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# BOOK NOTES

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*Jolliet and Marquette: A New History of the 1673 Expedition.* By Mark Walczynski. (Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2023, xiv + 290 pages, paper \$24.95.)

The 1673 expedition by the French trader Louis Jolliet and Jesuit priest Jacques Marquette initiated French contact with Indigenous nations in the Midwest and Mississippi Valley, a pivotal event in the history of colonization. This book was published to coincide with the 350th anniversary of their voyage. By incorporating new archaeological, geological, and linguistic research, Walczynski corrects myths and embellishments that have pervaded the historiography of this subject. His emphasis on the environment and explorers' interactions with the flora and fauna of the region adds special depth—of particular interest is his detailed, nearly day-by-day retelling of their journey. Although Jolliet and Marquette's expedition did not pass through Kanza or Osage lands, they did hear of the Kanza, and some Indigenous nations who encountered this expedition and other French explorers (including the Sac and Fox, Peoria, and Ottawa) found themselves removed to Kansas 150 years later. Those studying the intersection of French colonialism, Jesuit missionizing, and Indigenous cultures will find this book particularly enlightening.

*The Monarch Butterfly Migration: Its Rise and Fall.* By Monika Maeckle. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2024, x + 225 pages, cloth \$29.95.)

The brightly colored monarch butterfly is among the most beloved and iconic insects of North America. While it has captivated people of all ages for centuries, its migratory patterns, its worrisome population decline, and the best ways to protect and support its conservation have been topics of immense controversy, both among professional scientists and within the community of amateur lepidopterists known informally as "the Monarchy." *The Monarch Butterfly Migration* is an engaging and eclectic account of the butterfly and its human admirers. Tracing historical rivalries among monarch researchers, contemporary controversies in conservation efforts, and the profound wonder that the butterfly's miraculous life cycle and annual migration can evoke, the book is at once thoroughly scientific and deeply personal. Kansas researchers and advocacy organizations, such as Lawrence-based Monarch Watch, figure prominently in the narrative. *The Monarch Butterfly Migration* has much to offer not just to butterfly enthusiasts but also to broader audiences with interests in climate, conservation, and the history of science.

*Forts of the Northern Plains: A Guide to Military and Civilian Posts of the Plains Indian Wars.* New edition. By Jeff Barnes. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2024, xix + 227 pages, paper \$24.95.)

*Forts of the Northern Plains* is an update to the 2008 edition. It was expanded to include smaller sites and civilian outposts, now totaling 155. Covering Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wyoming, color-coded sections provide easy reference. These sections begin with a satellite image of each state overlaid with markings for the sites. Each entry provides an overview of the site's history, its location in relation to major roads, its GPS coordinates, and a rating for the type of site. Hours of operation, amenities, and contact information are added when relevant. The rating scale has six categories ranging from simple place markers warranting a five-minute stop to fully developed and staffed sites requiring three or more hours to visit. Many entries have photos. This handy, well-thought-out guide is excellent for anyone who enjoys exploring the military history of the northern campaigns of the late 1800s.

*Indian Raids and Massacres: Essays on the Central Plains Indian War.* By Jeff Broome. (Caldwell, ID: Caxton Press, 2020, vi + 506 pages, paper \$24.95.)

The Plains Indian War has been the focus of substantial historical research, though it is often analyzed in discrete segments isolated from other events of the conflict. In *Indian Raids and Massacres*, Jeff Broome seeks to approach the war with a more holistic view rather than with segmented and disconnected accounts. He covers events in the Colorado and Kansas Territories with a few mentions of nearby Oklahoma and Nebraska. Throughout the book, he argues that value is lost by not viewing the war from a holistic point of view because a historian or reader cannot see the full motivations and autonomy of each involved party. The book is a collection of essays by Broome that seek to give a more whole and human perspective to the conflict. Some chapters focus on larger movements, such as Custer's summer campaign and the simultaneous raids on Plum Creek. Other chapters focus on individual events or people, such as the Sand Creek Massacre and the story of Amanda Mary Fletcher. Broome goes to great lengths to humanize all participants and victims of the conflict rather than treating them as pieces with a predetermined destiny. Each essay also seeks to challenge an accepted narrative in some way. For example, multiple chapters contend with whether Black Kettle was really the pacifist that history has made him out to be and with the true motivations for battles among both Native warriors and the U.S. Army. Throughout the essays, Broome brings an interesting and fresh perspective to the Plains Indian War.