

Buffalo Bill Cody: A Man of the West, by Prentiss Ingraham, edited by Sandra K. Sagala. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2019. ix, 349 pp. Illustrations, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$55 hardcover, \$29.95 paperback.

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

In 1854, eight-year-old William F. Cody moved with his family from Scott County, Iowa, to Kansas, where he began a kind of apprenticeship—as hunter, scout, and Indian fighter—that led to his becoming the iconic hero Buffalo Bill. His life, like Daniel Boone’s or Kit Carson’s, suited an American narrative about taming the wilderness. Proving a shameless champion of his image, Cody welcomed its dissemination. It was reshaped and retold in dime novels, in theatre productions (some written by Prentiss Ingraham and often starring Cody), in an 1879 autobiography published when he was only 33, in his famous Wild West Show, and eventually in silent movies.

As a writer, Ingraham achieved his own legendary status by publishing 600 novels; of those, 287 used Cody as the protagonist (311–21). This volume, edited by Sandra K. Sagala, an independent scholar who has written excellent studies of Cody on the stage and in films, is a biography originally serialized between July 13, 1895, and May 16, 1896, in the *Duluth Press*, a newspaper partially financed by Cody but operated by his sister Helen and her husband, Hugh Wetmore. Ingraham follows Cody’s autobiography, often verbatim, embellishing here and there to flesh out an episode, add excitement, or offer lessons for young readers about personal responsibility, courage, and devotion to family. Even Turk, Cody’s childhood dog, is given a principal role to evoke those values. Ultimately, this is not only a book about Cody but also a fun example of nineteenth-century popular literature.

Kansas Baseball, 1858–1941, by Mark E. Eberle. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2017. xiii, 308 pp. Map, tables, illustrations, graphs, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$45 hardcover, \$27.95 paperback.

Reviewer Michael E. Lomax retired as professor of sport history from the University of Iowa. He is the author of *Black Baseball Entrepreneurs, 1860–1901: Operating by Any Means Necessary* (2003).

Mark Eberle has written a thoroughly engrossing monograph on the history of baseball in the state of Kansas from the mid-nineteenth century to the eve of World War II. He chronicles baseball’s early history in the state, the local fans and civic leaders who constructed the ballparks, and the