

Among recently published reference works, Patricia D. Netzley's *The Encyclopedia of Women's Travel and Exploration* (Oryx, 2001), often cited by McVicker as a source, includes short biographies of women travelers and articles about categories of travel, mode of transportation, and types of travelers that would not be included in a work of bio-bibliography. Further readings are suggested and black-and-white photographs and drawings, absent from McVicker's book, illustrate the work.

Literature of Travel and Exploration: An Encyclopedia edited by Jennifer Speak (3 vols., Fitzroy Dearborn, 2003), while not exclusively devoted to women, does include articles on individual women travelers, though not nearly as many as Netzley or McVicker. Topical articles include categories of women travelers and a separate article on women travelers is divided by time period. Both *The Encyclopedia of Women's Travel and Exploration* and *Literature of Travel and Exploration: An Encyclopedia* carry women travelers and women travel writers beyond McVicker's cut-off date of 1900.

Jane Robinson's *Wayward Women: A Guide to Women Travelers* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1990) is a bio-bibliography that includes some four hundred women travel writers, most of whom were British, all of whom spoke and wrote in English, and all of whom traveled outside of their native country. Robinson offers some biographical information for each of her entries and a summary of, sometimes a quotation from, her subject's travel account. Each entry begins with a bibliographical description of the first edition of the author's travel book or books. Only first-hand accounts published in book form are included.

Although this reviewer finds the candor with which McVicker states her work's shortcomings refreshingly charming, nonetheless these shortcomings render her work of marginal usefulness as it presently stands. This is not the work of serious scholarship women travel writers deserve. Many, if not most, of the women in part 1 can be found elsewhere. Of the more problematic women writers listed in part 2, McVicker herself writes, "I hope that future scholars will undertake research on these women. They should not be lost" (2).

This work is recommended only to public or school libraries that do not have in their collections the sources McVicker consulted and do not have access to OCLC's WorldCat database. Public research libraries and college and university libraries with extensive collections of women's writings or travel literature may wish to add *Women Adventurers, 1750–1900* to their holdings if comprehensiveness is a collection goal. Otherwise, this is an optional purchase.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, History, Philosophy, Political Science; African American Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American Studies, Women's Studies; Cohen Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Women in the American Civil War. Ed. by Lisa Tendrich Frank. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 2 vols. alkaline \$195 (ISBN 978-1-85109-600-8).

In the public imagination, women's participation in the War between the States pretty much begins and ends with

Clara Barton ministering to the wounded. To be sure, the "Angel of the Battlefield" figures prominently within these pages. However, as this two-volume set makes clear, the ladies of mid-nineteenth-century America were not content to merely play the role of caregiver. As the drama unfolded, they took on such diverse parts as spy, lecturer, factory worker, secretary, and, incredibly enough, soldier ("It is estimated that as many as four hundred women dressed as men to fight in the Civil War" [406]).

These oft-neglected stories are the *raison d'être* for this work. It is an attempt by the editor and contributors to fill in the gaps left by traditional male-centric histories. As the introduction points out, the thrust of the writing is to present the Civil War from the feminine (not necessarily feminist) point of view, which "details the contributions and experiences of women across the social, ethnic and racial spectra" (xx). This goal has been well met, as minorities and other traditionally marginalized people here share the limelight with more prominent actors.

In 326 entries taking up 631 pages, such varied topics as "Foraging, Effects on Women," "Guerrilla Warfare," and "Treasury Girls" are examined, along with more prosaic and expected headings such as "Diaries and Journals," "Letter Writing" and "Camp Followers." About two-thirds of the entries are biographical sketches of personalities both familiar ("Lincoln, Mary Todd") and obscure (the colorful cross-dresser Elsa Jane Guerin, who went by the moniker of "Mountain Charley"). Coverage is even-handed, so an entry on "Family Life, Confederate" is balanced by a similar one titled "Family Life, Union." All entries are signed, cross-referenced, and contain a mini-bibliography titled "References and Further Reading."

A number of features are particularly helpful: fourteen "contextual essays" at the beginning of volume 1 provide an overview of American women's status and issues of the era. Also part of the front matter is a chronology listing important dates during the course of the war, a contributors list recording writers' names and affiliations, and a complete alphabetical list of the entries appearing in both volumes. Back matter at the end of volume 2 includes an extensive bibliography and a section on primary sources, which describes and analyzes autobiographies, letters, newspaper articles, and other such contemporary texts. A good example of how this adds not only perspective but gritty realism to dry historical fact is "The Woman Order in New Orleans (1862)," in which Major-General Benjamin Butler dictated that "hereafter when any female shall by word, gesture, or movement insult or show contempt for any officer or soldier of the United States she shall be regarded and held liable to be treated as a woman of the town plying her avocation" (read: prostitute) (606). A seemingly draconian measure until it is revealed that an event leading up to this step occurred when one of these gals "dumped the contents of a chamber pot onto the head of David Farragut" (606), he of "Damn the torpedoes! Full steam ahead!" fame.

Hewing closely in title and subject matter is *Women During the Civil War: An Encyclopedia* by Judith E. Harper (Routledge/

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Taylor and Francis, 2004). Although a decent work in its own right, the single volume contains only 120 entries, far fewer than the work reviewed here. *Women in the American Civil War*, with its crisp black and white photographs, highly readable text, and pleasing layout, would be an appropriate purchase for any public or academic library.—Mike Bemis, *Assistant Librarian*, Washington County Library, St. Paul, Minnesota

Professional Materials

Karen Antell

Editor

A Good Match: Library Career Opportunities for Graduates of Liberal Arts Colleges. By Rebecca A. Watson-Boone. Chicago: ALA, 2007. 432 p. \$125 (ISBN 978-0-8389-0941-6).

In *A Good Match: Library Career Opportunities for Graduates of Liberal Arts Colleges*, Rebecca A. Watson-Boone traces the connection between a liberal arts education and a subsequent career in librarianship. The work is based on an extensive survey of 431 librarians who graduated between 1962 and 2000 from eight liberal arts colleges (Carleton, Denison, Earlham, Grinnell, Kalamazoo, Lawrence, Macalester, and Swarthmore). The alumni report on their undergraduate experiences, their decisions to become librarians, their graduate school experiences, their perceptions of the profession, and their service orientations. Responses are presented for the group as a whole, by undergraduate institution, and by cohort.

According to the author, anecdotal evidence suggests that nationally, liberal arts colleges tend to send a larger percentage of their alumni to library schools than do universities. Though this is likely true, it is probably due to the fact that many students at universities have chosen a professional path (business or nursing, for instance). It would be interesting to know whether students graduating from liberal arts programs at universities enter the library profession at a similar rate to those from liberal arts colleges. Based on a sample of the alumni in the study that took the Myers-Briggs Type Inventory, the author notes that the librarians from the liberal arts schools are quite similar in profile to the librarians who took the same test in a large national study, and that the results of this study may be generalized to the profession as a whole.

Watson-Boone's data allow her to make a range of observations, many of which are not particularly surprising. For instance, critical thinking skills and a respect for diverse opinions—both of which are stressed in liberal arts education and librarianship—are seen as important aspects of their undergraduate experience by all respondents. In tracing the respondents' view of librarians, Watson-Boone notes that the percentage with a positive perception generally increases as they enter graduate school, but that the percentage with a

mixed view also increases: as they become more familiar with the profession, some become more critical. In responding to questions about their satisfaction with the career path they had chosen, most of the respondents indicate that they are generally happy. Though respondents indicate that the service aspect of librarianship is important to them, their answers to questions about civic engagement show that this service orientation does not generally reach beyond their professional lives. Watson-Boone does a good job of relating her analysis to studies of librarianship, liberal arts schools, and higher education in general. Two appendixes include the data sets broken down by college and cohort for those who want to explore the figures in more detail.

Watson-Boone believes that there are several audiences for this book: liberal arts students interested in the field and their career counselors; library administrators and human resources officers; library and information science programs that are interested in recruiting liberal arts students; liberal arts colleges that may wish to use it as a tool for analyzing their success in developing students for careers; and those interested in studying professions in general. Because of this range of audiences, the book includes details about the profession that most librarians will find fairly basic. Most liberal arts students, even those seriously considering a career in librarianship, will find the book too detailed. It seems more useful for the other audiences. This is a fine study that will fit well into Library and Information Science and higher education collections.—Michael Levine-Clark, *Collections Librarian*, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Is Consulting for You? A Primer for Information Professionals. Ulla de Stricker. Chicago, ALA, 2008. 101 p. \$40 (ISBN-13: 978-0-8389-0947-8).

Librarians and information specialists typically possess excellent organization, listening, and knowledge management skills. As it happens, these skills are also highly relevant to a successful career in consulting. Whether a librarian is looking for a career change away from the reference desk or wishes to begin a consulting career after graduate school, Ulla de Stricker's primer *Is Consulting for You?* offers a wealth of information in a slim, enjoyable, easy-to-read volume.

The author, a library management consultant for more than thirty-five years, provides timely and useful information for librarians considering a move into the consulting field. She examines both the pros and the cons of starting an information-based consulting business. She also provides guidance on how to develop an effective business plan and how to build and maintain a successful consulting business.

One useful and unique feature of this book is the prevalence of helpful tips found boxed throughout the chapters. Throughout the book, de Stricker, writing with a clean, concise style, stresses the importance of gathering adequate information to determine whether information-based consulting would be an appropriate and rewarding