

THE ANNALS OF IOWA

The recently formed Danish American Heritage Society deserves hearty thanks for assisting Mortensen in the publication of his book. The same organization is currently working closely with Grand View College in Des Moines on a project called the Danish Immigrant Archival Listing, a nation-wide effort to identify and list all resource materials dealing with Danish immigrants. Hopefully this project will further stimulate research and publication in the areas of Danish emigration and the process of assimilation of this ethnic group into an ever changing American society. Hopefully, too, the example of commendable scholarship, intelligent use of sources, and good writing found in *Flight to America* and *Schools for Life* will be an inspiration and guide for students of Danish American history in the years ahead.

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The Northern Journals of Stephen H. Long: The Journals of 1817 and 1823 and Related Documents, edited by Lucile M. Kane, June D. Holmquist, and Carolyn Gilman. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1978. pp. xii, 407. \$17.50.

Between 1816 and 1823 Major Stephen Long, of the United States Topographical Engineers, served as America's foremost explorer. During those years he led soldiers and civilian scientists through the Mississippi, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Red and Arkansas river valleys as well as across the central and southern plains. His companions included some of the most active scientists and scholars of that day, and they gathered much information about the Indians, geology, plant and animal life, and resources of those regions through which they passed. As part of his explorations, Long twice led expeditions up the Mississippi River through Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. In 1817 his party explored parts of all three states in a minimal fashion, but the 1823 expedition proved to be one of the most ambitious efforts to gather scientific data in the upper Mississippi Valley to that time.

The editors, Ms. Kane, Holmquist, and Gilman, are all on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society where the project has been underway for some years. With financial assistance from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, they gathered Stephen Long's 1817 journal, as well as journals kept in 1823 by Long and James E. Colhoun. In addition they collected copies of other signifi-

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cant documents such as Long's orders and instructions, his efforts to recruit colleagues, and some of the financial records of the two expeditions. This supplementary material rounds out the picture of Long's activities and helps to clarify the process of frontier exploration. The introduction places the explorers' work within the mainstream of American territorial expansion, frontier exploration, and scientific development during the early nineteenth-century. The documents themselves are presented clearly, documented carefully and completely, and made easy to read—no small feat in documentary editing. The explorers' contributions in fields as varied as ethnology, geology, linguistics, botany, zoology, cartography, and even climatology, are all noted and explained clearly.

Although aimed primarily at research scholars, this volume will prove interesting to persons curious about the early history of the upper Mississippi Valley. Pictures of the explorers as well as many contemporary sketches—often by members of the exploring parties—supplement the text and notes. Sketch maps help orient the modern reader, but a current (1970s) map would certainly be of use. The index is carefully cross-indexed and valuable for the researcher. The lack of a bibliography makes the notes somewhat harder to use, but omitting one seems to have been an economic rather than a scholarly decision.

This volume includes much that is of interest to students of the Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin frontier. It sheds light on important aspects of American exploration of and penetration into those states, and by doing this helps us understand more clearly the role played by government activities prior to actual frontier settlement. This book is a model to which others editing regional materials might well look for guidance.

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John Ross, Cherokee Chief, by Gary E. Moulton. Athens: The University of Georgia Press, 1978. pp. ix, 282. \$12.00.

Most American history textbooks note the removal of the Cherokee Indians from Georgia during the 1830s. Likewise, John Ross is often mentioned, for he was the principal chief of the tribe at that sad and tragic time. Indeed, Ross played a major role in Cherokee affairs for many years. During those years, he dealt with white political leaders, faced the bloody turmoil of tribal factionalism, and fought for the well-being of the tribe during the Civil War and Reconstruction, as

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