

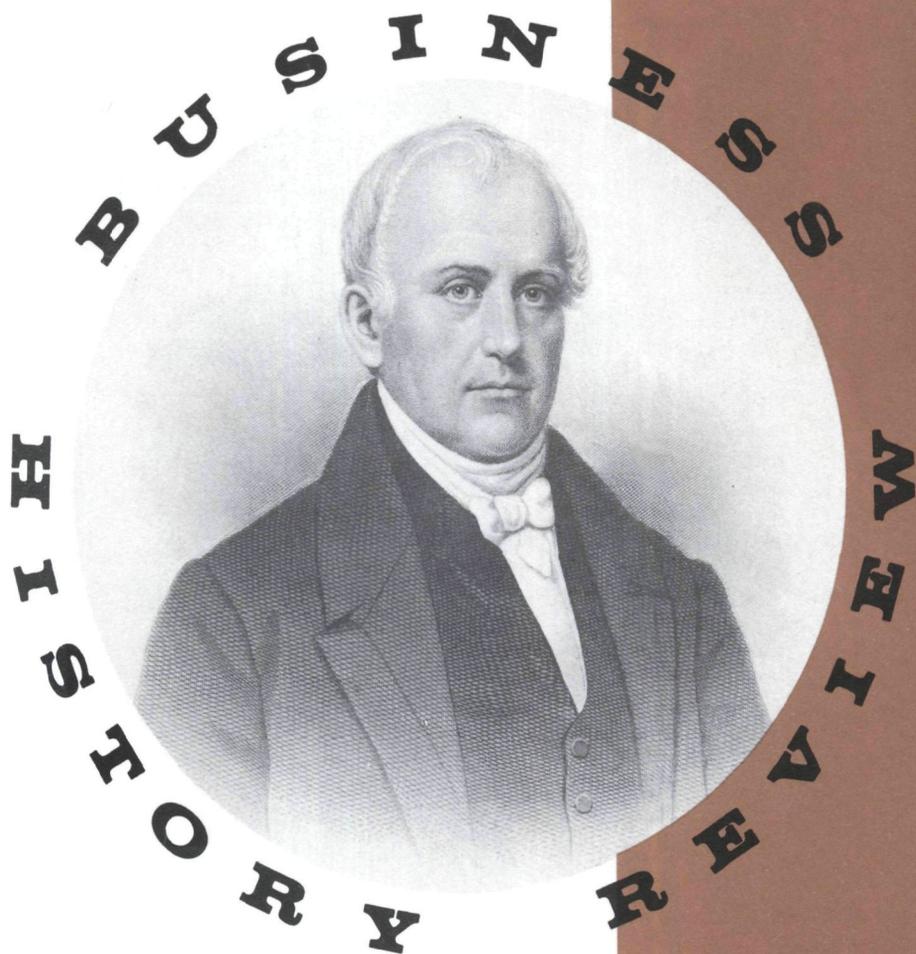
AUTUMN

1981



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The records business men leave have a kind of veracity that we do not find as a rule in political records The Business Historical Society and allied associations are providing material which is going to give us a more accurate foundation for judgment in other fields of history.—Victor S. Clark in an address to the first American conference on business history, Harvard University, December 30, 1930.

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Editor's Note

This is the last issue of the Business History Review that will bear my name on the masthead as Editor. I have resigned from the faculty of Harvard University as of December 31, 1981, to become the first John Gillett and Augusta Smith Oglesby Professor of the American Heritage at Bradley University. This is a joint appointment as professor of history in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and of business administration in the College of Business Administration. It gives me at least one-half of my time, with generous financial support, for research, writing, and travel, some of the fruits of which I hope will one day appear in this Review.

My five years with the Review — which is probably about as long as anyone should edit a scholarly journal — have brought me at least two valuable possessions that could not be so readily acquired in any other way. One is an appreciation of the profound importance of the scholarly journal to any branch of human intellectual endeavor. I have enjoyed more than I can say the experience of working with authors to help them bring their work to their public in the most effective manner. "Every author needs an editor," I like to say, for without this indispensable service it would be vastly more difficult for young scholars to develop an effective essay style, or for experienced ones to hit their mark squarely.

The Review is nothing less than the natural extension of the teaching function of a great university. Harvard is to be honored for having continued to extend this vital helping hand through prosperity and depression, peace and war, and methodological debate. From Henrietta Larson's Vol. I, No. 1 to Albro Martin's Vol. LV, No. 3, is more than half a century and I know that this great institution will not allow this or any other of its proud traditions to languish.

The other possession I speak of is the impressive number of professional associates whom I have made as a result of my editorship. If I can be of help to you in the future, please don't hesitate to call on me as I have never hesitated to call on you.

With the title of Managing Editor, James E. Fell, Jr., the Harvard-Newcomen Fellow for 1981-1982, will edit the Review through next summer at which time a new Editor will be announced. I know he will receive the fine cooperation from our profession that I have enjoyed, and I wish him a splendid success.

— A.M.