

noble sacrifice, the personal pathos. Accompanying this work are sixteen pages of rare sketches recently found in the vault of a rare book dealer. The sketches are reproduced from a sketchbook kept by a young Union soldier who witnessed events from 1862 to 1863. Far from being a distant, formal study of military history, this book reflects the wide-ranging ideas, combined with extraordinary sketches, to allow the reader a unique and personal vision of the Civil War experience which was so much a part of Bruce Catton.

Declaration of Independence Desk: Relic of Revolution, by Silvio A. Bedini. (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1981. pp. 112, illustrations, notes, appendixes, index, \$5.95 paper.)

The author, keeper of the rare books for the Smithsonian Institution, shows how the historian can combine scientific analysis of an artifact with historical detective work to document the history of a museum object. But more than an account of a relic, this book discusses how Jefferson composed the Declaration of Independence, how it was published, distributed, and announced to the people. The book is enhanced by illustrations and a list of the original and present owners of duplicate Jefferson lap desks. Curators working in historical museums will profit from a careful reading of this book and the student of American history will find much new and revealing information about the Declaration of Independence. Well worth the price and delightful reading.

With These Hands, Women Working on the Land, by Joan M. Jensen. (Old Westbury, N.Y.: The Feminist Press, 1981. pp. 295, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index, no price listed.)

This book shows that there is material available on the "working woman," especially those who worked the land. Excerpts from diaries, letters, oral interviews, speeches, and works of poetry and fiction by and about rural women are presented in a very readable manner. There are sections on Indian women, southern plantation women including slaves, immigrant homesteaders in the Middle and Far West, and nineteenth-century farm women. The book contains some Farm Security Administration photographs from the 1930s and 1940s which are interesting themselves. This book presents history from a little different "slant" and should be of interest to all Midwest farm women and historians of women's history.

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