

BOOK REVIEWS

Exile Without an End. By Chapman J. Milling. (Columbia, South Carolina: Bostick & Thornley, Inc., 1943. Pp. xii, 88. Bibliography and index. \$2.00.)

Exile Without an End traces the fate of about one thousand Acadian evacuees unloaded on the South Carolina colony during 1755-56. Their tragic story is told simply, but with a dramatic skill that does not obscure its historical accuracy. It should be enlightening to those who have loosely assumed that all the Acadians settled in Louisiana; and it opens up the interesting possibility that some South Carolina families formerly classed as Huguenots may belong to this obscure immigrant strain.

This book is the product of the same painstaking investigation that made the author's *Red Carolinians* a masterpiece of historical research and opens up an interesting possibility to historical scholars in Oklahoma. A strong South Carolina French influence apparent among the Creeks during the last quarter of the eighteenth century has entered largely into history of Oklahoma. There was the Cornell or Cornels family, from which Opothle Yahola is said to have descended; the Ben Durant, who married a sister of Alexander McGillivray, and became the ancestor of Ward Coachman, principal chief of the Creek Nation; and the ancestor of E. H. Lerblance, prominent Creek citizen of the late nineteenth century. It has been uncritically assumed that these people were Huguenots, but it seems more probable that some of them were Acadian exiles who escaped from the cruelty of civilized society to the woods and the friendly savages. Some of the names bear a tantalizing similarity to those of the evacuees. It is to be hoped that some enterprising investigator will follow up this clue.

Thus, because the book is historically sound, because it gives a moving account of a great human tragedy, and because it opens up possibilities of historical speculation, it deserves to be read by Oklahomans.

—Angie Debo.

Marshall, Oklahoma,

Oklahoma, The Beautiful Land. By the '89ers. (Oklahoma City: Times-Journal Publishing Company, 1943. Pp. 352. \$2.50.)

This volume, filled with interesting stories and sketches related by the men and women who came to this section in 1889, sheds light on an important period of State history. The reader will be interested in the account of early games on page 301, by Golda Barbara Slief, in "A Daughter of '89ers":

"Recreation in those days was made by the people of the community. This took the form of pie suppers, box suppers, spelling bees, ciphering matches, and literary societies. . . The children and young folk partici-

pated in games, Tag, Miller in the Dell, Catch as Catch Can, Drop the Handkerchief, Crack the Whip, Fox and Geese, Blackman, Blindman's Bluff, Hide and Seek, Ante Over and baseball were our favorite games."

The description by Alfaretta Jennings on page 272, tells about the supplies that these early settlers carried with them to the new country:

"Mother's wagon was loaded with such things as: two trunks containing our clothing and valuables, and among said valuables was a clock, a precious possession. There was also a Singer sewing machine, another precious possession. There were a box of dishes and part of the cooking utensils and laundry paraphernalia. My father's wagon was loaded with such things as a sod plough, a rake, scythe, hoe, grubbing hoe, four straight back chairs, a rocking chair, an iron cook stove and an iron heating stove. He also had some seed, a bushel of kaffir corn, two bushels of Indian corn, and a bushel of potatoes, which we later ate, having learned that they would not do well in sod ground."

One of the striking paragraphs written by Irene Flowers Hickey describes early Oklahoma City in the following words:

"Gleaming white tents, blue flowers on a hill and all the lovely things that nature brings to Oklahoma in the spring, . . . Reno Avenue . . . was a noble and interesting road bearing proudly the name of General Reno. Up and down that wide thoroughfare passed men and women who made history. There might be seen army officers on spirited horses, or patient, slow moving oxen that hauled the covered wagons of pioneers going farther west into the Territory."

Harriet Patrick Gilstrap and others have contributed interesting pioneer stories to this appealing volume. Numerous pictures of early day events add to the interest of the reader. The reviewer would suggest that in another edition that certain errors, for example the spelling of Coppinger, should be corrected. This book will be valuable as a reference in the study of Oklahoma history as it throws additional light on a colorful era.

Copies of *Oklahoma, The Beautiful Land* may be secured from Mrs. W. M. Bottoms, Secretary of the 89'ers, 309 Northwest 16th Street, Oklahoma City, or from Mrs. Edith Barrows Russell, Chairman of the Reminiscences Committee, 2329 Northwest 28th street, Oklahoma City.

—James W. Moffitt

Oklahoma Historical Society

Charles DeMorse; Pioneer Editor and Statesman. By Ernest Wallace. Texas Technological College Research Publication No. 6. (Lubbock, Texas: Texas Tech Press, 1943. Pp. v, 271.)

For nearly half a century the *Standard* or *Northern Standard* of Clarksville recorded the progress of Texas and helped to determine the nature of its institutions. Hence, a comprehensive study of the editor and his paper represents a substantial contribution to the history of the Southwest.

Charles Denny Morse (1816-1887) was well born in Leicester, Massachusetts, having come from the same family that gave the world Samuel F. B. Morse of electric telegraph fame. Impelled by sympathy for the Texan cause and lured, perhaps, by the love of adventure, he set out for Texas in 1835. On the way he changed his name to DeMorse in order to incorporate into it a part of his mother's family name, Denny. During the next six years he was in turn an officer in the Texan navy, a practicing attorney in Matagorda, and an officer under President Lamar in Austin. Apparently he soon won the friendship of almost every prominent Texan of his day.

DeMorse's outstanding work began with the launching of the *Northern Standard* at Clarksville in 1842; except for two or three comparatively short intervals, editing, publishing, and managing that paper was his vocation until his death in 1887. His services belonged to the public almost as much as to himself, however. He was elected to the Congress of the Republic of Texas; fought for the Confederacy as a colonel in Arkansas and the Indian Territory; was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Baltimore in 1872; received a large vote for governor in the Democratic State Convention of 1873; was president of the first press association in Texas; a director of the Agricultural and Mechanical College; and a member of the Texas Constitutional Convention of 1875.

Naturally a man so seasoned in public service would emphasize public affairs in his journal. Indeed, the chapter headings of Dr. Wallace's book constitute a list of issues and crises that afforded news material and subjects for editorials during the long and worthy career of the *Standard*. From the annexation of Texas, through the Civil War and Reconstruction, down to the state land policy of the 1880's, the story of DeMorse and his paper is the story of Texas, if not, indeed, the story of the nation. The author has skillfully supplied from time to time the information necessary to enable the reader to follow the newspaper's history and the biography of its statesman editor.

In writing this biography Dr. Wallace has done an excellent piece of work. He has written interestingly the life story of a very unusual man; and through the eyes of that man he has given a survey of the public affairs of the commonwealth during its formative period. This reviewer had expected the author to give more emphasis to regional affairs and the work of the *Standard* in the development of Northeast Texas, but that might have necessitated the writing of another volume. The book has been beautifully made and is a credit to the Texas Tech Press.

Indians Abroad. By Carolyn Thomas Foreman. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1943. Pp. xxiii, 248. Eight illustrations, Bibliography and Index. \$3.00.)

This interesting volume from the first chapter, "Cargo for Columbus," to the last, "Travels during Three Wars," presents a graphic account of the American Indian in foreign lands and brings to light new angles of his place in social history. During the period of nearly three hundred years between the discovery of America and the founding of the United States, many groups of Indians were induced to visit Europe, the sponsors of the journeys generally promoting the plan of inspiring them with awe of the Old World order that they might return to their people and report on the great nations visited and the wonders seen in "civilized" society. On the other hand, the people of Europe were incited with admiration in observing the dignity and innate refinement of the so-called "savages" who lived close to nature on the prairies and in the forests of far-away America.

These early contacts between the peoples of the two continents led to the study of the American Indian that had a profound effect seen in the advancement of freedom for the individual and in the planting of great republics in the world. In the 17th Century, after reviewing the history of governments and noting their weaknesses, Bishop Berkeley was moved to say, "Westward the course of empire takes its way." And in the search to break the trammels of decadent society, Rousseau wrote his *Emile* (or *De L'Education*) advocating a return to nature. A quarter of a century later, his friend, Bernardin De Saint-Pierre, produced his famous book *Paul and Virginia*. In the meantime, the Declaration of Independence had been written by Thomas Jefferson, whose principles of government can still guide the nations during the unprecedented days of 1944. It is well to recall that back of these works thought had been given to the study of the American Indian and his way of life. The eyes of Europe had been focused on the visitors from the New World and leaders of government on all sides had been inspired with new zeal in caring for and promoting the natural rights of mankind.

The research necessary to produce *Indians Abroad* was carried on by Mrs. Foreman in the archives and libraries of Mexico City, Madrid, Paris, Brussels, and London. The well known account of the Indians who were taken to Spain by Columbus and the familiar story of Pocahontas have been given fresh interest in the material discovered and added by Mrs. Foreman. The real name of this famous heroine from Virginia was "Matoka." She had also been christened "Rebecca." One version describing a small engraving of Pocahontas made in London bears these words which freely translated mean, "Matooka whose other name is Rebecka, Daughter of

the Powerful Prince Powhatan Emperor of Virginia." Yet with all this royal title, we see the real "Maid of Virginia" in this paragraph by Mrs. Foreman: "Pocahontas' moccasin-clad feet were bruised on the London cobble stones; she was annoyed by the crowds that came to gaze at her; exhausted and bewildered by the noise."

At another time, Pocahontas was gorgeously arrayed in court dress and attending Ben Jonson's *Christmas, his Mask* played before the King and Queen of England, in 1617. It was said that Pocahontas was unlike other women present, in that "she held her shoulders differently; she walked more lightly . . . and there was indescribable grace in the way she gently waved her feather fan. . ."

Among the valuable contributions found in Mrs. Foreman's book are the numerous quotations from old manuscripts and newspapers and contemporary published accounts. The chapters presenting King Philip, Joseph Brant, Tomochichi, Oocom, and Oconostata give much new biographical material on these famous leaders. The travels of other American Indians are recounted up to the time of World War II.

There has been no attempt at fine writing by Mrs. Foreman and, though there is some unevenness in presentation of subject matter and relative values in places in the text, her straight-forward narrative style makes *Indians Abroad* a volume of absorbing interest. This twenty-fourth book issued by the University of Oklahoma Press in the *Civilization of the American Indian Series* should be read by the more than 250,000 adult Indians living in the United States as well as by all students of social science in America.

—Muriel H. Wright

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