

A SAILOR'S SONGBAG: An American Rebel in an English Prison, 1777-1779. Edited by George G. Carey. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. 1976. \$8.50.

A well-edited and annotated collection of song lyrics from a manuscript copied by a Timothy Connor, an American privateersman. Some were probably copied from broadside slip ballads; some can be connected with tunes in other sources. The subjects are sex, violence, life at sea and American patriotism, and will be of interest to modern ballad singers.

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FRONTIER MUSICIANS ON THE CONNOQUENESSING, WABASH, AND OHIO: A History of the Music and Musicians of George Rapp's Harmony Society, 1805-1906. Athens: Ohio University Press. 1976. \$16.00.

The Harmony Society, a communal society from Germany, founded Harmony, Pa., then New Harmony, Ind., and finally Economy (now Ambridge), near Pittsburgh. It published its own hymbooks such as *Harmonisches-Gesangbuch* (1820), and at its musical height in 1825-32 had an orchestra which performed music by such Europeans as Haydn and Pleyel, and music by its own composers. John S. Duss, beginning in 1892, made a splash with the Economy Band (soon called Duss' Band) in various cities, culminating in 1902-4 with performances in New York City which were supposed equals to those by the more famous bands of Gilmore and Sousa. Appendices give a full picture of the kind of music owned and played by this unusual enclave, which is a later musical counterpart to the Moravians. A useful but small recording is included, but the choral examples sound as if broadcast over short wave radio. (For an account of a revived New Harmony, see Horace Sutton in *Saturday Review*, 27 November 1976.)

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CHICAGO'S WHITE CITY OF 1893. By David F. Burg. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky. 1976. \$17.00.

The book is an impressive compendium of facts and general information concerning the 1893 World's Fair. Burg discusses preparations for the Fair, the specific exhibits, and the Fair's impact on American society. His style is readable, but statistics and accounts of minor incidents too often crowd out analysis and insight. The sections on architecture are strongest.

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## reference works

THE DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICAN SOCIETIES, 1790-1800: A Documentary Sourcebook of Constitutions, Declarations, Addresses, Resolutions, and Toasts. Edited by Philip S. Foner. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1976. \$29.95.

A book of documents, but one which argues a case, set forth in Foner's careful introduction: members of the new Societies tended to like the Constitution; this was not simple anti-Federalism. They responded with remarkable strength to developments in France, and fought against both privilege and bigotry at home. Accused by Federalists of assorted heinous offences, they fought back eloquently. When Washington himself turned on them, the Republican Society of Baltimore warned respectfully of the dangerous precedents: "the free Governments of Venice, Geneva, the United Provinces and of several other countries of Europe have been changed the most into Aristocracies and yet retained the name of republics" (342).

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HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: A Guide to Information Sources. Edited by Ernest Cassara. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company. 1977. \$18.00.

One of Gale's "American Studies Information Guide Series," this volume is aimed, as its title implies, at History, not American Studies: it usually emphasizes chronology and events. (David Marcell is to do the American Studies volume in the series.)

Because it has happened a number of times in the past, I have decided from now on to say something nasty about any bibliographical work which carries misinformation about our journal. Since this guide lists us as "occasional," I conclude, perhaps unjustly, that the whole volume is slipshod. Capricious, it certainly is. For example, for periods in the nineteenth century, under the heading, "Prominent Individuals," it