

does well. He tells many, many specific stories to make his points, and the occasional focus on the differences between American and German migrants is welcome. *A Store Almost in Sight* is a carefully researched book and an interesting read. I recommend it to anyone who wants to know more about the material life of those who settled Missouri during the first half of the nineteenth century.

The Great Medicine Road: Narratives of the Oregon, California, and Mormon Trails, part 1, 1840–1848, edited by Michael L. Tate with the assistance of Will Bagley and Richard L. Rieck. American Trails Series 24. Norman: Arthur H. Clark Co., an imprint of the University of Oklahoma Press, 2014. 339 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$39.95 hard-cover.

Reviewer J. T. Murphy is professor of history at Indiana University South Bend. His research and writing have focused on the military history of the nineteenth-century U.S. West, the Oregon Trail, and frontier settlement, among other topics.

On April 1, 1846, as J. M. Harrison recalled, the villagers of Birmingham, Iowa, witnessed “an unusual bustle and stir.” “Friends and relatives, came in from the surrounding country, to witness our departure for the far off Oregon” (216). His family, lured by a mild, healthy climate and available land, joined a modest-sized wagon train, “The Iowa Company,” and were among 1,200 people who traveled overland to Oregon that year. Harrison soon became an ardent booster, promoting the Pacific Slope’s economic potential and raising money for schools, but when relating his trail experience 29 years later, he emphasized its hardships and wildness, possibly to enhance his worth as a pioneer. “We were without the pale of civilization,” he remembered. “The space of two thousand miles of plains, sands and deserts, inhabited by numerous tribes of Savages, lay between us and our final goal” (218). As proof, he highlighted one of the few Indian depredations along the trail, a Shoshone massacre of 20 emigrants in 1854—an incident that underscored his own narrow escape eight years before when Indians had stripped him naked and killed his companion, Edward Trimble.

Harrison’s account is one of 15 collected and edited by Michael L. Tate, a noted historian of the American West, with the assistance of Will Bagley and Richard Rieck, scholars who have written extensively about the overland trails. This volume, covering the period 1840–1848, is the first in a series focusing on individual narratives about going to Oregon, California, and Utah through 1869. Using diaries, letters, and memoirs from men and women of varied ages, backgrounds, and experiences, the editors “allow the pioneer generation to speak directly to modern

audiences" (17). Blending this "original pioneer spirit" with scholarly insight, they believe, will stimulate modern readers to appreciate "one of the greatest mass migrations in American history" (34).

To ensure their success, the editors provide four maps originally printed in earlier studies such as John Unruh's *The Plains Across*, photographs of key figures, illustrations of trail landmarks, and thorough explanatory introductions and footnotes. They also include an impressive bibliography of scholarly works and trail narratives. Among the voices chosen are well-known historical figures and those less so: Pierre-Jean De Smet, the Jesuit priest and missionary; Medorem Crawford, one of the original Oregon pioneers; Lilburn Boggs, a former Missouri governor who settled in California; Lucy Jane Hall Bennett, a survivor of Stephen Meeks's infamous cutoff; and Amanda Esrey Rhoads, a member of the Mormon migration in 1846. All describe life on the trail or in their new land. Some offer practical advice about what to bring or leave behind. All fulfill the editors' expectations. This volume, along with those to follow in the series, will prove extremely helpful for researchers; and anyone interested in the lives of western pioneers will find these stories engaging and instructive.

Dubuque's Forgotten Cemetery: Excavating a Nineteenth-Century Burial Ground in a Twenty-First-Century City, by Robin M. Lillie and Jennifer E. Mack. Iowa and the Midwest Experience. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2015. 228 pp. Maps, table, illustrations, appendix, notes, recommended reading, index. \$27.50 paperback.

Reviewer Thomas G. Connors is associate professor of history at the University of Northern Iowa. His areas of research interest include cemeteries and burial practices.

Since the mid-nineteenth century, Americans have approached burial with particular assumptions and common practices, including the notion that cemeteries remain in place in perpetuity, a permanent landscape of stone monuments and well-tended lawns. Dubuque's Third Street Cemetery predates these Victorian practices. It existed as a Catholic burial ground for early settlers from 1833 until 1880, two decades after newer diocesan cemeteries had opened. It never had grass lawns or many monuments; most graves would have had wood markers or remained unmarked. Disused and long uncared for, the cemetery faded from the landscape, particularly after a convent was built on the site and surviving monuments were relocated about 1948. By then, most residents believed that all the graves had been removed decades earlier. Despite recurrent evidence to the contrary in intervening years, that was