

SOURCES

relations, unsolved cases, and many others. This allows for quick navigation for students beginning with a topic and desiring to narrow to specific crimes. Further reading suggestions and a sizeable bibliography will also prove useful for further research. Volume 3 includes some fascinating primary documents including newspaper accounts from the time period of the crime, arrest warrants, testimonies, legal opinions, and excerpts from cases.

The credentials of the editors proved impeccable and indicative of scholarly work. However, some entries in the list of contributors gave me pause. While the list is populated with many holders of advanced degrees and relevant first-hand field experience, there were multiple contributors who were currently completing undergraduate or secondary education. As a result of this, I recommend this set for use by undergraduates, and in particular, underclassmen. It is an excellent starting point for research and will undoubtedly prove useful and interesting, but I would not recommend it as a stand-alone resource. This set belongs in any institution with undergraduate programs in the field of criminal justice, and in libraries serving the public or undergraduate students. It could be found wanting for scholarly authority in settings such as graduate or law schools.—*Anita J. Slack, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio*

The Early Republic: Documents Decoded. By John R. Vile. Documents Decoded. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2016. 309 p. Acid free \$81.00 (ISBN: 978-1-4408-4346-4).

This is the newest release in ABC-CLIO's Documents Decoded series, a range of works devoted to collecting noteworthy primary resources. The subjects covered in the series are wide-ranging and include Women's Rights, Presidential Power, the Abolitionist Movement, and the Death Penalty. What makes Documents Decoded books stand out among the plethora of primary resource collections available is that expert commentary and analysis are presented literally alongside the text of seminal primary resources. That is, scholarly observation and historical background annotations are actually printed in the margins of the primary resource text. This is a unique approach that seems more accessible and user-friendly than traditional endnotes, footnotes, or isolated explanations.

The "Early Republic" is defined here as quite simply the first six US presidents. The volume's sources are ordered chronologically and range from 1789 (Washington's Inaugural Address) to 1828 (a South Carolina protest of newly enacted federal tariffs that evince the first stirrings of Southern secession). ABC-CLIO bills the Documents Decoded series as leading users "on a hunt for new secrets through an expertly curated selection of primary resources" (iii). Though the intimation that readers will be the first to discover something previously unknown here seems a bit exaggerated, it is true that much of the material selected in *The Early Republic* is lesser known. While some famous documents are

included, such as the Louisiana Purchase and the Missouri Compromise, other unknown gems like the Declaration of War against the Barbary Pirates from 1802 and 1819's Adams-Onis Treaty, or "His Catholic Majesty Cedes East and West Florida," are on display as well. Even well-known sources like *The Star-Spangled Banner* can yield surprises. While the original song included here is much longer than the familiar verse sung before American sporting events, the anthem is also the original source of the "In God We Trust" motto that still adorns our currency.

Special features at the end of the volume include a "Timeline of Events" and a six-page list of "Further Reading." The latter is organized by individual personages (Washington, Adams, Jefferson, etc.) rather than by subject, and there are no "see also" references, making further pursuit of a subject here a bit onerous for users.

Overall, the presentation of the material as marginal annotations is appealing and easy to follow. Conversely, of course, the "marginalia" approach is unavoidably a bit shallow. However, the wide range and interesting choice of the primary resources included here makes up for the lack of analytical depth. These two unique features—both the selection and presentation of the material—make this particular source stand out. Recognizing that this should only be considered a starting point for any serious research, *The Early Republic* is appropriate for both high school and college libraries.—*Mike Tosko, Subject Librarian, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio*

Folk Heroes and Heroines around the World, 2nd ed. Edited by Graham Seal and Kim Kennedy White. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2016. 411 p. Acid free \$89.00 (ISBN: 978-1-4408-3860-6). Ebook available (978-1-4408-3861-3), call for pricing.

It seems like many recent books and movies are based either on mythic characters or folk heroes. With all the current interest in folk heroes and heroines this book should be useful in identifying specific heroes and hero types.

The book begins with a meaty introductory overview of folk heroes and heroines, as well as excellent information on the scholarship on folklore, archetypes, and heroic types. The editors state that the purpose of this work is to present heroism as it exists in folklore. Subjects, real or fictional, were selected for inclusion because they were celebrated in one of the authenticated folklore traditions. The editors chose not to include gods, heroes of literary epics, sport heroes, celebrities, or cultural icons.

For the ease of the user, the book consists of two main sections: the first section has entries on major folk hero types and themes (for example, Beauty and the Beast, Dragon-Slayers, Tricksters, and Outlaws) and the second section provides information about heroes and heroines by continent. Each section is arranged alphabetically and entries vary in length from one to six columns. There are "see also" references and two to six additional reading suggestions for each entry.