

Status of the Profession

Michael Frawley

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Editorial

EDITORIAL: STATUS OF THE PROFESSION

Frawley, Michael

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As I sit here waiting for a panel on the political economy of the South at the SHA in St. Louis I am struck by how diverse and vibrant studies of the Civil War still are especially here in the borderlands. Even being able to define what the border was during the Civil War era is apparently, as we found out at the first panel of the conference, still up for debate. Just taking a quick walk through the book exhibit shows how interested scholars and the general public are in the War. Hundreds of new titles pour out of the various presses and find their way into this Review and onto our bookshelves. And, if the papers that were presented are any indication the future, Civil War studies are going to be very exciting for a long time. Just being around so many passionate historians is inspiring. I encourage anyone who has not attended the Southern Historical Association's annual meeting to make plans to attend the 2014 in Atlanta.

The featured reviews published in this issue show this diversity. That is why editing a journal such as this one is so rewarding. It seems fitting that one of our featured reviews is Matthew Salafia's *Slavery's Borderland: Freedom and Bondage Along the Ohio River*, which works to show how the people who lived along the border between slavery and freedom were more alike than different. *Civil War Dynasty: The Ewing Family of Ohio*, by Kenneth J. Heineman, explores various aspects of the war through the lens of one important family. The last two featured reviews focus on events after the war. Carole Emberton's *Beyond Redemption: Race, Violence, and the American South* after the Civil War explains how violence shaped the post-war United States while Caroline Janney's *Remembering the Civil War: Reunion and the Limits of Reconciliation* reviews how memories of the war were shaped and how reconciliation took place in this emotionally charged environment.

This issue also contains two excellent columns. The Civil War Sesquicentennial column, by Gaines Foster, explores the Lost Cause and how it is important still today while Michael Taylor's Civil War Treasures reviews letters of a southern family in England during the war. I regret that an author

interview does not appear in this issue, but please stay tuned for the winter issue for a special interview format that I hope will prove to be very interesting!

I have to go now as Gavin Wright is about to begin this session on the Political Economy of the South! Enjoy this issue and get ready for other great issues in the future.

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