
NEW TITLES

*History***THE BLACK FAMILY IN
SLAVERY AND FREEDOM,
1750-1925**

By Herbert G. Gutman
Pantheon, 1976, 664 pp. \$15.95
L of C 76-7550
ISBN 0-394-47116-4

**PERSPECTIVES AND
IRONY IN AMERICAN
SLAVERY**

Edited by Harry P. Owens
Univ. Press of Miss., 1976
188 pp. \$8.50 cloth,
\$3.50 paper
L of C 76-18283
ISBN 0-87805-074-4
ISBN 0-87805-025-6 pbk.

**TOWARD A WARLESS
WORLD: The Travail of the
American Peace Movement,
1887-1914**

By David S. Patterson
Indiana, 1976, 339 pp. \$15
L of C 75-28916
ISBN 0-253-36019-6

For decades, American historians put credence in Ulrich Bonnell Phillips's *American Negro Slavery*, an anatomy of the South's "peculiar institution" that appeared in 1918. Later researchers focused on slavery's variety or long-term impact on Afro-Americans. Only recently have young revisionists examined the life of the slaves themselves; Gutman's new book is an awkwardly constructed but important example of this approach. He depicts the ironically persistent cohesiveness of the black family in the face of the slave masters. Its eventual fragmentation, he contends, came with the Great Depression, much later than other historians have assumed.

For the general reader, the results of additional recent research appear in handy form in papers given at a University of Mississippi conference in 1975. The essays edited by Owens provide a sampling of new methodologies and points of view that preoccupy contemporary historians. They include Carl Degler's comparisons of slavery in the United States and Latin America, Eugene Genovese's Marxist analysis, David Brion Davis's discussion of slavery's impact on the "American mind," Stanley Engerman's "cliometrics," William K. Scarborough's unyielding faith in the "virtues" of the slave South, John Blassingame's view of the "slave community," and Kenneth Stamp's reminder that historians in this field must depend on "treacherous," elusive sources.

In this balanced critique, Colgate historian David S. Patterson examines the American peace movement before World War I, a time of general tranquility and expanding interest in international affairs. Placing his subject in the broad context of the Progressive era, he shows that a general "shift in emphasis from