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BOOKS FOR COLLECTORS

EARLY OHIO SILVERSMITHS AND PEWTERERS, 1787-1847. By Rhea Mansfield Knittle. *The Ohio Frontier Series*. Calvert-Hatch Company, Cleveland, Ohio. 63 pages, 6 illustrations. Price, \$1.

This is the second pamphlet in Mrs. Knittle's Ohio Frontier Series. The first, which appeared in 1937, was on the subject of early Ohio taverns. The second is divided into two parts, each of which outlines briefly the historical background of the country as it pertained to the respective craftsmen. The methods of silversmithing and pewtering are discussed, and biographies of some of the more outstanding workers in the metals are given. The check lists at the end of each section include all the smiths and pewterers known to have worked in Ohio during the period in question, with their dates and data known about them.

Mrs. Knittle, a regular contributor to ANTIQUES, combines a wealth of knowledge about the early crafts, industries, and landmarks of her state, with a lively imagination—not the kind that calls fiction fact, but the kind that makes fact more interesting than fiction. This latest publication will make her readers eager for the numerous other subjects that are planned for her Ohio Frontier Series.

THE DELAWARE CONTINENTALS, 1776-1783. By Christopher L. Ward. 620 pages, 15 maps. *Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington*. Price \$3.75.

The Delaware regiment was one of the few that joined the Continental Army equipped with any degree of training or uniforms. They were represented in the army during the entire war, and were commended by British and Americans alike for their discipline, efficiency, courage, and fine leadership. No other state excelled them in length and continuity of service, though their numbers at no time were more than 550 and often less than 100. Since they engaged in every battle in the north and south, with the exception of Princeton—Long Island, Trenton, Brandywine, Monmouth, Ninety-Six, Yorktown among them—and the author impartially but carefully follows in detail each engagement in which they took part, this book is an excellent study of the Revolutionary War. In addition, the Appendix is extremely interesting for its contemporary letters, brief biographies of the unknown Delaware heroes, John Haslet, Robert Kirkwood, Allen McLane, and discussion of the controversial questions regarding the qualities and actions of some of our generals.

THE LIFE OF FRANCIS DRAKE. By A. E. W. Mason. 349+ viii pages. Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York. Price, \$3.75.
YANKEE STARGAZER. THE LIFE OF NATHANIEL BOWDITCH. By Robert Elton Berry. 234+ xi pages. 6 illustrations. Whittlesey House, New York. Price, \$2.50.

What Francis Drake needed to ease his conquest of the seas for England was a copy of Nathaniel Bowditch's *New American Practical Navigator*. But unfortunately for Drake he lived in the sixteenth century, and Bowditch was studying and writing about navigation at the turn of the nineteenth century.

Mr. Mason had little material to work with when he wrote his life of Drake, for the known facts regarding this man who was one of the first to go around the world are few, and the author has to depend to a great extent on state documents, Spanish accounts of battles, and secondhand information, most of which deal with little but his seagoing career. However, this naval biography is excellently done. At least half the book comprises the story of Drake's countless deprivations on the Spanish possessions which made his name a terror in the New World.

The studious Nathaniel Bowditch, born in Salem in 1773, was a clerk and master of sailing ships, treasurer of Harvard, and president of two marine insurance companies. He is remembered now for writing his navigators' guide which is still, after many editions, the standard guide for mariners all over the world. He taught himself Latin, mathematics, French, and astronomy, doing such remarkable and independent research that Europe honored him with degrees and memberships in scholarly societies. Naturally most of the book centers about his amazing navigation works. It should be read by anyone interested in the sea and sailors—or in the Yankees who built better mousetraps.



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Now that the cost of living has sky-rocketed, and the price of nearly everything has advanced, it is worth noting that it is still possible to get a set of these fine books for the same price at which they were published. The edition is fast diminishing, however, and when it is gone, it will not be possible to replace it. It would be well to consider this and put your order in while there is still time.

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