

**BEYOND EQUALITY:
Labor and the Radical
Republicans, 1862-1872**
by David Montgomery
Univ. of Ill., 1981
552 pp. \$9.95 (paper only)

When this book was first published in 1967, historians who might have praised it were preoccupied. Many Reconstruction scholars were busy rescuing the Radical Republicans from attacks by Charles Beard and others of the Progressive school. (Beard had viewed the Radical's push for freedmen's rights as a "smoke screen" for Northeastern businessmen attempting to dominate the South.) Recently, studies of slavery, notably by Herbert Gutman and Eugene Genovese, have removed all occasion for surprise that most freedmen no more agreed with the Radicals than with their ex-masters on what their "freedom" should entail. Montgomery, a Yale historian, uncovers a different twist. He shows that the Radical politicians—men such as Charles Sumner of Massachusetts and William D. "Pig Iron" Kelley of Pennsylvania—also failed to see eye to eye with the Northern working class. Northeastern Republicans in Congress sincerely advocated "equality before the law" for Southern blacks. But although sympathetic, many, in the end, were unable to recognize the claims of white factory workers clamoring for better conditions, more pay, and an eight-hour day. The result was the collapse of the Radicals as a force in the North—as well as in the South. Montgomery unravels the party realignments that occurred as industrialization brought U.S. politics to maturity. He also writes with urbanity and humor. It is a pleasure to welcome *Beyond Equality* back into print.

—B. J. Fields ('80)

**CHRIST: The Experience
of Jesus as Lord**
by Edward Schillebeeckx
Crossroad, 1980
925 pp. \$29.50

Following on his *Jesus: An Experiment in Christology*, Belgium's prolific Dominican, Schillebeeckx, continues his monumental (but still unfinished) study of Christ. He focuses on the Christian experience of grace and liberation. Schillebeeckx argues that it is impossible to accept the Christian revelation before one has learned to live it. Through an exhaustive analysis of New Testament texts, he shows how the first Christians, by recalling the career of Jesus and by following