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**TEACHERS COLLEGE OF EMPORIA**  
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EMPORIA, KANSAS

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**STUDIES IN EDUCATION NUMBER**  
**(Fourteenth of the Series)**



**AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF**  
**AMERICAN HISTORICAL FICTION**

By N. J. Thiessen



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OF EMPORIA

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*Studies in Education has been discontinued as a separate publication, for economy reasons. Hereafter Studies in Education will appear as numbers of Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia Bulletin of Information.*

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## EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

A recent bulletin of the Research Division of the National Education Association (November, 1937) is given over in its entirety to the theme "Improving Social Studies Instruction." The bulletin summarizes the results of a questionnaire which was answered in detail by 1,764 classroom teachers of the social studies. The teachers were from cities of more than 2,500 population, from every section of the nation, and from three school levels, elementary, junior high, and senior high. All were teachers of "recognized ability" who had been teaching for at least two years in the school to which they were assigned at the time of making the report. When asked to report the "needs which would improve instruction," 62.2 percent of the 548 elementary school teachers, 60.3 percent of the 562 junior high-school teachers, and 55.7 percent of the 654 senior high-school teachers said that the greatest single need was *more reference books*.

While the term "reference books" is a general one and, of course, applies to all types of reading material, there is one type of readily available reference especially adapted to one of the social science studies—history—which has been neglected by very many excellent teachers. This is the historical novel. That the historical novel is justifiably classified as "reference" material for history students, the writer would defend even though it is definitely fiction and may even be historically inaccurate.

As many excellent reports on teaching the social studies tend to emphasize, there is a strong tendency to neglect the creation of atmosphere, the development of perspective, and the establishment of attitudes. In other words, teachers must in general put more emphasis upon the social aspects of all branches of learning. More and more teachers must be turned from considering the social studies in general, and history in particular, as facts to be learned and dates to be memorized and to being actively concerned with as well as vitally interested in the development of habits and attitudes. Anything which makes history real, and historical characters live as real people, is ever an adjunct to the history teacher. All the foregoing is to say that if high-school courses in history are to mean anything ten years after they have been taken, it is not probable that the meaning will come from the facts which have been

recorded, but far more from the attitudes that have been created and the habits of thinking which have been developed.

In this issue of *Studies in Education*, Mr. Thiessen has listed some two hundred novels which he has classed as historical. No pretense is made that the list is all-inclusive; that no period has been neglected; or that the novels are historically true to fact in those portions which are historical in nature. The stories are good stories and are of a type which deserve a place in a high-school library. The author actually had each of the novels listed in his hands. This accounts for the limited list, as there are dozens of other novels, historical in nature, that he was unable to secure for examination which, by description, belonged in such a collection. The brief synopsis attempts to list the principal historical characters in each novel and to give a brief but accurate statement of the theme of the story.

It is the hope of *Studies in Education* that the list may be helpful to school librarians and more directly to classroom teachers who are interested in securing for their pupils the acquaintance of the great characters of history as men and women who succeeded and failed, loved and hated, struggled and lived—and died, as real persons ever succeed, fail, love, hate, struggle, live, and pass from the scene of action.

EDWIN J. BROWN, *Editor*.

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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### THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

Often the writer has heard students say, "I do not like history." "I wish it were not a required course." "History is such a dry subject." Remarks like these have been made by students of varied abilities.

History, the story of mankind, should be one of the most interesting courses offered in the curriculum. Too frequently, however, it is presented to the learner as a series of state papers, protocols, conflicts, and men and women as abstractions of humanity. The historian shows the causes and effects of past events, but must omit the human elements in the various occurrences. It is the task of the historical novelist to supply this desired need. It is for him to present the characters of the past as men and women who actually lived and faced the stern realities of life. Such presentation gives to the learner a new meaning in history and enhances the interest for the subject. "An Annotated Bibliography of American Historical Fiction" should aid the reader of history in choosing suitable novels for the enrichment of historical knowledge. History cannot be replaced by fiction, but it can be broadened and made more meaningful.

### PREVIOUS STUDIES

Several compilations of historical fiction have been made in the past. In 1914, Ernest A. Baker made a study of both American and foreign historical fiction.<sup>1</sup>

Jonathan Nield published a "Guide to the Best Historical Novels and Tales" in 1929.<sup>2</sup> This "Guide" is a comprehensive study, but does not list the books of recent years.

Ernest A. Baker, in collaboration with James Packman, made a list of the best fiction in 1932.<sup>3</sup> This study is not limited to any special field of fiction but embraces all novels in general.

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1. Ernest A. Baker, *A Guide to Historical Fiction*. (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1914.)

2. Jonathan Nield, *A Guide to the Best Historical Novels and Tales*. (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1929.)

3. Ernest A. Baker, and James Packman, *A Guide to the Best Fiction*. (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1932.)

Various book companies print book reviews from time to time and reference will be made to them frequently.

#### THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study lists fiction suitable for high school, college, and adult readers. Juvenile fiction is omitted. All books of historical fiction are not included, but the study is limited to the historical novels found in the libraries of two rural high schools located in third-class cities, two libraries of second-class cities, two libraries of first-class cities, and one college library. The libraries are the following: Buhler Rural High School Library, Inman Rural High School Library, McPherson City Library, Newton City Library, Hutchinson City Library, Wichita City Library, and McPherson College Library. All are in Kansas. This is a representative group of libraries providing the general public with the best reading material that the financial appropriations permit. Every book listed in the bibliography is found in one or the other of the above-mentioned libraries and was examined by the writer. Seven other libraries of the same type and size would likely produce a comparable list of books.

#### METHOD OF PROCEDURE

The first step in compiling *An Annotated Bibliography of American Historical Fiction* was to get a list of historical fiction books. This list was secured by the following methods: (1) from suggested lists in history textbooks; (2) from catalogues for high-school and public libraries; (3) from lists suggested by librarians; (4) from reading book reviews; (5) from lists suggested in history workbooks; (6) from lists made by history teachers; (7) from the card catalogues in libraries; (8) from previous studies made in the field; (9) from personal reading; and (10) by scanning the books in the fiction section of the seven libraries that were visited.

Upon the completion of the list, the available books were obtained from the different libraries and brief reviews were made. The synopses of the books were secured by the following processes: by reading the book—the introduction, the preface, the prelude, the table of contents, by reading book reviews, or by reading the synopsis of previous studies. Every book listed was in the hands of the author.

#### DATA COLLECTED

The following information was secured: the title and author of the novel; the historical period represented; the historical events

taking place; the characters of historical significance; a brief review of the book. The purpose of the compilation was to provide an available bibliography, and therefore the merits of the books were not evaluated.

#### PRESENTATION OF DATA

The period of time covered by American history is separated into ten divisions, and the bibliography lists the books of fiction that parallel the different events, conflicts, and eras. The years of some novels cover a longer span of time than allotted for the periods. In such cases the more important periods for the particular novels were selected.



## CHAPTER II

### THE PERIOD OF EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION 1492-1755

The Period of Exploration and Colonization presents a fertile field for the display of the novelist's imagery. The New World with its strange people was a vast unknown. The adventures of the pioneers, the hardships of the settlers, and the jealousies existing among the rival nations seeking possession of the newly discovered lands, offered many opportunities for the work of the novelist. Intensive studies have been made of those days, and the results are recorded in numerous novels.

*Dr. LeBaron and His Daughters*, by Jane G. Austin (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1893).

This is a narrative of the old colony, Massachusetts. The incidents enumerated are either matters of history or well-founded tradition. The pictures presented are crude and realistic. They are the scenes of the past, preserved as "the shadows of those who, being dead, yet speak." Some of the historical characters appearing in this novel are Colonel John Winslow, Governor William Bradford, and Captain Carver.

*Standish of Standish*, by Jane G. Austin (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1917).

Although the life of the colonists in Massachusetts was stern and hard, yet it included considerable sweet and tender romance. Myles Standish, the sword of the white-men, came to the New World to aid the helpless band of exiles. His adventures in the colony are told in this narrative. The story is related in the quaint language of the Pilgrim fathers.

*The Bow of Orange Ribbon*, Amelia E. Barr (Dodd, Meade & Company, New York, 1886).

A romance of New York during the early colonial period is portrayed in this novel. A Dutch girl fell in love with one of the British soldiers, and the theme of the story is woven around this incident. The book contains many pictures illustrating colonial life and costumes of New York.

*Barnaby Lee*, by John Bennett (The Century Company, New York, 1900).

The scene of *Barnaby Lee* is in New Amsterdam in 1664. The Dutch settled on land claimed by the English. After a siege, New Amsterdam surrendered and its name was changed to New York. The story is told in the simple language of the times. Peter Stuyvesant, the "peg-legged" governor, is the leading character. Governor Calvert and Governor Nicolls also appear in the story.

*The Pueblo Boy*, by Cornelia J. Cannon (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1926).

The Pueblo Indians lived in the southwestern part of the United States. The first white men to visit them were Coronado and his Spanish soldiers in the year 1540. This story tells about Tyami, a Pueblo boy, who met Coronado and saved his people from being attacked by the Spaniards. The Pueblos lived a strange life, vividly described in this narrative.

*We Begin*, by Helen Grace Carlisle (Harrison Smith, New York, 1932), deals with the people who fled from persecution in England, spent a decade of exile in Holland, and sailed in the *Mayflower* to the New World.

The story follows the career of a girl and two brothers from the Elizabethan English countryside. Various interesting figures appear in this tale, among whom are Dutchmen, sailors, Indians, hunters, sinners, and brutal saints. The story is told comprehensively.

*The Shadows on the Rock*, by Willa Sibert Cather (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1931).

This story begins late in October of the year 1697. It relates the settling of the French in Canada on the cliff called "Kébec" next to the St. Lawrence river. The selection is not very dramatic, but gives a fine description of the life which the hardy and courageous French people endured in the New World.

*The Romance of Dollard*, by Mary Hartwell Catherwood (The Century Company, New York, 1888).

The French encountered many difficulties in establishing a foothold in Canada. *The Romance of Dollard* describes the dangerous French expedition up the Ottawa river when the young officer Dollard with sixteen Frenchmen and a few natives held the Iroquois Indians in check. This group of gallant men retained the fort for more than a week but eventually were overpowered, the entire garrison being massacred. The heroism of these men prevented the capture of Montreal.

*The Deerslayer*, by James Fenimore Cooper (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, n. d.), is the first volume of the Leatherstocking tales.

It is a story that tells about the trouble that existed between the white settlers and the Iroquois Indians in New York. *Deerslayer* was a young scout who had many thrilling experiences with the Indians. He was captured by them, was tortured and threatened with death, but was always saved at the crucial moment. The novel describes the nature and ways of the Indians, but at places the descriptions are probably not true to reality.

*The Pioneers*, by James Fenimore Cooper (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1823).

In this novel Cooper describes the wild outdoor life around Otsego Lake. The novel portrays nature in a beautiful manner, especially the hills and woods, brawling streams, and far inland lakes. The setting for the novel is in the early pioneering days of the New World.

*The Refugees*, by A. Conan Doyle (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1903), is a tale of two continents.

The first part of the story takes place in France and the second part continues the story of the Huguenots in the New World. The wilderness adventures in Canada are pictured.

*The Making of Christopher Ferringham*, by Beulah Marie Dix (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1915).

The scene for this novel is Massachusetts during the colonial period. The language employed is the old Puritanical English. Pictures of the times are carefully drawn, especially in regard to the persecution of the Quakers.

*Calico Bush*, by Rachel Field (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1931).

Marguerite Ledoux was a "bound-out girl" of colonial days. She had been brought to Maine from France. Here she helped in making a new home, and here she lived through the difficult pioneer days. She met Indians, both friendly and warlike; she gathered the hard-earned crops and was kept busy at wool-shearing, spinning, and weaving. The novel describes the routine life of the early settlers. Legend and ballad have important parts in the plot.

*Paradise*, by Esther Forbes (Harcourt, Brace & Company, New York, 1937), is an historical romance of the early days of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

In the year 1639, Jude Parre, a gentleman, and Andrew Redbank, a minister, and some other colonists humbly petitioned the governor to be permitted to settle twenty miles inland. Governor Winthrop granted the request, since the land was inhabited by only a few savages. The house built by Jude Parre was called Paradise and the village Canaan. The novel relates the story of the Parre family. The writer shows that the Puritans had great feasts, gay costumes, and offered genial hospitality. Some scenes depicted are: parlor scenes of Boston, interior church views, water front displays, and finally the story of King Philip's War.

*In the Valley*, by Harold Frederic (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1890), describes life among the Dutch settlers in the Mohawk Valley.

The battle of Oriskany is related. The story reveals the deep prejudice of the Dutch towards the British. This hatred was caused by conflicting land claims.

*Pocahontas*, by David Garnett (Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1933), is a story of Virginia.

Pocahontas, daughter of the Indian chief, Powhatan, is the figure featured in this romance of early Jamestown. She was born in 1595. From her childhood until her death, her life was inseparable from the history of the colony. When it was rumored that John Smith was dead, she married

John Rolfe. The later appearance of Smith did not have the best effects on Pocahontas. The extraordinary conditions under which the colonists and Indians lived are vividly described. Additional historical characters of the novel are Newport, Percy, Gates, Dale, and Sir Walter Raleigh.

*The Founding of a Nation*, by Frank M. Gregg (George H. Doran, New York, 1915).

This is a narrative-history of the Pilgrims who settled at Plymouth. While popular traditions about these early settlers are wrong in many instances, this novel is written in accordance with historical facts. The voyage on the Mayflower, the early struggles, hardships, and dangers, and the beginning of democracy in the New World are discussed.

*The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Grosset & Dunlap, New York), gives an insight into the life and beliefs of the Puritan people.

Good morals were stressed considerably. The novel shows the functioning of conscience.

*Twice Told Tales*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1885), consists of a group of Pre-Revolutionary stories.

These tales give information about New England life, the beliefs, customs, and habits of the people. Stories written during the colonial period frequently show moralizing tendencies, and the ethical purposes of the tales are easily discernible.

*The Bay Path*, by J. G. Holland (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1914).

The colonial age of New England was its age of romance. It was during this time that the institutions were born, habits established, and principles planted. It was an age when social, religious, and political life assumed exaggerated forms. Numerous historical names, localities and incidents are mentioned in the novel. Colonial New England was not without romantic aspects or beloved heroes.

*Audrey*, by Mary Johnston (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1902), has for its scene old colonial Virginia during the settlement of Jamestown.

It is a sentimental romance written in an entertaining manner. The simple style of conversation of the period is used throughout the book.

*Croatan*, by Mary Johnston (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1923), has reference to the place to which Raleigh's settlers went, after ships with provisions from England failed to arrive.

In this story, the author visualizes the life of the people in the New World during this period. Sir Walter Raleigh, Governor John White, and Virginia Dare are some historical characters mentioned.

*1492*, by Mary Johnston (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1923).

The different voyages of discovery made by Christopher Columbus are described in the novel *1492*. The story begins with Columbus seeking aid for his journeys and his final success in securing the necessary help. The narrative continues describing the career of this bold discoverer.

*Prisoners of Hope*, by Mary Johnston (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1898).

The "Prisoners of Hope" were indentured servants brought to the New World from England. Although the population of the country was sparse, yet many of these redemptioners were ill-treated by their masters. This novel relates the experiences of such servants and the various methods they used to gain their freedom. An exciting romance is interwoven with the story.

*The Slave Ship*, by Mary Johnston (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1924).

The "Slave Ship" carried slaves from Africa to Virginia and Jamaica. This trade flourished during the colonization of Virginia at Jamestown. Experiences connected with this traffic are told in the tale.

*To Have and to Hold*, by Mary Johnston (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1900).

Life in Virginia during the early part of the seventeenth century is recorded in this historical romance. Ralph Percy was a Virginian adventurer. A cast of the dice decided that he should marry a girl from among the shipload of maids who had arrived from England. He married a proud and lovely maid who proved to be Jocelyn Leigh. Jocelyn had been the King's ward, but had fled in disguise in order to escape marrying Lord Carval, the King's favorite. Carval traced her to Virginia and used various means of getting possession of her, but without success. Finally the King ordered Lord Percy and Jocelyn to be sent to England. Under cover of night they escaped, but were pursued by Carval. They were wrecked and cast upon a desert island. Here they encountered a group of pirates. Eventually they were rescued, and Percy was sentenced to be hanged as a pirate. Upon the pleadings of Jocelyn, who thereby proved her love for Percy, his life was spared. Thereupon Carval, a physical wreck, committed suicide.

*John O'Jamestown*, by Vaughan Kester (Grossett & Dunlap, New York, 1907).

The early days of the settling of Virginia at Jamestown are reviewed in the novel. The work of Captain John Smith in connection with this colony is related comprehensively. The successes and failure of the colony are revealed to the reader. Captain Maxwell, Captain Newport, Captain Nelson, Captain Ratcliffe, and Lieutenant Percy appear in the story.

*LaDame de Saint Hermine*, By Grace King (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1924).

Governor Bienville is the leading historical character in the founding

of New Orleans by the French in 1718. The troubles that the settlers had with the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians are pictured to the reader. The experiences of a young girl of noble birth exiled from France and sent as a prisoner to the governor of the colony are told. The delicately reared girl had great difficulty in adapting herself to the rude life of the pioneer. She eventually married the military commandant.

*Westward Ho*, by Rev. Charles Kingsley (A. L. Burt Company, New York), pictures the naval exploits of Hawkins, Gilbert, Drake, and Sir Walter Raleigh.

The defeat of the Spanish Armada is reviewed. This victory made it possible for England to continue her program of colonization "to the heaven prospered cry of Westward Ho."

*Spanish Trails to California*, by T. De LaRhue (The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, 1937).

This is not a tale of love-making and weddings or missions among the Indians, but is a story of Spanish explorers who battled their way across the wilderness of New Spain. This region is now New Mexico and the great Southwest of the United States. The selection was written in memory of those heroic pioneers who braved the great "Unknown" of 1755 to 1765,

*The Power and the Glory*, by Gilbert Parker (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1925), recounts the achievements of the great French explorer, La Salle.

It relates the French method of acquiring land by means of discovery and fortification. The incidents take place in France of Europe and in New France of America. Frontenac is another historical character who appears in the tale.

*Jack Ballister's Fortunes*, by Howard Pyle (The Century Company, New York, 1916).

Jack Ballister, a young English gentleman, was kidnapped in England in 1719 and carried to the plantations of Virginia. Here he contacted the famous pirate, Captain Edward Teach, also called "Blackbeard." He finally escaped and rescued a young lady from the pirates' hands. The traffic of kidnaping is exposed. This business was carried on to supply labor for the Virginia planters. In those days the words, "The kidnapers will get you" were words of terror "to frighten children and gadding girls on the coastways of England."

*Mamselle of the Wilderness*, by Augusta Huiell Seaman (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1913).

La Salle, more than any other of the early explorers, realized the latent riches of the great West. *Mamselle of the Wilderness* is a memorial to the man who traveled thousands of weary miles of forests, marshes, and rivers. In the face of discouragements, La Salle pushes onward to accomplish his tasks. He was accompanied by two of his nephews and devoted missionaries, poverty-stricken noblemen, and an ill-assorted band of soldiers. The history of the expedition is outlined in the narrative.

*The Minister's Wooing*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe (A. L. Burt Company, New York), has for its outstanding historical characters Captain Aaron Burr and Doctor Hopkins.

The story takes place in Newport during the time of the slave trade. It illustrates the Puritanical life and the solemn religious attitude of the people.

*The Bright Face of Danger*, by C. M. Sublette (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1926), has its setting in Hookset Hundred in Henrico county, Virginia, during the early days of settlement.

In a dramatic manner the author discusses stirring battles, conspiracies, captures, and escapes. The fear of slave revolt and Indian attacks are always prevalent. The protection given by "white aprons" and the burning of Jamestown are described. Historical characters who took part in these episodes are: Bacon, the rebel; Sir William Berkeley, the cruel governor; and Captain Carver, who was executed.

*The Scarlet Cockerel*, by C. M. Sublette (The Atlantic Monthly Press, Boston, 1925), retells strange and exceptional adventures in the New World by members of expeditions sent out by the great Colingy.

The story has its setting in the sixteenth century. It is a tale of the French Huguenots in the Carolinas and their difficulties with the Spanish from Florida. Historical characters are: Jean Ribault, Rene de Laudonniere, Captain John Hawkins, and Pedro Menendez.

*The Fair God*, by Lew Wallace (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1873), describes the conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards.

Life of the natives is pictured in great detail. Leading characters of the selection are Cortez, the Spanish conqueror, and Montezuma, the conquered Indian.

*With La Salle, the Explorer*, by Virginia Watson (Henry Holt & Company, New York, 1922).

The exploits of the great French explorer, La Salle, are retold in the novel. Some of the incidents that are related are the building of the Griffin, the encounter with Indians, the discovery of the Mississippi river, and the proclamation of the Louisiana Territory as a French possession.

*Gallows Hill*, by Frances Winivar (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1937).

The author pictures the colonists of Salem, Massachusetts, during the witchcraft persecution of the late seventeenth century. Gradually the entire population was inoculated with the belief in witchcraft, and a veritable reign of terror was instituted. Many of the events in *Gallows Hill* are based on actual facts as recorded in the archives of Salem. With a few exceptions, all the characters are the same men, women, and children mentioned in authenticated historical documents. Cotton Mather is one of the leading historical characters.

CHAPTER III  
THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR PERIOD  
1755-1763

Conflicting land claims between England and France were the main causes of the French and Indian War. Although a number of thrilling contests were fought and the consequences were far reaching, yet not many historical novelists have written about this period.

*The Last of the Mohicans*, by James Fenimore Cooper (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1927).

The historical basis of this novel is evident to the reader at the opening of the story. The scene is the siege of Fort William Henry on Lake George by the French and Indians under Montcalm. Two daughters of the English commander, Colonel Munro, set out from the neighboring Fort Edward to join their father. They were accompanied by Major Duncan Heywood and the singing master, David Gamut, and were guided by a renegade Huron called by the French, Le Renard Subtil. He tried to lead them into the hands of the Iroquois, but his plans were spoiled by the scout Hawkeye and his associates, the Mohicans, Chingachgook and his son Uncas. They succeeded in rescuing the party and escorted them back to the fort. Shortly after this, Fort William Henry was surrendered to Montcalm; but the occupants were permitted to leave the fort in an honorable manner. During the evacuation, those in the rear were massacred by the Indians and others were taken captive. Among the latter were the two daughters of the English commander. After numerous hair-breadth escapes and miraculous rescues, one of the girls was rescued, but the other was slain. The episodes are described comprehensively.

*The Pathfinder*, by James Fenimore Cooper (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1926), is one of the series of novels called the Leatherstocking Tales.

The hero is Pathfinder who is also called Leatherstocking, Deerslayer, Hawkeye, or Natty Bumppo in the other stories of the series. He is a fictitious character. The setting is on Lake Ontario. Many French who had settled along the Great Lakes later induced the Indians to be their allies against the English.

*Drums in the Forest*, by Allen Dwight (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1936).

Although the events described in this story take place several years previous to the period it illustrates, the animosity that existed between the English and the French over the possession of Quebec at an earlier date is



evident. The story brings out the fact that the sons of the French Canadians played a part no less noteworthy than that of the English in the history of North America. *Drums in the Forest* deals with one of the critical periods in the long struggle for supremacy. The narrative is dramatic and full of vigorous excitement. Governor Frontenac and Nicolas Perrot are prominent among the historical characters.

*The Great Valley*, by Mary Johnston (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1926).

The author describes "the Great Valley" of colonial Virginia in the novel. She also reviews the conflict for possession of the territory west of the Allegheny Mountains. George Washington, General Braddock, and Governor Dinwiddie make their appearance.

*The Seats of the Mighty*, by Gilbert Parker (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1926), recounts the heroic conquest of Quebec, the campaigns, sieges, diplomacies, and treaties.

It is a romance of Old Quebec, recalling the memories of Captain Robert Moray who at one time was an officer in the Virginia Regiment and afterwards of Amherst's Regiment. Great leaders that figure in this novel are General Wolfe, the English commander, and General Montcalm, the French commander. The surrender of Quebec would not have become a reality if Montcalm had not been balked by the vain Governor, the Marquis de Vaudreville. Others that supported the Governor were the notorious civil engineer, Intendant Bigot, and the noble gentleman, Seigneur Duvarney.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR PERIOD 1763-1783

Numerous significant events leading to the War of Independence occurred during the years preceding the Revolution; therefore, the first date of this period is 1763 instead of 1775. Many novels for this time consider various phases of the War, stressing the different battles and the participating generals primarily. While the conflict was in progress, courageous frontiersmen and hardy settlers crossed the Allegheny Mountains and established homes in the Ohio Valley. A number of novelists used the experiences of these people as the basis of their tales.

*The Heart of George Washington*, by Bernie Babcock (J. B. Lippincott Company, New York, 1932), is a novel that reveals a romance of George Washington's life which did not materialize in marriage.

Because of his inferior social status, Washington was not permitted to wed Sally Cary Fairfax. The scenes take place at Mt. Vernon, Alexandria, Williamsburg, New York City, Philadelphia, and Bath in England. Some of the participating characters are: George Washington, Sally Cary Fairfax, George William Fairfax, Lawrence Washington, and Sir Peter Radcliff.

*In the Days of Poor Richard*, by Irving Bacheller (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1922).

The British remarked that not one Yankee in a thousand had the courage of a rabbit. The author discusses the various skirmishes and proves that the British were erroneous in drawing their conclusions. Some episodes that are told are: the first Fourth of July, adventures in the service of the commander in chief, and in France with Franklin. The principal historical characters are George Washington, Benedict Arnold, General Howe, and Benjamin Franklin.

*The Master of Chaos*, by Irving Bacheller (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1932).

George Washington was "the Master of Chaos." The war situation was rather discouraging for the colonies until George Washington was appointed commander in chief and brought order into the situation. Some additional characters of the novel are: Paul Revere, Burgoyne, Captain Farnsworth, Gage, Howe, Clinton, Lee, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and Benedict Arnold. Various battles of the war are reviewed.

*Drums*, by James Boyd (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1928), has for its hero Johnny Frazer who, at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, was a fine young gentleman.

His father believed it was useless to fight the British because the Colonials consisted of many nationalities and were not able to cope with the organized British troops. His father persuaded him to go to England for the duration of the war. While on an errand to Scotland, Johnny heard the sound of Carolinian dialect among the voices of coast raiders. This stirred up his latent patriotic feeling. He made his way to France and joined the forces of John Paul Jones. In the fight between the "Bonhomme Richard" and the "Serapis," Johnny was wounded. He was sent home on a Dutch ship and, after convalescing, joined Daniel Morgan to fight Tarleton.

*Long Hunt*, by James Boyd (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1930)

Recalls the crossing of the Allegheny Mountains by the pioneers and the early settling of Tennessee. The village of Nashville is the scene of much of the plot.

*Cardigan*, by Robert William Chambers (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1901).

This novel relates a romance that took place during the years preceding the Revolutionary War and culminates with the battle of Lexington. The latter is described in great detail. Majors Pitcairn and Parker make their appearances during the story.

*Love and the Lieutenant*, by Robert W. Chambers (D. Appleton-Century Company, New York, 1935).

The time of this novel is during the Revolutionary War. The recruiting mission of the British to Germany is reviewed, and the efforts of the Yankees to hinder the endeavor are described. An American girl, who posed as the wife of a German nobleman, tried to dissuade the Hessian soldiers from services under George III. When she returned to America she was followed by a headstrong British loyalist. A conflict between duty and love arose. Military engagements described are: Ticonderoga, Bennington, Albany, and Saratoga. The different military leaders of these battles appear.

*The Reckoning*, by Robert W. Chambers (A. Wessels Company, New York, 1907).

This is the last in a series of romances that show how the Revolutionary War affected some of the great landed families of northern New York. The families considered are the Johnsons, Butlers, Schuylers, Van Rensselaers, and others. The author has not taken liberties with history. George Washington is one of the historical characters.

*Free Forester*, by Horatio Colony (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1935), tells of frontier experiences.

Boydley, the hero, wandered through the "dark and bloody grounds" and had many encounters with the Indians. The period considered comprises the time immediately before and during the American Revolution.

*The Spy*, by James Fenimore Cooper (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1914), is a Revolutionary War story based on an incident related by John Jay.

A peddler who lived in Westchester county was employed by Washington as a war spy. The Americans, with the exception of the commander in chief of the army, suspected him of being a traitor to the colonies and in the services of Sir Henry Clinton. As a result he was persecuted and hunted by both armies. Frequently he was captured and punished and on several occasions was sentenced to die, but he always succeeded in escaping before the moment of execution. Thus hated and reviled, he died a martyr to the cause to which he had been devoted. Not until after his death did the true character of his work become known. Numerous references are made to different historical incidents.

*The Pilot*, by James Fenimore Cooper (A. L. Burt, Co., New York, n. d.).

Various angles of a seaman's work and career are described in the nautical romance, *The Pilot*. The work of John Paul Jones in English waters during the Revolutionary War is discussed at length.

*Richard Carvel*, by Winston Churchill (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1914).

The main scene of this novel occurs in Maryland during the Colonial and Revolutionary periods. The descriptions of the brave and courtly men and ladies, ladies by nature as well as by birth, induce the reader to admire them. Historical characters are Charles James Fox and John Paul Jones. A detailed account is given of the fight between the Bonhomme Richard and the Serapis.

*The Crossing*, by Winston Churchill (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1904).

The great movement across the mountains and the conquests of Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Louisiana are described in *The Crossing*. The pioneers opened the ways and were followed by the settlers and farmers. Historical characters of this novel are Daniel Boone, George Rogers Clark, David Ritchie, General Andrew Jackson, John Sevier. Several places of historic interest connected with this region are Harrodstown, Kaskaskia, Danville, and New Orleans.

*Gilman of Redford*, by William Stearns Davis (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1927), is a story of Boston and Harvard College on the eve of the Revolutionary War.

The crowds on the streets ridiculed the British soldiers, calling them "Cowards, who daresn't fight," "Jailbirds shipped from Home," and "Lobstersbacks." Such harassing caused the snow to turn red in Boston. The episode of the tea party is described in detail. Historical characters are John and Samuel Adams, John Hancock, and General Gage.

*Sons of Liberty*, by Walter A. Dyer (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1920).

The life and times of Paul Revere are relived in this tale. Other sons who took part in the cause of liberty were George Washington, John Hancock, John Adams, James Otis, Samuel Adams, Jeremiah Gridley, Henry Knox. Some historical events discussed are the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's ride, and the Battle of Bunker Hill.

*Drums Along the Mohawk*, by Walter D. Edmonds (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1936), tells of the hardy race of frontier farmers who lived in the Mohawk Valley at the time of the American Revolution.

These Valley settlements with their flimsy stockades were far beyond the help of Congress and had to defend themselves. They were exposed to the merciless raids of the British regulars, attacks by dispossessed Tories, and the unforgettable assaults of the Iroquois Indians. During this time, the number fit to bear arms was reduced from 2,500 to 800. This novel pictures that part of the Revolutionary War endured by the settlers in the deep woods and on the exposed farms. The experiences are thrilling and full of excitement.

*Erskine Dale, Pioneer*, by John Fox, Jr. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1920).

Erskine Dale was a pioneer of Virginia and Kentucky who experienced many thrilling adventures with the Indians of the Northwest. Incidents of the Revolutionary War are related, and the battle of Yorktown is described comprehensively. Historical characters in the story are George Washington, George Rogers Clark, Lafayette, Cornwallis, Tarleton, Rochambeau, and Count de Grasse. A vivid description of colonial life is shown.

*Janice Meredith*, by Paul Leister Ford (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1899).

The desperate battles and exciting events of the Revolutionary War form the background for this colonial love story in which the coquettish Janice Meredith is often involved in military affairs. The battle of Trenton and Washington's final triumph over the British hosts are several historic scenes. George Washington has a prominent part in the story.

*The Colonials*, by Allen French (Doubleday, Page and Company, New York, 1903), describes the events connected with the siege and evacuation of Boston in New England.

The first part tells about the adventures of the hero and heroine in the forests near Detroit. Among the historical events related are the retreat from Concord, the Battle of Bunker Hill, and the siege of Boston by George Washington.

*Aunt Jane of Kentucky*, by Eliza Calvert Hall (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1908).

In simple language, the author tells about the life of pioneers and gives an insight into their daily activities.

*Hugh Wynne*, by S. Weir Mitchell (A. L. Burt Company, New York, 1900).

Hugh Wynne was a Free Quaker who, contrary to the religious beliefs of his fathers, took up arms in the Revolutionary War and fought for independence. The author presents many beliefs and principles of this pacific order. A number of historical characters appear, and among them are Washington, Howe, Lafayette, von Steuben, Franklin, and Andre.

*The Virginians*, by William Makepeace Thackeray (Doubleday, Page and Company, New York, 1888), is a sequel to the book *Esmond*.

It places much emphasis on the manners of the colonial period. George Washington, Dr. Johnson, Fielding, and Richardson are characters in the story.

*Let the King Beware*, by Honore Morrow (William Morrow and Company, New York, 1936), gives the English viewpoint of the colonial rebellion.

The story takes place in the English Parliament at London from December, 1774, to January, 1775. These were the stirring days when the fate of the colonies was decided. The principal characters are King George III, Benjamin Franklin, Lord North, Edmund Burke, William Pitt, and Tristram Amory, a red-haired loyalist who was forced by a radical Whig patriot to abandon his native Massachusetts. The romance tells the story of a lovely English Whig and a Yankee Tory.

*Hearts Courageous*, by Hallie Erminie Rivers (Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1902).

The Revolutionary War and the incidents leading to it are told in this colonial novel. Among the incidents is the signing of the Declaration of Independence, described in a dramatic manner. The characterization of Patrick Henry is outstanding. Some other historical individuals are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Lord Fairfax, Lord Cornwallis, Tarleton, General Lee, and General Gates.

*Arundel*, by Kenneth Roberts (Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., Garden City, N. Y., 1930), is a story based on Benedict Arnold's secret expedition to capture Quebec.

It describes colonial frontier life, pictures the forests filled with game, portrays the Indian warriors, and explains the attack on Quebec. The daring exploit shows the patriotism of the men who participated. Some of these were Arnold, Aaron Burr, Daniel Morgan, Henry Dearborn, Roger Enos, and the Indian, Notanis.

*Rabble in Arms*, by Kenneth Roberts (Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., New York, 1933).

It was Burgoyne who called the American troops "A rabble in arms." The author relates a chronicle of Arundel and the invasion of Burgoyne in

the War for Independence. It is a lengthy novel, but the exposition is interesting. Leading historical characters of this period appear. The author gives tribute to the life and services of Benedict Arnold. The principal villain of this realistic unromantic tale of the American Revolution is the American Congress.

*The Great Meadow*, by Elizabeth Madox Roberts (The Literary Guild, New York, 1930).

"The Great Meadow" was the region of "Kentuck" comprising what is now a part of Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, North Carolina, and a part of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The pioneers pushed across the Allegheny Mountains just preceding the War of Independence and during the progress of the War. The book tells about the coming of the settlers, the importance of Harrod's Fort and Boone's Fort, and the attacks by Indians. Leading historical characters are Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark. The book also tells about the work of the "Hair Buyer" Hamilton.

*The Carolinian*, by Rafael Sabatini (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1925).

Has for its hero one Harry Latimer, an ardent young rebel whose loyalty to the Sons of Liberty ended his engagement to Myrtle Carey, daughter of a Tory. Harry's arrest was ordered by the British governor, but he was given three days in which to make his escape. He refused to leave Charlestown and was placed in the hands of a British rival in love. Strands of Carolinian history are told in the plot.

*Paul Jones*, by Molly Elliott Seawell (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1924).

The author brings before the American youth the heroic figure of John Paul Jones. After carefully studying the log books, journals, and letters of Paul Jones, she wrote this tale. The language ascribed to Paul Jones is that which was used by him at the time the episodes took place. Although the story is brief, it is based on historical facts.

*Debby Barnes, Trader*, by Constance Lindsay Skinner (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1932).

Debby Barnes lived in Pennsylvania during the early pioneer days. Made homeless by an Indian raid and forced to face the stern realities of life alone, she became a hunter, trapper, and trader. During the Indian attack she was separated from her sister. By means of silver spoons which each one had received before separation, they were again united many years later. Woven through this chronicle of pioneer days is the story of the Boones and young George Washington. The love story of Debby and Fred Deerfield supplies the romantic material of the tale.

*Drums of Monmouth*, by Emma Gilders Sterne (Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1935), has for its setting the royal province of Jersey, between Princeton and Monmouth.

It depicts the clash between the sensitive young poet Philip Freneau and

the world of turmoil and revolution. Some of the illuminating features of the story are: a cross section of Revolutionary life; a glimpse of George Washington riding boundary on his acres in Virginia; a brief picture of Jefferson walking the cobbled streets of Philadelphia composing the Declaration of Independence; and a view of the battle of Monmouth.

*The Green Mountain Boys*, by D. P. Thompson (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1839).

"The Green Mountain Boys" represented the bravest and most daring farmers and townsmen from the state of Vermont. Under the guidance of Ethan Allen, soldier and general, they protected this state from invasion during the Revolutionary War. Being familiar with the country and the methods of New World warfare, they aided in defeating the British. The most daring feat they accomplished was the capturing of Fort Ticonderoga when they forced the surrender of this place "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress."

*Alice of Old Vincennes*, by Maurice Thompson (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1908).

The man whose services aided greatly in the acquisition of the Northwest Territory by the United States was George Rogers Clark. Through his timely intervention, Vincennes was captured and Governor Hamilton, the "Hair-Buyer," was defeated. A girl by the name of Alice had an important part in this conquest and in saving the United States flag. The novel presents the accomplishment in a dramatic manner.



## CHAPTER V

### THE PERIOD OF THE NEW REPUBLIC 1783-1803

Upon the termination of the Revolutionary War, many problems confronted the New Republic. These were critical years, but under the leadership of capable statesmen the Ship of State was successfully launched. The novels of this period present the problems of that time in relation to the establishment of the newly organized government and to making of further adjustments to life in the frontier.

*The Choir Invisible*, by James Lane Allen (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1897), describes frontier life in Kentucky of 1795.

Although the people did not approve of the visit of Minister Genet to the United States, their sympathy for France increased. The hatred towards England and Spain grew, since the former did not relinquish certain forts in the Northwest Territory and the latter country interfered with trade on the Mississippi river.

*The Conqueror*, by Gertrude Franklin Atherton (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1902.)

Alexander Hamilton is the man who is called "the Conqueror." The story presents the romantic life of this statesman. The following estimates are made of Hamilton's attributes: the patriot of incorruptible integrity; the soldier of approved valor, and the statesman of consummate wisdom.\* Some of the characters introduced in the story are Hamilton, Washington, Lafayette, Adams, Madison, and Burr.

*The Maid of Maiden Lane*, by Amelia E. Barr (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1900).

As shown in this novel, the year of 1781 was important in the history of New York City. Whether New York or Philadelphia should be the capital of the United States was a question that caused many heated discussions. The federal government was confronted by many important issues, among which were the rights of the English government in the lost colonies, and the attitude to be taken toward the many French refugees that came to this country. The plot of this novel includes many historical happenings.

*Three Bags Full*, by Roger Burlingame (Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1936), presents a pageant of New York, the empire state.

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\* Ernest A. Baker and James Packman, *A Guide to the Best Fiction*. (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1932). P. 17.

In 1795, Hendrick Van Huyten struggled west through the forests of the Mohawk Valley from New Amsterdam. He established a home near a lake, and eventually a town grew up near-by whose population was increased through the coming of some "Damned Jankes" from Connecticut. It remained a quiet, sleepy village until it was visited by progress; and then many sweeping changes were made. DeWitt Clinton and Martin Van Buren are historical characters of the story.

*D'Ri and I*, by Irving Bacheller (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1901), is a tale of the adventurous and rugged pioneers who were continually fighting the wilds of nature and driving the frontier farther and farther west.

The story takes place south of the St. Lawrence river. The purpose in writing this novel was to acquaint the people with those "who sweat and bled and limped and died for this Republic of ours." D'Ri stands for Darius, a purebred Yankee.

*Lewis Rand*, by Mary Johnston (Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1908), is a story whose setting is laid in Virginia, shortly after the ratification of the constitution.

Principal historical characters that appear are Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, and Aaron Burr.

*The Invasion*, by Janet Lewis (Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1932), has for its setting the region around the Great Lakes beginning with the year 1791.

The tale begins with scenes of Indian life and then relates the coming of the first traders to the Lake country beyond the Sauelt. Among these traders was John Johnstone, a cultivated Irishman who married a daughter of an Ojibway chief. This was the beginning of the Johnstone family that became famous throughout the Lake region.

*The Red City*, by S. Weir Mitchell (The Century Company, New York, 1908).

The second administration of President Washington forms a part of this novel. The scene is in Philadelphia from 1792 to 1795. It was during this time that the Federalists, led by Hamilton, were opposed by the Republicans, led by Jefferson. The story deals with these conflicts. The romance is concerned with a French noble who was in love with a Quaker girl. Historical characters are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, and Edmund Randolph.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE PERIOD OF EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT 1803-1860

The years from 1803 to 1860 offered many opportunities to the writer of fiction. It was during this period that a number of conflicts occurred which present much material for the basis of novels. The unexplored Louisiana Territory was purchased and the expedition through this region furnished numerous thrilling episodes. The discovery of gold in the West induced many people to undertake the hazardous journeys to the land of riches. These trips abounded in excitement, giving a fertile field to the novelist. The newly settled regions teemed with rugged romances. The immigrants were pushing across the Mississippi river, and a frontier with different problems was encountered. Sectionalism was beginning to appear, and the novel was used as a means of defense. The fame of several national heroes was preserved in story.

*Johnny Appleseed*, by Eleanor Atkinson (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1915).

Apple-blossoms that gladdened the hearts and fruits that brought comfort and happiness to the early settlers of the Middle-west were the living monuments of Jonathan Chapman. For his generosity in distributing apple tree saplings he was called "Johnny Appleseed." Most of his work was done in the Ohio Valley. This romance is a tribute to the sacrificial work of this unassuming benefactor of mankind.

*Eben Holden*, by Irving Addison Bacheller (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1900), is a novel dealing with life in the Adirondack mountains in the early days of the country.

Eben Holden is an old and faithful servant. Horace Greeley and Abraham Lincoln are the principal historical characters, but allusions are made to William H. Seward, Charles Sumner, John A. Dix, Henry Ward Beecher, and Charles O'Conner.

*The Light in the Clearing*, by Irving Addison Bacheller (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1917), has its setting between the years of 1831 and 1849.

In an interesting manner, the writer does justice to the fine characteristics of a statesman, whose name is omitted from the pages of most histories. This man was Silas Wright. He possessed the true spirit of democracy and shed its light abroad in the Senate of the United States and the Capitol at Albany. He attained the spirit of self-forgetfulness achieved by only two others, Washington and Lincoln. The reader is also introduced to Senator Benton.

*Trinity Bells*, by Amelia Barr (The Christian Herald, New York, 1899).

Few novels discuss the trouble the United States had with the Barbary States in North Africa. This novel is a tale of New York, using Dutch traders for its characters. It describes the measures that were employed to free the sailors kidnaped by pirates on the Mediterranean Sea.

*The Father*, by Katharine Holland Brown (The John Day Company, New York, 1928), was awarded the \$25,000 prize in the *Woman's Home Companion* by the John Day Novel Competition.

The novel pictures clearly the hectic period in American history during the decade preceding the Civil War. Lincoln is presented, a struggling lawyer trying to forge ahead. Another character is John Stafford, an Abolitionist, who had settled near Springfield, Ill. It is here that the Stafford family learned to know and love the backwoods lawyer, Abraham Lincoln.

*The Grandissimes*, by George W. Cable (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1922).

Has its setting at New Orleans in the year 1803, the year when Louisiana Territory became a part of the United States. The warlike Creole Indians have a large part in this lengthy novel.

*Death Comes for the Archbishop*, by Willa Cather (The Modern Library, New York, 1927).

For its theme this story uses the work of the Catholic priests among the Navajo Indians in the southwestern part of the United States. It tells of the injustice that was done to the original inhabitants and of the steps the national government has taken to make amends. Kit Carson, the scout, is a character in the story.

*The Adventures of Johnny Appleseed*, by Henry Chaplin (Coward-McCann, Inc., New York, 1930).

Thousands of settlers in the pioneer days of the Ohio Valley knew Johnny Appleseed. He sold seed and saplings to the early emigrants as they moved West through Pittsburg. Many legends include the name of this man who believed in service.

*The Strength of the Hills*, by Ellery H. Clark (Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York, 1929).

Andrew Jackson was a man with an iron will and a wiry physique; therefore the author called him "The Strength of the Hills." The story of the Revolutionary War and the conquest of Tennessee are reviewed in the first part of the novel, and this is followed by the story of the warrior, Jackson, his duel with Dickinson, his part in Indian Wars and in the War of 1812. The last part relates his election to the presidency and the triumph of democracy. The story is dramatically told. Additional historical characters are James Robertson, John Sevier, Sir Henry Clinton, Tarleton, Ferguson, Dickinson, John Adams, and Henry Clay.

*Erie Waters*, by Walter D. Edmonds (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1933).

In this novel Mr. Edmonds relates the digging of the "Canawl." The description includes the following: the digging through swamps, hillsides and woods; the erection of locks; and the coming of the boats. American character is pictured by observing the farmer, the Revolutionary War veteran, revivalists, engineers, masons, inkeepers, light-fingered ladies, gang-bosses, and rough-and-tumble fighters. The story is told by a young carpenter who became rich by means of the "Canawl."

*Rome Haul*, by Walter D. Edmonds (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1929), features the trade across the state of New York by means of the Erie Canal.

The story takes place in the early days of the canal's history. The discourses of the different classes of people that meet are interesting. The importance of the Canal is stressed.

*The Circuit Rider*, by Edward Eggleston (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1913).

The "Circuit Riders" were the ministers that traveled from settlement to settlement visiting the pioneers and preaching the gospel. The novel depicts the social life of the West at the beginning of the century. It portrays the cornhuskings and camp meetings, the wild revels followed by wild revivals. The important part that the circuit preacher took during this time of "chaos" is emphasized. The story is well illustrated.

*The Hoosier School-Boy*, by Edward Eggleston (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1910), tells of the experiences of a lad in pioneer schools.

The setting is in the Ohio Valley. The teachers were "masters" of the birch rod and believed in using the rod in order to save the child.

*The Hoosier Schoolmaster*, by Edward Eggleston (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1913), is the story of a young and inexperienced schoolmaster in the backwoods of the Ohio Valley.

In those days a schoolmaster was expected to thrash the biggest and burliest of the young men of the district. This book is a perennial favorite among young folks and grownups because its roots are deep in American life.

*Hills of Gold*, by Katharine Grey (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1934), is a portrayal of the early days of the gold craze.

The experiences of the Lambert family in California during this period are told. This group of people, honest and God-fearing, did not resort to the vulgar and profane language of the times. An accurate and interesting account of those exciting days is portrayed.

*Bronson of the Rabble*, by Albert E. Hancock (J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1909), tells a story of the War of 1812.

The greater part of the plot takes place in Philadelphia. Important historical events told are: the battle on Lake Erie, Battle of New Orleans, and the election of Andrew Jackson. The story is related in an interesting manner.

*Luck of Roaring Camp*, by Bret Harte (M. A. Donohue & Company, Chicago).

Strange happenings of life in the far West during the gold fever of '49 are pictured. Various sketches relate the romances of that adventurous, lawless, and womanless society. In this society were young men, gamblers, battered men, college graduates, and ex-convicts. Practically everyone with a past had gone West to bury the happenings of yesterday and to start a new rôle in the loneliness of the Sierras. The entire book is a dramatic transcript of Western life.\*

*North of 36*, by Emerson Hough (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1923).

Abilene, Kansas, was an early railroad terminal of the West to which many cattle were driven for shipment to eastern markets. This novel tells of the experiences of a cattle-woman in driving a large herd of long-horned steers from Texas over the prairies to Abilene.

*The Magnificent Adventure*, by Emerson Hough (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1923).

The conspiracy of Aaron Burr and his trial and the expedition of Lewis and Clark are historical events of this novel. Prominent historical characters are Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr, John Randolph, William Clark, and Meriwether Lewis. A love story in which Burr's daughter plays an important rôle is part of the narrative.

*54-40 or Fight*, by Emerson Hough (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1909).

The time of this novel is during the period of controversy over the boundary of Oregon and Canada. Part of the story takes place in diplomatic circles of Washington and another part in the disputed territory of Oregon. Among the characters are prominent statesmen of the time represented—President Tyler, John C. Calhoun, James Polk, and Pakenham. The hero of the selection, Nicholas Trist, a government employee, is forced to decide between duties towards the state and the love of the talented Baroness von Ritz, a woman who played an important part in the shaping of America's destiny.

*Quiet Cities*, by Joseph Hergesheimer (Alfred Knopf, New York, 1927), shows the manners, events, and the personalities of certain early cities.

The pictures are drawn so realistically that the reader tends to replace the present with the yesterday. Various scenes involve the primitive magic of Charleston and passionate love in New Orleans and Washington as seen through the eyes of a cautious politician.

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\* Helen Rex Keller, *Readers Digest of Books*. (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1929). P. 524.

*Star of the West*, by Ethel Hueston (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, New York, 1935), has for its plot the exploration of the Louisiana Territory by Lewis and Clark.

Lewis was known as the Sublime Dandy, or the Beau Brummel of Washington; and no one but President Jefferson and William Clark believed that the expedition would be a success. The story reveals many new angles about the journey. Much credit for the success of the expedition must be ascribed to the "Bird Woman," a Shoshone Indian.

*The Man of the Storm*, by Ethel Hueston (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, New York, 1936).

John Colter, a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition, went back west when the rest of the group returned to civilization. He was the first to behold the marvels of the Yellowstone, to explore the valley of the Big-horn, to see the headwaters of the Colorado, and to view the Teton Mountains. He found and marked mountain passes that could be used by the wagons of the pioneers. The stirring narrative of Colter's exploits and the developing romance portray western life of the period represented.

*The Covered Wagon*, by Emerson Hough (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1922), is the story of a group of immigrants to Oregon on the overland road.

The news of the discovery of gold in California caused a number to part from the main caravan at Cassia Creek and to go in search of gold. The author describes the group organization for the long trek and various incidents that happened along the way. The story's romance is built upon the rivalry that existed between two men for the love of Molly Wingate, a pretty girl in the group, and the triumph of the better man.

*Ramona*, by Helen Hunt Jackson (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1912), has been read for more than a half century and has become an American classic.

It is the story of Spanish and Indian life in California during the early years of its conquest. The hero is an Indian from a mission station who receives unfair treatment by white man's justice. The story makes an appeal for fair treatment of the Indians.

*Hard Money*, by Clarence Budington Kelland (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1930).

During the early period in the history of the United States, the state banks were permitted to issue paper money which became practically worthless. A fictitious character, Jan Van Horn, studied how money works and became a financial genius. The importance of hard money is stressed. The reader gets passing glimpses of such historical figures as Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Aaron Burr, John Marshall, Van Ransellaer, and Henry Clay.

*Early Candlelight*, by Maud H. Lovelace (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1929).

Describes the coming of the pioneers to Minnesota and recounts in great

detail the life, the pleasures, and the hardships of these settlers. The importance of the Mississippi river for migration is shown.

*Free Soil*, by Margaret Lynn (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1920).

The meeting of proslavery and antislavery people in Kansas so frequently resulted in bloodshed that the territory became known as "Bleeding Kansas," and those days of strife are recalled in great detail in this novel. Historical characters mentioned are Eli Thayer, Governor Reeder, General Atchison, and Doctor Robinson.

*Caravans to Santa Fe*, by Alida Sims Malkus (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1928).

A hundred years ago, New Mexico was a Spanish possession into which civilization made inroad very slowly because of the isolation of the region. The ancient streets and adobe houses were maintained for many years. The novel is an historical romance showing the mingling of the Spanish, the Creoles of New Orleans, and the early American trader. The love story concerns a young trader of New Orleans and a Spanish girl of Old Santa Fe.

*Children of the Market Place*, by Edgar Lee Masters (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1922), is a fictitious autobiography covering the years between 1833 and 1861.

The imaginary author came to America as a youth of eighteen years and traveled by river, canal, lake, and stagecoach to Illinois. Here he met young Stephen Douglas and formed a close friendship with the man who eventually became a national figure. Lincoln is also represented in the latter part of the book.

*A Wall of Men*, by Margaret Hill McCarter (A. L. Burt Company, New York, 1912).

The early history of Kansas is filled with scenes of hatred, bloodshed, and death on account of the slavery question. The trouble arose after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, which advocated the policy of squatter sovereignty, and this story reviews the clashes that occurred between the proslavery and antislavery people. The following characters took an active part in this period of Kansas history: John Brown, Sheriff Jones, Governor Shannon, Dr. Robinson, Senator Pierce, and the border ruffian Quantrill. The novel describes the attack on Lawrence, the Pottawatomie massacre, and the Wakarusa War.

*We Must March*, by Honore Willsie Morrow (A. L. Burt Company, New York, 1925), gives an authentic picture of those heroic souls who did so much in the early history of northwestern America.

The author portrays the people as they lived, thought, and talked at that time. The leading historical characters are Narcissa and Marcus Whitman, Jason Lee, Sir George Simpson, and Dr. McLoughlin. Narcissa Whit-



man was the bride of the medical missionary and the first white woman that crossed the Rockies into the Oregon country. These early settlements aided in securing a foothold on the Oregon country.

*The Cavalier of Tennessee*, by Meredith Nicholson (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1928).

In an interesting manner, the author relates the life story of Andrew Jackson, the "Cavalier of Tennessee." The narrative begins with Jackson's law practice, continues with the happenings during his young manhood days, and terminates with his election as president of the United States. Aaron Burr is also featured in the story.

*The Texas Titan*, by John Milton Oskison (Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1929).

A fictionalized biography of Sam Houston, the hero of San Jacinto and the first president of the Lone Star Republic. The narrative follows the main current of the career of this magnificent adventurer, lover, soldier, "big drunk," and southern gentleman. The romance is typical of the old Southwest.

*The Wind Blows West*, by Christine Whiting Parmenter (Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York, 1934).

A story of the gold rush to Colorado and the development of that state. The various difficulties encountered during this period of "Pike's Peak or Bust" are related.

*Vandemark's Folly*, by Herbert Quick (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1922).

Describes pioneer life on the plains of Iowa and pictures not only the trials, hardships, and discouragements endured by the pioneers, but also the happier experiences as well. Life on the frontier of the great central farming region was different from life in the woodlands of the Ohio Valley.

*Early Americana and Other Stories*, by Conrad Richter (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1936).

For eight years the author lived in New Mexico and the bordering states searching for historical information from the early adventurers and settlers of this region. Most of the material in this novel was secured by interviewing these individuals, the men and women who experienced the happenings of the fifties, sixties, and seventies.

*Captain Caution*, by Kenneth Roberts (Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1934), is a novel that belongs to a group of Arundel chronicles.

"The Olive Branch," which sailed from Arundel, Maine, was captured early in the War of 1812. The Yankee sailors were unaware of the existing war and were prevented from sailing home by the double-crossing captain's daughter. The story is romantic and full of action.

*Gold Seekers of '49*, by Edwin L. Sabin (J. B. Lippincott Company, New York, 1915).

In 1849, many people set out to seek gold in California; and among these people were Charley Adams and his father. This story relates how they crossed the tropical isthmus of Panama by canoe and by mule and finally landed in San Francisco. Here they met with fortune and misfortune, in a land peopled with individuals from all parts of the world.

*Buckskin Breeches*, by Phil Stong (Farrar & Rinehart, New York, 1937).

The settlements in Ohio and "Ioway" are discussed in this novel. In 1837 the hero, with his family, left Ohio and settled in Iowa to keep his family from degenerating and there found a new life abundant in adventures, love, hardships, and struggles. Some of the episodes are presented in a realistic manner.

*Marching On*, by Ray Strachey (Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1923), tells of events preceding the Civil War.

The activities of the Abolitionists are given considerable space, while John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry and the Pottawatomie Massacre are described in detail. The author is especially critical of the Southern attitude.

*The Flag is Still There*, by Neil H. Swanson (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1933).

Most historians refer briefly to the bombardment of Fort McHenry. It is mentioned in connection with the famous verses of Francis Scott Key, but no details are stated about the battle. It is usually treated as a minor military engagement whereas it was a battle that lasted for nearly three days. The British got behind the fort in one night and the crashing of the cannons shook the town, but the American militia faced the British regulars in the open field for hours and fought them off. This novel gives some new light about the scenes that gave birth to the national anthem.

*All the Brave Rifles*, by Clark Venable (The Reilly & Lee Company, Chicago, 1929).

Gives to the reader a romance of the days when "Old Sam" Houston, Stephen F. Austin, David Crockett, James Bowie, and others won for Texas the bright star of independence. It also tells of the work performed by some of the women. In this story, based on actual occurrences, the battle of the Alamo and the capturing of Santa Anna are vividly described.

*Nathan Burke*, by Mary S. Watts (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1919).

A lengthy novel of the Mexican War having for its leading historical character, one Winfield Scott. This story contains some hitherto unprinted history of the Mexican campaign.

*Gold*, by Stewart Edward White (Doubleday, Page & Company, Garden City, New York, 1922).

With the discovery of gold in California in 1848, the population of this territory increased rapidly. In this novel the writer describes a trip to California *via* Panama, the mining of gold, and the life of miners. A lack of police force necessitated the selection of vigilance committees to establish law and order. The contrast is given between the moderate proportion of the successful gold seekers and the great majority of those who found only disappointment. Gold was the foundation of the empire state in the West.

*The Gray Dawn*, by Stewart Edward White (Doubleday, Page & Company, Garden City, New York, 1922).

The gold rush brought a lawless crowd to the city of San Francisco, Cal., and to the mining districts. Early in this period it was the work of the vigilance committees to bring order into the social chaos, but eventually these were replaced by organized government and the "Gray Dawn" of better times loomed for the state.†

*The Long Rifle*, by Stewart Edward White (Doubleday, Page & Company, Inc., New York, 1932).

The introduction of this historical novel relates how Daniel Boone won the first long rifle at a shooting match in western Pennsylvania. Andy Burnett, a grandson of Boone's friend, inherited this rifle, went west in 1820 to explore the Rocky Mountains, and had many thrilling adventures, finally being captured by the Blackfeet Indians.

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† Jonathan Nield, *A Guide to the Best Historical Fiction*. (The Macmillan Co., 1929). P. 5500.

## CHAPTER VII

### THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD

1861-1865

The War of Rebellion has become the basis of many historical novels. Terrific fighting was done by the participating factions, and each side had its heralded war heroes. The different battles and generals have become the themes of many romances of this period. Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States at this crucial time, is the principal character of several of the novels selected for this study; and his rugged individualism, pleasing personality, and tragic death, are stressed by a number of the novelists.

*The Perfect Tribute*, by Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1906).

After the dedication of the Gettysburg Cemetery, Lincoln felt that his speech was a failure. That evening, while taking a walk, Lincoln collided with a boy of fifteen. Weeping, the lad stated that he was looking for a lawyer to draw up a will for his dying brother. Lincoln accompanied the boy to the home, and there the theme of the conversation turned to the wonderful speech that Lincoln had made. The sick boy, a Southern soldier, died with his hand resting in the large hand of the man he had praised.

*Booth and the Spirit of Lincoln*, by Bernie Babcock (J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1925), is founded on documentary evidence and is the story of a living dead man.

The events led up to the death of Lincoln, and the story tells of an innocent man who was killed in the supposition that he was Booth. The fugitive fled from place to place, assuming many aliases, but was frequently visited by the forgiving Spirit of Lincoln with the message of "with malice toward none and with charity for all."

*The Soul of Abe Lincoln*, by Bernie Babcock (J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1923), has for its romance the story of two young people who pledged their love on the eve of the Civil War.

The young man joined the Union forces, although his fiancée and her kinsfolk were all Confederates. During the progress of the war, the admiration of the lovers for Lincoln increased. The day for their reunion was set by Lincoln, but on that day he was assassinated, the latter event being minutely described. The story stresses unification.

*The Soul of Ann Rutledge*, by Bernie Babcock (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1919).

Ann Rutledge was the fiancée of Abraham Lincoln, and although her death prevented their marriage, the relationship left a lasting imprint on the life of Lincoln. It affected his life's career and, since he served as President of the United States, it influenced the history of the nation.

*A Man for the Ages*, by Irving Bacheller (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1927).

The purpose of the author in writing this novel is to acquaint the American public with the biography of Abraham Lincoln. Many people do not read biographies except under compulsion and are thus deprived of much helpful and interesting information and knowledge. This biographical sketch is a moving story in which Lincoln strides across the scene or takes the center of the stage; always, his democratic spirit is revealed.

*Father Abraham*, by Irving Bacheller (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1925).

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States during the Civil War, was often called "Father Abraham." Regardless of the failures or successes of the armies, Lincoln retained a calm spirit. A number of Civil War battles are described and the results stated. The novel ends with Lincoln's death.

*Marching On*, by James Boyd (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1927), is a moderate Confederate viewpoint presented by a Southern soldier.

The novel shows the feelings and sentiments of the poor farming class of the South; it also shows that war atrocities were committed not only by the South but also by the North.

*Kingdom Coming*, by Roark Bradford (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1933), is a story of New Orleans and the river plantations.

After the Federalist army captured New Orleans the Union Soldiers occupied it. At one end of the city was a large concentration camp of "freed negroes," and the author relates the story of these waifs of freedom from the time of their early memories in prewar New Orleans down to the last sentimental moment when a new era, a new heaven opened to them. The new freedom terrified the negroes.

*The Cavalier*, by George W. Cable (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1901).

A Civil War story having its setting in Mississippi, tells of events before the capture of Vicksburg. The novel shows the Southern viewpoint towards the Yankee.

*Kincaid's Battery*, by George W. Cable (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1908).

Describes the battles of Vicksburg, New Orleans, and Mobile Bay. The romance revolves around three persons, two women and one man; the women—one a Creole—compete for the love of a young officer.

*The Crisis*, by Winston Churchill (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1927).

An historical romance with the Civil War as its theme, has for its characters such men as Lincoln, Sherman, and Grant. The author takes the side of the North because he believed that side was the right side. The bigheartedness of Lincoln is dramatically illustrated.

*The Red Badge of Courage*, by Stephen Crane (D. Appleton Century Company, New York, 1933).

Portrays the fears and confusion felt by a soldier in his first military engagement. The battle reported is the battle of Chancellorsville, after which trying encounter a new world opened up to the soldier. The battle is well described.

*The Man in Gray*, by Thomas Dixon (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1921).

The author states that every character in this novel is historical, that no names are changed, and that every event took place. It is a story of the Civil War, given from the viewpoint of a Southerner. Historical characters are Robert E. Lee, J. E. Stuart, Philip Sheridan, John Brown, and others.

*The Border*, by Dagmar Doneghy (William Morrow & Company, New York, 1931).

Missouri in its days as a border state is the scene of this novel, which begins with the year 1860, gives an enumeration of various tragical war experiences, and ends with the period of reorganization. Taking a moderate Confederate viewpoint, the author cites a number of instances showing that the North was guilty of war atrocities. Quantrill is the leading historical character.

*Bugles Blow No More*, by Clifford Dowdey (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1937).

A period of four years is covered by this novel, beginning with the night of secession and terminating with the surrender at Appomattox. The setting is Richmond, capital of the Confederacy, which the Union forces were determined to capture, thus ending the war. The author stresses the battles, the fighting, and the waiting of the people. In this novel the tragic effects of war are drastically pictured.

*The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come*, by John Fox, Jr. (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1901).

The first part of the novel takes place in the "Bluegrass" country. The hero of the story enlisted in the Federal army and served under General Grant. The people in Kentucky were divided in their attitude towards

slavery; brothers of the same household were at variance and fought each other. The successes of the Union forces and the failures of the Confederates are enumerated.

*The Sign of Freedom*, by Arthur Frederick Goodrich (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1916).

Defends the Northern viewpoint of the Civil War. The tale relates considerable adventure in recounting the boyhood, youth, and manhood experiences of David Warburton.

*Trail-Makers of the Middle Border*, by Hamlin Garland (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1926).

Life in the Northwest Territory is described in the first part of this novel, the latter part taking place during the War of Secession. A fine description of the capturing of Vicksburg is given. Historical characters are Grant, Sherman, and McPherson.

*The Battle-Ground*, by Ellen Glasgow (Doubleday, Page & Company, New York, 1902).

In the first part of this story, the author gives a sympathetic and at times a humorous picture of the life of wealthy Virginians before secession. In the second half she portrays the Civil War and pictures the sad, rather than the heroic, side of war. The novel is fair to both sides, but stresses the tragedy of the South more than of the North.

*The Man Without a Country*, by Edward Everett Hale (H. M. Caldwell Company, New York, 1907), was written in the hope of stimulating national sentiment during the time that patriotism was lagging.

The names of officers mentioned are genuine, but none took part in the happenings of the story. Its lesson of patriotism has been well taken. Philip Nolan was the man without a country who, upon cursing the United States and expressing the wish that he might never hear of her again, was put on board a ship and forced to spend the rest of his years on the ocean. Whenever his ship neared land, he was transferred to another ship.

*Peter Ashley*, by DuBose Heyward (Farrar & Rinehart, New York, 1932).

Reared among the finest traditions of the aristocratic South, a deep love for his country had been instilled in the mind of Peter Ashley. His rival in a love affair called him a "damned Abolitionist," and this led to a duel. The novel depicted the early stages of the Civil War, especially the battle, defeat, and evacuation of Fort Sumter.

*Cease Firing*, by Mary Johnston (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1912).

The last years of the Civil War, commencing with the attack on Vicksburg and culminating with the surrender of the Confederates in 1865, are described in this novel. The major battles considered in the novel are

Vicksburg, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, the Wilderness, Richmond, and Kennesaw; and the participating generals of these encounters appear. The author writes from the Southern viewpoint.

*The Long Roll*, by Mary Johnston (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1911).

The battles of the first years of the Civil War leading up to the death of Stonewall Jackson are of paramount interest in this novel, but the naval engagements are also recounted. The lengthy tale is written from the Southern viewpoint and stresses the heroism of the Confederates.

*Long Remember*, by MacKinlay Kantor (Coward-McCann, New York, 1934), gives a dramatic picture of the battle of Gettysburg.

The author portrays vividly the talking, shouting, and marching of soldiers and also the final result—a heap of dead men. The novel shows that the Confederate army as well as the Union army consisted of groping groups of men “blindly doing the bidding of an elemental force.”\*

*The Rock of Chickamauga*, by Charles King (G. W. Dillingham Company, New York, 1907), is a lengthy, detailed description of the battle of Chickamauga.

General Thomas received the name of “The Rock of Chickamauga” for his resistance in this combat, because, when the other flanks yielded to the terrific Confederate assaults, his flank withstood the bombardment. Numerous participating generals are mentioned, among them being Thomas, Grant, Bragg, Sheridan, Sherman, Hood, Longstreet, Preston, Stewart, Bostwick, Roberts, McCook, and Palmer.

*Forever Free*, by Honore Willies Morrow (A. L. Burt Company, New York, 1928).

The first two years of the Civil War, terminating with the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, form the theme of this story. The principal character is Lincoln, revealed in his true nature as he met the trying circumstances under which he labored, the disheartening failures of the Federal armies, and the many plots that were arranged to incapacitate him from performing his executive duties. Additional characters are Mrs. Lincoln, Miss Ford, Stanton, McClellan, Fremont, and Burnside.

*The Last Full Measure*, by Honore Willies Morrow (William Morrow and Company, New York, 1930).

Historians summarize the death of Lincoln in a few words, and the reader is left ignorant of the scheming that was carried on by a group of conspirators long before the fatal shot was fired. The novel shows the trust that the Great Emancipator had in mankind and his unwillingness in being protected by body guards. The leading individuals are President Lincoln, Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln, Bob and Tad Lincoln, Secretary of State Seward,

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\* Marion A. Knight, Mertice M. James, and Dorothy Brown, editors, *The Book Review Digest*. (The H. H. Wilson Co., New York, 1935). P. 500.



Secretary of War Stanton, John Hay, and the group of conspirators—Jacob Thompson, John Wilkes Booth, John Surratt, and others.

*With Malice Toward None*, by Honore Willsie Morrow (William Morrow & Company, New York, 1928), tells of the experiences of the armies during the last two years of the Civil War.

The story ends with the evacuation of Richmond and the surrender of the Confederates. It gives an insight into the family life and the personality of Abraham Lincoln. Other historical characters are: Charles Sumner, Andrew Johnson, John Hay, Fred Douglas, and Jefferson Davis.

*Johnny Reb*, by Marie Conway Oemler (The Century Company, New York, 1929), is a Civil War story told from the angle of the Confederates.

The story shows that the bitter feeling between the "Damyankes" and the Confederates is decreasing and that the new generation is endeavoring to restore one united nation.

*My Lady of the South*, by Randall Parrish, combines historical facts and a stirring romance.

Under difficulties, an officer of the North carried on a romance with a girl from the South. Strong men and brave women are pictured, General Rosecrans being an outstanding historical character.

*My Lady of the North*, by Randall Parrish (A. L. Burt Company, New York, 1904).

The scene for this novel is laid in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, during the Civil War. General Lee and General Grant are historical characters in the story.

*The Wave*, by Evelyn Scott (Jonathan Cope, Harrison Smith, New York, 1929).

A Civil War novel that begins with the years immediately preceding the War, continues with the process of the conflict, and ends with the death of Lincoln. Prominent characters of the combat appear in the story. The tale shows what it meant to be a soldier on the eve of battle, a general surrendering his sword, and a member of a sewing circle back home.

*Emmeline*, by Elsie Singmaster (Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1916), is a brief novel that describes the battle of Gettysburg.

Emmeline, a girl of the North, assisted the "rebels" in her house and became very fond of them, especially of one soldier; and her brother, a Union soldier, married a girl from the South. The novel shows that hatred must vanish when love enters.

*Gettysburg*, by Elsie Singmaster (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1913).

The first of the novel describes the battle of Gettysburg. The "Red Harvest," as the first part is called, is followed by the "Aftermath," con-

sisting of the dedication of part of the battlefield for a burial ground. The story shows that for some people the battle meant a loss of friends and relatives who not only never returned but whose very identity was lost forever.

*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York), or *Life Among the Lowly*, pictures the treatment of the Negro in the South during slavery.

The novel was written to arouse public sentiment against involuntary servitude, and therefore many incidents are exaggerated. However, it aided in fostering the Abolition movement. The book also describes the functioning of the underground railroad.

## CHAPTER VIII

### THE PERIOD OF REORGANIZATION 1865-1870

After the South was defeated in the Civil War, many people of the North took a revengeful attitude towards the conquered for having caused the disruption. Instead of "binding up the nation's wounds" and establishing prewar relationships as speedily as possible, measures were taken that accomplished the opposite. In self-defense, the South organized secret organizations to combat the carpetbaggers, scalawags, and corrupt politicians. The novels of this period relate the sufferings that the South endured during the years of reconstruction. They also show the determination of the people to build a new South on the ruins of the old.

*John March, Southerner*, by George W. Gable (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1894), is a presentation of the reconstruction period.

The scene is laid at "Suez," a city which, badly battered during the Civil War, became the meeting place of Northern promoters with reluctant southerners. The story shows the final collapse of the South.

*The Clansman*, by Thomas Dixon (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1905), reveals the story of the Ku Klux Klan conspiracy which overturned the Carpetbag rule of the South during the years between 1865 and 1870.

The contents of the book are divided into four divisions: Book I, "The Assassination"; Book II, "The Revolution"; Book III, "The Reign of Terror"; and Book IV, "The Ku Klux Klan." The leading historical characters are Abraham Lincoln, U. S. Grant, and Andrew Johnson.

*The Leopard's Spots*, by Thomas Dixon (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1902).

A romance of "the white man's burden" is narrated in this novel. The leopard cannot change his spots nor the Ethiopian his skin. Southern conditions after the Civil War are stressed: the defeated states, struggling to rebuild that which the War had destroyed, were kept from doing so by the Carpetbag rule and the hard hand of Congress.

*The Bright Land*, by Janet Fairbank (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1932).

A long novel which reviews the experiences of a girl who during her girlhood went West by stagecoach, primitive railway carriage, and romantic canal boat to the Mississippi Valley. Later in life she performed her woman's part in the years of Civil War and of Reconstruction.

*Gone with the Wind*, by Margaret Mitchell (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1937), brings to life the stirring days of the Civil War and of the subsequent period of Reconstruction.

Scarlet O'Hara, the daughter of an Irish peasant father and an aristocratic Georgia mother, had an inherited charm and determination that enabled her to survive the wreckage of the War. She arrived at young womanhood just in time to see the Civil War sweep away the life for which she had been preparing. After the fall of Atlanta, she returned to her plantation and, by stubborn shrewdness, saved her home both from Sherman and from the Carpetbaggers.

*In Ole Virginia*, by Thomas Nelson Page (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1925), consists of six stories relating to Civil War experiences in the South.

All except one of the stories are expressed in the dialect of the Negroes of Eastern Virginia. These selections are of a sentimental nature, written to arouse sympathy for the defeated South; the author accomplishes his intentions.

*Red Rock*, by Thomas Nelson Page (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1932), is a story that narrates the chronicles of the Reconstruction period.

The Confederates were defeated, but they were not subdued by a fatalistic spirit. When the soldiers returned from fighting and saw their farms in ruins, their livestock driven away and the Negroes freed, they were willing to start over again. They complied with the demands of the Federal government and reorganized their governments and ratified the thirteenth amendment. Many politicians of the North believed that the terms were too lenient and a more severe program of reconstruction was instituted. This gave rise to the carpetbag rule, the scalawags, the force bills, and the Ku Klux Klan. Events are dramatically told in this novel, which is written from a Southern viewpoint.

*No Surrender*, by Emma Gilders Stern (Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1932).

Although the Confederate army had surrendered, the people of the South had not surrendered. They were determined to build on the ruins left by the conflict, and though many new problems had to be faced and different conditions met, the determination of the people enabled them to surmount them.

## CHAPTER IX

### THE PERIOD OF NATIONALISM

1870-1914

The Indians endeavored to stem westward migration, but were forced to yield when confronted by the regular troops of the United States army. For many years the cowboy with his herd of cattle roamed over the vast domain, but eventually he was forced farther west with the coming of the homesteader. The fertile plains attracted vast multitudes of domestic and foreign people, and soon the East and the West were united by an unbroken extent of inhabitants. The result of the Spanish-American War and the acquisition of more territory gave the United States a place among the leading nations of the world. These various occurrences presented ample material for the writer of historical fiction.

*The Log Cabin of a Cowboy*, by Andy Adams (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1903).

Tells of the experiences of a group of Texas cowboys who drove a herd of long-horned Texas steers from the Rio Grande river to the Blackfoot agency in Montana. The passing of the buffalo deprived the Indian of his means of livelihood, and the National Government therefore supplied the tribes with cattle.

*The Outlet*, by Andy Adams (Houghton Mifflin and Company, New York, 1905), has reference to the selling of Texas cattle.

The market was "flooded," and there was no demand for Texas cattle until the Great Northwest was opened. The novel describes the exodus of cattle in the "eighties" and provides an outlet for this important industry.

*A Lantern in Her Hand*, by Bess Streeter Aldrich (D. Appleton & Company, New York, 1928), gives a strong and vigorous picture of pioneer life.

The setting is Nebraska as it develops from its pioneer state, in 1854, to a time seventy-six years later. With quiet force, Mrs. Aldrich pictures the hardships of the early settlers, the many discouraging incidents that tested the stamina of the pioneers. Despite droughts, grasshopper invasions, hot winds, and other misfortunes, Abbie Deal surmounted every obstacle, her labors and fortitude being finally rewarded with success.

*His Soul Goes Marching On*, by Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews (Charles Scribner's Son's, New York, 1922), pays tribute to Theodore Roosevelt.

His words, "It is little matter whether one man fails or succeeds, but the

cause shall not fail, for it is the cause of humanity," induced a boy to give his best efforts for the love of his country.

*Senator North*, by Gertrude Atherton (R. F. Fenno & Company, New York, 1903).

Shows the attitude of the people towards Cuba and the Spanish-American War. The setting is in Washington, D. C., during the late "nineties" and the author pictures politics of that time in a fictional manner.

*The Oxen of the Sun*, by Irving Bacheller (Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York, 1935).

The title of this story is to convey the idea of the mighty forces and treasures of nature which the nineteenth century tamed and yoked for the uses of man. Some of these forces are coal, oil, metals, and electricity. Appearing in the novel are such masters of industry as Edison, Rockefeller, Carnegie, Hill, and Bell. The author, in deploring the effect of their activities on American character, gives here a book of a moral-sentimental order.

*The Emigrants*, by John Bojer (The Century Company, New York, 1925).

Among the immigrants who settled in the Middle West were the Norwegians, and this novel shows the part these people played in the history of America. It tells of their labors to establish prairie homes and how, in the face of many hindrances, they finally subdued all obstacles and became the well-to-do farmers of the Dakotas.

*Hill Country*, by Ramsey Benson (Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York, 1926), won the \$7,500 Stokes-Forum Magazine Prize for being the best American biographical novel.

It relates the coming of the Swedes to Minnesota during the pioneer days of 1880, pictures the antagonistic feeling that existed between the Yankees and the Swedes, and tells of the bitter fight between the farmer and the railroad interests. The great influence of James J. Hill upon the growth and development of the settlements is portrayed.

*My Antonia*, by Willa Cather (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1926), is another novel of Nebraska.

Antonia Shimerda was a Bohemian girl. Two boys were very fond of her, one of whom became a noted writer, the other a lawyer. In retrospect, the lawyer reviewed the friendship scenes of his boyhood days which gave rise to the story "Antonia." The narrative pictures pioneering in the middle-west and shows the gradual assimilation of foreigners and Americans.

*O Pioneers*, by Willa Cather (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1913).

A novel about the Norwegian pioneers who settled on the wild lands of Nebraska. The land, however, did not prove to be wild, for it was changed into "fields of yellow wheat and rustling corn."

*Coniston*, by Winston Churchill (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1906).

The effect of corrupt politics in government is the theme of this story. It reveals the fact that popular government is not in itself a panacea, but must depend on the virtues and wisdom of the people to make it so. When citizens determine to govern themselves, they must assume the dangers and the responsibilities as well as the privileges of the organization.

*Apache*, by Will Levington Comfort (E. P. Dutton & Company, Inc., New York, 1931).

A story of the Apache Indians in the northwest part of New Mexico; it presents a good description. The mining industry of the region enters into the story.

*The Passing of the West*, by Hal G. Evarts (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1923), presents a detailed description of animal life.

"The West" refers to the great plains and mountain region of the western part of the United States. Overdevelopment induced the trader, stockman, and finally the farmer to go West, penetrating the habitat of the wild animals and the Indians and taking away their paradise.

*Cimarron*, by Edna Ferber (Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1930).

A novel that tells of the opening of Oklahoma for settlement and the pioneer life in the territory. The book endeavors to show something of "the spirit, the color, the movement, and the life of the commonwealth." The fantastic and improbable events narrated are based on actual happenings.

*The Honorable Peter Stirling*, by Paul Leicester Ford (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1894).

A story of American political life in New York during the years between 1870 and 1880. It is based somewhat on the career of Grover Cleveland. Experiences in governmental affairs are told.

*Pay-Off at Landron*, by Bennett Foster (William Morrow & Company, New York, 1937).

This book illustrates the struggle in the life of the old West. It is based on an actual historic episode and shows the contentions between the homesteaders and small ranchers who were determined to defend their rights.

*Crittenden*, by John Fox, Jr. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1914).

Tells a story of love and war in Kentucky. The national government called for volunteers to fight for Cuban independence. Crittenden, the chief character of the story, was one of the volunteers and did some commendable fighting. Soldiers from all sections of the United States fought unitedly in this war.

*Riders of the Purple Sage*, by Zane Grey (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1912).

Has for its setting the southern part of Utah; it renders a fine description of the country where the sage grows. This is a region for the cowboy and the Indians. Some of the principles and practices of the Mormons are revealed.

*The U. P. Trail*, by Zane Grey (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1918).

Tells of the difficulties connected with the building of the Union Pacific Railroad. The country was unsettled, inhabited only by Indians who opposed the intrusion of the white man. Tactics used by the Red men to hinder the progress of the work are told, and the rough camp life of the different laborers is well illustrated.

*Heroine of the Prairies*, by Sheba Hargreaves (Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, 1930), is a romance of the Oregon Trail.

The year 1930 marked the one hundredth anniversary of the opening of the Oregon Trail, the gateway to the great Northwest. This romance recreates those stirring days authentically, telling of Salita Prentiss who, expelled by her community, took up a homestead, and by sheer courage succeeded in taming the wilderness.

*Trouble Shooter*, by Ernest Haycox (Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1937).

The time of this narrative is during the building of the Union Pacific Railroad in the spring of 1868. Frank Peace was a railroad builder, fighter, and trouble shooter who fought the winning fight of progress, civilization, and order against the western wilds.

*The Girl at the Halfway House*, by Emerson Hough (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1900).

Mary Beauchamp, a girl from Virginia whose family—aristocrats of Virginia—had been ruined by the War of Rebellion, and whose lover—a Confederate—had been killed in the battle of Louisburg, traveled to the Middle-West, where she stayed with her aunt and uncle in a simple frontier home called "The Halfway House." There a young lawyer became her suitor. Presenting a good picture of pioneer life, the story shows how a lawless town of cowboys and cattlemen was transformed into a quiet, law-abiding place.

*The Story of a Country Town*, by E. W. Howe (Blue Ribbon Books, New York, 1927).

The author went along with his parents during the pioneer days and settled on the barren prairies of the Middle-West, and in this biographical novel he recounts the growth of a country town. Friends and neighbors, with their various peculiarities, are scrutinized. The scene presented has the atmosphere of a Kansas-Nebraska countryside.



*The Price of the Prairie*, by Margaret Hill McCarter (A. C. McClurg & Company, Chicago, Ill., 1900), has its setting in Kansas in its early days.

In a charming manner, the author weaves a love story into the trying days of the early settlers on the prairies. Amid the tragedies, many comedies took place which encouraged the drooping spirits of the hardy pioneers. This narrative shows that "the defense of the helpless is heroism, that the protection of the home is splendid achievement, and that the storm and stress, and patient endurance of the day will finally bring the peace of the purple twilight."

*Winning the Wilderness*, by Margaret Hill McCarter (A. C. McClurg and Company, Chicago, Ill., 1914).

Shows that the winning of statehood did not end the hardships of the Kansas settlers. Spells of drought, periods of grasshopper invasions, and other hard times were disheartening experiences, even though followed by "fat years." Kansas did its part in "Remembering the Maine" and furnished several regiments of soldiers. Fred Funston was a son of Kansas.

*The Lord's Anointed*, by Ruth Eleanor McKee (Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York, 1935), is a story of Hawaii, a distant frontier of the United States.

The years of Hawaii's history are spanned from the day in winter of 1820, when the first missionaries arrived, to the modern island of 1933. It is the story of Hawaii, but at the same time it relates the career of a woman who rose triumphantly above hardships, disaster, and religious and social differences.

*The Empire Builder*, by Oscar M. Sullivan (The Century Company, New York, 1928).

The life of James J. Hill is the basis for this story. He is given much credit for opening the Northwest. Different historical events are described, such as the celebration of the completion of the Northern Pacific in '83, the winter carnival of '87, and the completion of the Great Northern in '93. The opinions of Hill and Debs in regard to the great railroad strike are presented. The narrative pictures the manners and customs of the people in the Northwest during the nineties.

*The Virginian*, by Owen Wister (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1930).

Has for its hero a courageous and honest cowboy who has a fine sense of fairness and justice. The setting of the novel is the prairies of Wyoming between 1874 and 1890, and the story reveals the great transition that has taken place. The region, once the paradise of the cowboy, has been changed to a farming country. The mountains are still there, the same rich soil and pure air; but the buffalo, the wild antelope, and the horseman with his pasturing thousands, will never come back. These were historic happenings of yesterday.

*A Certain Rich Man*, by William Allen White (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1924).

The story begins with a family from east of the Mississippi river who came to Kansas during the time when the territory was known as "Bleeding Kansas." The War of Rebellion is covered quickly, and the career of John Barclay is pursued. He came to Kansas at the age of four years and eventually, through fair and unfair business dealings, became a multimillionaire. Ultimately he realized the vanity of the ill-acquired lucre and became a changed man. Interwoven with the story is the history of the development of a Kansas town from the Civil War days to the early part of the twentieth century.

## CHAPTER X

### THE WORLD WAR PERIOD

1914-1918

The battles, generals, and modern methods of warfare are subjects of some World War novels. A number of writers emphasize the horrors of present-day fighting and endeavor to create an attitude opposed to war. The World War is a recent occurrence, and usually a period of time must elapse after the happening of an event before the better class of books appear.

*Towards the Flame*, by Hervey Allen (Farrar & Rinehart, New York, 1926).

Presents a story of the drive from the Marne to Vesla during the fateful months of July and August, 1918. A general insight into some of the fighting about Chateau-Thierry is given. The novel shows how the soldiers lived.

*Keeping Up with William*, by Irving Bacheller (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1918).

The narrator of the story tells of a visit with the Honorable Socrates Potter, a fictitious character. This country lawyer told him the story of *Keeping Up with William*, referring to the German Emperor. The intention of the writer was to arouse sentiment against despotism and war.

*Home Fires in France*, by Dorothy Canfield (Henry Holt and Company, New York, 1918), consists of eleven stories.

It is a book of fiction written in France that portrays the experiences of the French and the Americans under the influence of war. The people left behind picture war as a glorious experience, but to those in the front-line trenches, who see the horrors and effects of this barbarous way of settling controversies, it does not seem like heroic achievement. One of the stories, "A Little Kansas Leaven," relates the experiences of a Kansas girl who went to France to serve.

*Paths of Glory*, by Humphrey Cobb (The Viking Press, New York, 1935).

The marching of soldiers on parade creates the impulse to join the ranks and fight for the country. But parading is not war, and in this novel Humphrey Cobb describes war as it occurs on the field of fighting. Conditions are revealed that are unknown to those who stay at home. The characters and places are fictitious, but the horrible incidents described actually took place.

*The Tired Captains*, by Kent Curtis (D. Appleton and Company, New York, 1928).

The devastating tension of the World War twisted the lives of many soldiers, as this story shows.

*Soldiers March*, by Theodore Fredenburgh (Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York, 1930), shows the psychological effect of war upon the young men involved.

The ideal youth struggles against the whole atmosphere of war but, realizing that he is dealing with a force greater than himself, discards his ideals and develops a defensive attitude. The hero of the story portrays the fierce courage of a soldier who drove men beyond the endurance of body and mind.

*Gun Fodder*, by A. Hamilton Gibbs (Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1923), relates typical war experiences of thousands of soldiers.

The facts are presented vividly and nakedly. A tragic bitterness is noticeable throughout the book because those who were willing to sacrifice all for their country have been so soon forgotten.

*It Happened "Over There,"* by Burriss A. Jenkins (Fleming H. Revell Company, Chicago, 1918).

Attacks, by "U" boats and by "birds of the air," and other World War experiences are told in this novel.

*They Also Serve*, by Peter B. Kyne (Cosmopolitan Book Corporation, New York, 1927).

In this easy-going plot, the story of the World War is told from a horse's point of view. The horse, "Professor," relates his experiences to his stable master.

*It's a Great War*, by Mary Lee (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 1929).

A story of army life during the World War that tells of hard-boiled sergeants, worried C. O.'s, quiet generals, anxious lieutenants, helpful nurses, and the colorful life of the enlisted men. It is not a romance built around an organized plot. War vernacular is omitted, but the incidents related are based on actual happenings.

*Jenny*, by Norma Patterson (Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., New York, 1928).

"Jenny" was a World War nurse who served in different army hospitals. She was loved by the soldiers for her cheerfulness, kindness and helpfulness. Critical readers have variously pronounced this book as "good," "very good," and "marvelous."

*The Amazing Interlude*, by Mary Roberts Rinehart (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1918).

At the opening of the World War, Sara Lee Kennedy lived in a city of Pennsylvania, an ugly but wealthy town. She heard the cry of anguish and suffering from the War Zone and it seemed to summon her to come and serve. Contrary to the pleadings of her friends and even of her fiance, she was determined to go, and did go, to Europe. With the audacious courage of youth, she established her quarters—called "The House of Mercy"—close to the fighting front in Belgium. Affectionate relationships developed with Henri, one of her helpers, whom she eventually married.

*Dangerous Days*, by Mary Roberts Rinehart (George H. Doran Company, New York, 1919).

The scene of this novel is laid in an unnamed city of the middle-west, but glimpses of Washington and Paris are also seen. The story pictures American society from 1916 to 1918. The leading character is a munitions manufacturer whose plant a German spy attempts to destroy.

## CHAPTER XI

### THE PERIOD SINCE THE WORLD WAR 1918-1937

Many historical novels have been written since the World War, but most of them stress the events and personalities of earlier periods. A broader view of a situation is obtainable when surveyed from a distance rather than at close range. The same principle is applicable to the historical period since the World War. Books have been published stressing themes of this period, but they are not numerous.

*Uncle Peel*, by Irving Bacheller (Grossett & Dunlap, New York, 1933), presents a drama of American life since 1924, portraying the effects of suddenly-acquired wealth and the degenerating forces of today.

The years from 1924 to 1930 were boom years; a new era had arrived which disproved and shook off the alleged wisdom of the past. The formula of success was reckless spending of high earnings for articles bought on the installment plan. A great structure of imagined prosperity was founded upon indefinite extensions of credit to irresponsible people. America had become a paradise of gamblers and of outlawed theories of life. The novel shows the great injustice done to the state of Florida which was for a time overrun with people from the North who demanded extensive improvements, spent themselves in gambling, and then left the state, leaving the citizens loaded with a debt incurred for selfish benefit.

*Fresh Furrow*, by Burris A. Jenkins (Willett, Clark and Company, New York, 1936), is a dramatic story showing how the people worked their way out of economic depression by means of the co-operative movement.

Dennis Burns returned from college to find that his father was on the verge of being ousted from the parental farm. He decided to practice some of the theories of co-operatives that he had learned in college and thereby save his father's farm. His egg-selling co-operative was a success, and this resulted in the establishment of many similar organizations. National issues followed, and Denny was called to Washington when the oil codes were under consideration. The co-operatives had hostile opponents.

*It Can't Happen Here*, by Sinclair Lewis (Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., 1937).

Many people believed that radical changes could not take place in the well-established government and country of the United States. Others again noticed the trend of affairs and had their doubts about the certainty

of existing conditions. This novel reveals the actual situation of the present and what the future may have in store.

*When Peace Comes*, by Frank O'Connell (Burton Publishing Company, Kansas City, Mo., 1930).

A vivid and absorbing tale showing the struggles of men to rebuild on the foundations crumbled by the World War. It is also a story of those who stayed at home and did not learn what actual fighting meant. The purpose of the story is to arouse a greater, more sympathetic understanding for the men who secured peace.

*Low Run Tide and Lava Rock*, by Elliot Paul (Horace Liveright, Inc., New York, 1929).

Two contrasting phases of American life are portrayed in this book. *Low Tide* shows the life of an old New England fishing town where the inhabitants adjusted their occupations to suit the seasons, while *Lava Rock* is a story of a construction camp in the far West that pictures the building of a great dam in a distant, forlorn canyon. Multitudes of people from all directions swarm to the place, and a community develops. Eventually the dam is finished, the workers disperse, the city is removed, and the structure of the dam remains as a memorial.

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