash, Alanna. ***The Colonel: The Extraordinary Story of Colonel Tom Parker and Elvis Presley***. New York : Simon & Schuster, 2003.

In her new book *The Colonel: The Extraordinary Story of Colonel Tom Parker and Elvis Presley*, author Alanna Nash attempts to reveal the life of Tom Parker, the man who made Elvis Presley a household name. First encountering Parker at Elvis's funeral in 1977, Nash followed his career ever since. She dug up a myriad of material relating to Parker's former life in Holland as Andreas Cornelis van Kuijk. While researching this book, Nash interviewed several members of Parker's family still living in Holland .

Born in June 1909 in Holland, Parker left his native country in May 1929 veiled in a shroud of mystery. He disappeared without taking any of his belongings including his meager savings, clothes, identification papers, and even unopened birthday presents. Over the years, a number of rumors have arisen to explain Parker's sudden departure. One story is that Parker left for America after murdering a woman, Anna van den Enden, in Breda . Though no evidence directly ties Parker to the crime, Nash believes that is impossible not to link him to the murder.

Throughout the book, Nash provides readers with information about Parker's life in America. Many details were pieced together from various interviews with members of Parker's family in Holland and his American associates. Though there is no proof confirming the claim that Parker was in the Army, several photographs place him in Hawaii in the early 1930s wearing military apparel. Nash's theories are supported by such photos.

The Colonel is filled with a number of photographs of both Parker and Elvis. Pictures of Parker are from his childhood in Holland and when he first arrived in America. Several of the photos document Parker's personal life, including vacations with wife Marie, and outings with friends. Other features of the book include a bibliography and index. *The Colonel* is recommended for public libraries and anyone interested in learning more about Parker, the man behind Elvis.

Currently a feature writer for several newspapers, Nash's publications include five books, including two about Elvis Presley, *Elvis Aaron Presley: Revelations from the Memphis Mafia* (1995) and *The Colonel* (2003).

Nicole Mitchell
Graduate Student, SLIS
University of Alabama

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Rhea, Gordon C. ***The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and the Road to Yellow Tavern May 7-12, 1864*** . Baton Rouge: Louisiana State U Press, 1997. ISBN 0938289470.

In the spring of 1864, General U.S. Grant and his armies met General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. It was a lengthy battle in an area called the Wilderness. The battle was bloody, with Grant showing himself willing to sacrifice large numbers of soldiers in order to wear down his enemy. Lee, on the other hand, showed himself to be a brilliant defender. Grant's armies were better supplied than Lee's and had better weapons, including the recently invented 7-shot carbine; but Lee had a reputation as a brilliant tactician; his commanders were better than Grant's, and his communications were superior. These factors made for a tightly matched battle. At stake was the road to Richmond, capital of the Confederacy.

The book shows how Grant lost the battle through many errors. First, he used his cavalry poorly; the cavalry was the ears and eyes of an army at that time; and he even allowed Sheridan, the cavalry commander, to separate entirely from the army for a raid toward Richmond . Second, his attacks were hastily planned. Third, when he attacked, he often attacked weakly and with small forces. Four, his officers were often reluctant to attack even when ordered to do so. Fifth, Grant's commanders were

constantly bickering, while Lee's got along well. But for these errors, Grant might have won the battle. On the other hand, Lee fought a brilliant defensive campaign, battling to a stalemate with a Northern force much larger than his.

The purpose of the book is to show how Grant lost the battle through various mistakes, and how Lee made all the right choices in defense. Gordon C. Rhea has written four other books on the Civil War, and has received the Austin Civil War Round Table's Laney Prize. Rhea has backed up his research with books, personal letters and reports from 4 states, northern and southern. However, his book is not unique, as one can find at least 7 other books on this battle. To its credit, the book is meticulously written, reporting troop movements in detail, and giving excerpts from soldiers' writings and diaries. Southern historians will appreciate this book for its attention to accuracy and the author's knowledgeable interpretation of events. Many photographs help the reader to imagine what Civil War army life might have been like. The book is well written and not difficult to follow. It should sit well in the adult history section of a public library, or in an academic library.

Chris Langer
User Services Librarian
Tennessee State University, Downtown Campus

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Severance, Ben. ***Tennessee 's Radical Army: The State Guard and its Role in Reconstruction, 1867-1869***. Knoxville: U of Tennessee Press, 2005. ISBN 1572333626.

Ben H. Severance's work *Tennessee 's Radical Army: The State Guard and its Role in Reconstruction, 1867-1869* discusses the use of force politics by Radical Republicans in post-Civil War Tennessee. Reconstruction laws did not apply in Tennessee because many eastern counties in the state refused to secede from the Union; so, after ex-Confederates were disenfranchised, Unionist Radicals gained control of the state legislature. These politicians pushed for re-admittance to the Union, which meant that not only was Tennessee not under martial law, but also that the state did not have the same access to help from the Army as other Reconstructing states did. Without assistance from the Army, Tennessee

Radicals needed a military arm to uphold their administrative agenda. The premise of Severance's book is that although the Tennessee State Guard served as a partisan body for the Radicals, it generally conducted itself with discipline and restraint and proved remarkably effective at enforcing Reconstruction policies.

The Radical legislature voted to mobilize a State Guard twice, once in 1867 and again in 1869. Severance explains why the second deployment of the Guard appeared so much less effective than the first. The first deployment had a tangible, achievable goal: protect county registrars, voters, and polling places from disgruntled anti-Radicals and ex-Confederates during the 1867 election. Unfortunately, the second deployment had a much more ephemeral goal: rid the state of white vigilante groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan. This proved an impossible task and the Guard received high criticism before disbanding permanently in 1869. With the benefit of hindsight, Severance suggests that Tennessee should have created a small, highly mobile division to combat terrorism, citing the successful use of such a force in Texas .

After Radicals lost the Tennessee gubernatorial election of 1871, Reconstruction in the state ground to a halt and eventually reversed course. The conclusion of this book painted a grim picture of the scattering of the Guard and the end of Reconstruction. In *Tennessee's Radical Army*, Severance makes a convincing argument for his thesis. He acknowledges the shortcomings of both the use of the State Guard and of individual members who served in the Guard, but makes it clear that these were the exception rather than the rule.

This scholarly work is the first to examine the Tennessee State Guard as a body of soldiers and not simply as a military machine for Radical Republicans. Severance's introduction serves as an excellent literature review of the opposing views of scholarship surrounding the Reconstruction. This volume provides a well-organized table of contents, excellent illustrations and maps throughout the text, extensive bibliographic notes, appendices, and an index. *Tennessee's Radical Army* is an outstanding book and is highly recommended to any academic library collecting in Reconstruction history.

Crystal Goldman, MLS
Information Literacy Librarian

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Sparks, Elder John. ***The Roots of Appalachian Christianity: the Life and Legacy of Elder Shubal Stearns***. Lexington: U Press of Kentucky. ISBN 0813191289.

What are the roots of Appalachian Christianity? Who are the Old Brethren of legend? These questions have long been debated by religious and historical scholars. John Sparks, the author of *The Roots of Appalachian Christianity: the Life and Legacy of Elder Shubal Stearns*, posits that he has answered these questions in identifying Shubal Stearns as the “father of Appalachian Christianity.” His volume, in documenting the life of Stearns, traces the history of Baptist religion in Appalachia as far back as historical records allow, and then some.

The Roots of Appalachian Christianity: the Life and Legacy of Elder Shubal Stearns follows the life of Stearns from his birth in Massachusetts in 1706, through his conversion to a Separate Baptist in Connecticut in 1751, to his settlement in the North Carolina Piedmont in 1755 where he established the Sandy Creek Baptist Church and eventually the Sandy Creek Association of Separate Baptists. Sparks contends that Stearns' work in the Piedmont from 1755 to 1765 is “the primary foundation of the religious culture of the central and southern Appalachians .” In a lengthy concluding chapter Sparks also outlines the development of other major religious sects in Appalachia .

Sparks, “a young Kentucky backcountry Baptist preacher” and hospital lab technician, pored through limited primary source materials available and secondary sources. He uses the scant evidence he uncovered to convince the reader that his hypothesis is correct. Unfortunately the limited documentation and slim historical record makes Sparks's theories questionable. Stearns left no diary or sermons, though his will is cited in the bibliography. Sparks, to his credit, is very clear when he conjectures, but this lack of evidence is hard to overcome. In addition, the work is a tangle of names, places, and splinter groups and is full of short digressions. Charts or tables documenting the genealogy of Baptist groups and their

relevant dates would add clarity to the reader's experience and improve the work.

While this reviewer is skeptical of the validity of the conclusion, *The Roots of Appalachian Christianity: the Life and Legacy of Elder Shubal Stearns* is a valuable contribution to the field. The book, a labor of love for the author, offers an insiders perspective on Appalachian religion and will be of interest to academic, regional, and religious libraries.

Theresa Liedtka
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Troyan, Michael. ***A Rose for Mrs. Miniver: The Life of Greer Garson.*** Lexington: The U Press of Kentucky, 2005. 463 pp. ISBN 0813191505.

Troyan's biography is an interesting account of the successes, failures and struggles that Greer Garson faced throughout her lifetime. Garson had a stubborn and ambitious nature, however she was also known for her charm, wit and generosity. The book describes a strong willed individual who battled against illnesses throughout her lifetime and yet persevered to become the First Lady of Hollywood.

Garson's ambition for acting began at an early age. Her determination and hard work resulted in a record breaking eighty-three movies shown at the Radio City Music Hall and seven Academy Award nominations for Best Actress. Garson's most noted movie roles were in *Mrs. Miniver*, *Random Harvest*, *Blossoms in the Dust* and *Goodbye Mr. Chips*. During MGM's golden years of the forties she was its premiere leading lady.

Her thirty-three year marriage to cattleman Buddy Fogelson was the primary joy of her life. During these years she developed an interest in the cattle business, oil business and politics. Making movies took a back seat to other endeavors and by 1968 she was a member of sixty-three boards around the country. Several theatres in the southwest owe their existence to her generous nature. During her lifetime Garson was also honored with the naming for her of a rose, a theatre, and a breed of cattle.

Chapters in the book are chronologically structured beginning with a brief history of Garson's childhood. Each chapter describes a different stage of her life and career. Performance and note sections are found at the end of the book outlining the roles that she played along with a brief indication about the content of each chapter. Two photo sections are included that allow the reader to put names with the faces of some individuals mentioned within the book. Troyan's biography of Greer Garson is appropriate for any university library due its biographical nature, as well as theatre history during its golden years. It is also appropriate for public libraries given Troyan's easy to read writing style.

Troyan is a scholarly publisher for the Commonwealth serving various universities and The Filson Historical Society. He also serves as the photo services manager for Warner Brothers domestic television. The extensive details found in this biography were a result of hours spent researching newspaper and magazine articles, library archives and other materials. Interviews with Garson's friends, relatives and co-workers provided first-hand accounts about Garson's personality and lifestyle. The author used his research materials along with his writing technique to immerse the reader into a story that is both entertaining and interesting to read.

Linda Flynn
John C. Hodges Library
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A History of Tennessee Arts: Creating Traditions, Expanding Horizons. Carroll Van West, editor. Knoxville: U of Tennessee Press: 2004

Written in honor of the Tennessee Arts Commission's thirty-fifth anniversary and with the purpose of becoming the "first comprehensive history of Tennessee arts" this reference work highlights a sampling of the arts and artists connected to the state. Famous and those not as well-known are categorized within the book's major divisions: "visual arts and architecture" "the craft arts," "the literary arts," and "the performing arts." Carroll Van West serves as the director of the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University and senior editor of the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*.

Contributors from across the Grand Divisions have helped form this showcase of fine, folk, performing and literary arts. While the editor bills this as a comprehensive work in the introduction, she also admits that the contributors are aware that they have not conveyed the whole story. Some items are "merely identified" and other arts expressions were left out due to "ignorance or frustration of where to begin." The correctness of the publication isn't question but the completeness is.

With emphasis on the formal as well as the vernacular, there are numerous visuals. The inclusion of eighty-three sidebars, which focus on specific people within each division, strengthens the book's appeal. Citations to the research are included at the end of each chapter. The index does not include all places, people or events that are mentioned. Intended for scholarly work, it would also be useful to junior high and high school students researching Tennessee history and artists.

This work has the potential of improving with more organization, research, and greater representation from east and west Tennessee . The majority of entries come from the metropolises of Memphis , Nashville , and Knoxville . Johnson City 's literary artists are mentioned thanks to Robert J. Higgs, East Tennessee State University Professor Emeritus. Archie Campbell is featured in a sidebar authored by Ned Irwin. Elizabethton is mentioned due to the architecture of the Carter Mansion . The oldest town in Tennessee received mention for its International Storytelling Festival but not for its preserved architecture. An entry on bluegrass is non-existent despite mention of Bill Monroe and the Stanley Brothers in country music. While *A History of Tennessee Arts* should not be overlooked, it deserves more time, research, and better geographical representation in a revised edition. Recommended as an optional purchase for schools and college libraries located in the regions with the most representation.

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