

SOURCES

Oklahoma Pr., 1979) are still important and useful sources for obtaining the recognized text of primary documents. Deloria's *Behind the Trail of Broken Treaties: An Indian Declaration of Independence* (Delacorte, 1974) analyzes the history of Indian treaty relations and argues that Indian tribes should be accorded status as members of the United Nations. The author also suggests that tribes with smaller land-holdings should organize confederations to strengthen their claim for nationhood. Readers interested in an extensive overview of the history of treaty-making should consider Grosek's *The Secret Treaties of History* (XLibris, 2004), a fascinating look at the details of more than one thousand secret treaties spanning fifteen hundred years, including indexes and bibliographies intended to guide researchers in analyzing treaties and agreements made by specific countries. Grosek's work will serve as a valuable reference tool for students and scholars conducting treaty research in general and for readers interested in the broad history of treaty-making and diplomacy.

Fixico's new encyclopedia is, however, without equal in the depth of its coverage and in its approach. It will fill an important gap in American history and Native American studies and will undoubtedly supplant the current historiographical reference literature as the definitive one-stop reference work on the subject. Made from high-grade materials and attractive and sturdy bindings, it should last as a collection's authoritative encyclopedia in this area for years to come. It is therefore highly recommended for all undergraduate and school libraries, and public libraries serving interested readers and researchers. —*Vincent P. Tinerella, Public Services Librarian, Ross Pendergraft Library, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas*

The Underground Railroad: An Encyclopedia of People, Places, and Operations. By Mary Ellen Snodgrass. Armonk, New York: Sharpe Reference, 2008. 2 vols. alkaline \$199 (ISBN 978-0-7656-8093-8).

The past decade has brought an exponential growth in research and publication of reference works concerning all aspects of slavery. Virtually every major reference book publisher has added several works on the topic during the period. This encyclopedia comes hard on the heels of the *Encyclopedia of the Underground Railroad* (McFarland, 2006), yet at over 750 pages the Sharpe encyclopedia is more than double the size of the former. This book focuses on the major families, individuals, and institutions as well as wayfarers on the Underground Railroad and their efforts during more than a century of the liberation network's operation.

The encyclopedia contains more than fifteen hundred easy-to-read and well-researched entries. An alphabetical contents list is provided at front of each volume; its value could have been extended had it been presented thematically to help readers unfamiliar with the subject. As well, the meager two-page introduction leaves the reader with very little context with which to begin their research. There are several nice features of the book, including maps of routes and regions of escape, dozens of photos and other illustrations, a

brief chronology, genealogies of seventy-two integral abolitionist families, a list of escapees, railroad operatives listed by location, an extensive bibliography of primary and secondary sources, and a well-formed cumulative index. One other problem with the work is that there are no entries for states or major cities involved with the Underground Railroad. The index will guide the reader to mentions of a geographic place within articles but it requires persistence to piece together a comprehensive picture of a locality's role this way.

Despite a few shortcomings, this book is a valuable contribution to the subject matter and is recommended for academic libraries that have strong collections or programs in African-American studies or those libraries that have not already purchased the McFarland work.—*Brent D. Singleton, Reference Librarian, California State University, San Bernardino*

Women Adventurers, 1750–1900. By Mary F. McVicker. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2008. 224p. alkaline \$55 (ISBN 978-0-7864-3205-9).

Author Mary McVicker has produced a work in two parts, neither of which is entirely satisfactory. Part I, "Women Adventurers," is a bio-bibliography of 128 or so women selected from among the 250 whose works McVicker examined "when available" (1). Each woman McVicker chose to include in part I was selected according to an "admittedly subjective" (Ibid.) criterion of, adventurous either by virtue of the date of the undertaking, the difficulty of the journey, or the reason itself. Entries for most women in part I include her dates, nationality, a short biographical sketch giving pertinent life facts, and a summary of her travel and travel writing. Excerpts from her travel writing accompany some women's entries and all entries conclude with a listing of an edition of the woman's published travel book or books.

McVicker leans heavily on the standard national biographical dictionaries, such as *American National Biography* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1999) and *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 2004), the ongoing *Dictionary of Literary Biography* (Gale Research, 1978–), and a number of monographs and anthologies of women travelers and women's travel writing which she lists in her bibliography of source material. In at least one instance, "Lucy Seaman Bainbridge," McVicker cites a blog and in another, "Lady Hester Stanhope," a *Wikipedia* article.

Part II, "Additional Women Travelers of Interest," lists approximately 93 women concerning whom McVicker found a "dearth of information" (2). Entries for these women are "scanty. . . . For some women there is no information, except the fact that the woman traveled and wrote a book about it" (Ibid.). An edition of that book or books, as the case may be, is cited with each entry in part 2. For many of the women in this section, that is the only information given, causing this reviewer to wonder how these ladies met McVicker's criterion of "adventurous." This reviewer was also puzzled as to why some women for whom McVicker does provide a biographical sketch are in part 2 rather than in part 1.

Among recently published reference works, Patricia D. Netzley's *The Encyclopedia of Women's Travel and Exploration* (Oryx, 2001), often cited by McVicker as a source, includes short biographies of women travelers and articles about categories of travel, mode of transportation, and types of travelers that would not be included in a work of bio-bibliography. Further readings are suggested and black-and-white photographs and drawings, absent from McVicker's book, illustrate the work.

Literature of Travel and Exploration: An Encyclopedia edited by Jennifer Speak (3 vols., Fitzroy Dearborn, 2003), while not exclusively devoted to women, does include articles on individual women travelers, though not nearly as many as Netzley or McVicker. Topical articles include categories of women travelers and a separate article on women travelers is divided by time period. Both *The Encyclopedia of Women's Travel and Exploration* and *Literature of Travel and Exploration: An Encyclopedia* carry women travelers and women travel writers beyond McVicker's cut-off date of 1900.

Jane Robinson's *Wayward Women: A Guide to Women Travelers* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1990) is a bio-bibliography that includes some four hundred women travel writers, most of whom were British, all of whom spoke and wrote in English, and all of whom traveled outside of their native country. Robinson offers some biographical information for each of her entries and a summary of, sometimes a quotation from, her subject's travel account. Each entry begins with a bibliographical description of the first edition of the author's travel book or books. Only first-hand accounts published in book form are included.

Although this reviewer finds the candor with which McVicker states her work's shortcomings refreshingly charming, nonetheless these shortcomings render her work of marginal usefulness as it presently stands. This is not the work of serious scholarship women travel writers deserve. Many, if not most, of the women in part 1 can be found elsewhere. Of the more problematic women writers listed in part 2, McVicker herself writes, "I hope that future scholars will undertake research on these women. They should not be lost" (2).

This work is recommended only to public or school libraries that do not have in their collections the sources McVicker consulted and do not have access to OCLC's WorldCat database. Public research libraries and college and university libraries with extensive collections of women's writings or travel literature may wish to add *Women Adventurers, 1750–1900* to their holdings if comprehensiveness is a collection goal. Otherwise, this is an optional purchase.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, History, Philosophy, Political Science; African American Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American Studies, Women's Studies; Cohen Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Women in the American Civil War. Ed. by Lisa Tendrich Frank. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 2 vols. alkaline \$195 (ISBN 978-1-85109-600-8).

In the public imagination, women's participation in the War between the States pretty much begins and ends with

Clara Barton ministering to the wounded. To be sure, the "Angel of the Battlefield" figures prominently within these pages. However, as this two-volume set makes clear, the ladies of mid-nineteenth-century America were not content to merely play the role of caregiver. As the drama unfolded, they took on such diverse parts as spy, lecturer, factory worker, secretary, and, incredibly enough, soldier ("It is estimated that as many as four hundred women dressed as men to fight in the Civil War" [406]).

These oft-neglected stories are the *raison d'être* for this work. It is an attempt by the editor and contributors to fill in the gaps left by traditional male-centric histories. As the introduction points out, the thrust of the writing is to present the Civil War from the feminine (not necessarily feminist) point of view, which "details the contributions and experiences of women across the social, ethnic and racial spectra" (xx). This goal has been well met, as minorities and other traditionally marginalized people here share the limelight with more prominent actors.

In 326 entries taking up 631 pages, such varied topics as "Foraging, Effects on Women," "Guerrilla Warfare," and "Treasury Girls" are examined, along with more prosaic and expected headings such as "Diaries and Journals," "Letter Writing" and "Camp Followers." About two-thirds of the entries are biographical sketches of personalities both familiar ("Lincoln, Mary Todd") and obscure (the colorful cross-dresser Elsa Jane Guerin, who went by the moniker of "Mountain Charley"). Coverage is even-handed, so an entry on "Family Life, Confederate" is balanced by a similar one titled "Family Life, Union." All entries are signed, cross-referenced, and contain a mini-bibliography titled "References and Further Reading."

A number of features are particularly helpful: fourteen "contextual essays" at the beginning of volume 1 provide an overview of American women's status and issues of the era. Also part of the front matter is a chronology listing important dates during the course of the war, a contributors list recording writers' names and affiliations, and a complete alphabetical list of the entries appearing in both volumes. Back matter at the end of volume 2 includes an extensive bibliography and a section on primary sources, which describes and analyzes autobiographies, letters, newspaper articles, and other such contemporary texts. A good example of how this adds not only perspective but gritty realism to dry historical fact is "The Woman Order in New Orleans (1862)," in which Major-General Benjamin Butler dictated that "hereafter when any female shall by word, gesture, or movement insult or show contempt for any officer or soldier of the United States she shall be regarded and held liable to be treated as a woman of the town plying her avocation" (read: prostitute) (606). A seemingly draconian measure until it is revealed that an event leading up to this step occurred when one of these gals "dumped the contents of a chamber pot onto the head of David Farragut" (606), he of "Damn the torpedoes! Full steam ahead!" fame.

Hewing closely in title and subject matter is *Women During the Civil War: An Encyclopedia* by Judith E. Harper (Routledge/