

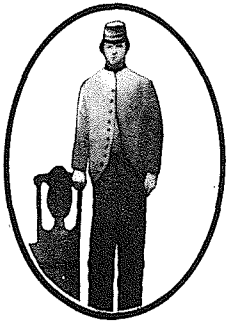
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**NEW TITLES**


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*History*

**MY DEAR PARENTS:  
The Civil War Seen by an  
English Union Soldier**  
by James Horrocks  
Harcourt, 1983  
188 pp. \$13.95



Named in a paternity suit over a child he claimed was not his own, Horrocks, the author of these entertaining letters, fled his hometown of Farnworth, England, in 1863, hoping for a kinder fate in America, then torn by the Civil War. Enticed by a \$288 bounty, he enlisted, at age 19, as a private in the New Jersey Volunteers under the Scottish pseudonym Andrew Ross. ("The English are very unpopular here, but the Scotch are a sort of go-between.") From 1863 to 1865, Horrocks sent regular bulletins home from Virginia, relating personal anecdotes about his fellow soldiers, describing battles and skirmishes around such places as Fortress Monroe and Richmond, and remarking upon the peculiar etiquette of war: "These pickets do not fire at each other. . . . It could not advance the cause or strategy of either side and consequently a kind of friendship is established. . . ." Complaining of the private's lot, and always scheming for promotion, Horrocks still found camp life generally comfortable. Like most of his fellow volunteers, Horrocks was indifferent to the Union cause and gave little thought to the issues of slavery and secession. (In fact, he wrote rather snidely about a black candidate for the "colored troops" who could not name the principal Russian seaport or distinguish between a right and obtuse angle.) But his constant optimism—possibly feigned to comfort his parents—and his foreigner's eye put the soldier's life during the Civil War in a distinctively fresh perspective.

**CLARENDON AND  
THE ENGLISH  
REVOLUTION**  
by R. W. Harris  
Stanford, 1983  
456 pp. \$39.50

According to T. S. Eliot, writing in 1947, "The [English] civil war of the 17th century . . . has never been concluded." Apparently, it still has not. *Clarendon and the English Revolution* is of particular value to American partisans in the hostilities. England's bitter revolution was in so many ways a prelude to America's that Yankees have long been disposed to take the side of the Englishmen who not only rebelled against but beheaded King Charles I.

Harris, a historian formerly of King's School, Canterbury, deplors the spirit of intolerance and violence that prevailed among the King's enemies. His biography of Henry Hyde (1609–1674), first earl of Clarendon and loyal supporter of the monarchy during England's experiment with republican government from 1649 to 1660, is a hymn to such royalist virtues as tradition, reason, moderation, and reconciliation. Clarendon sometimes vanishes in the fascinating welter of details about the battles between the House of Commons and Charles I, the execution of the King in 1649, and the triumphant return of Charles II in 1660. But toward the end of Harris's book, Clarendon comes more into his own. In 1667, he was exiled to France by Charles II, the "merry monarch" by then grown weary of his Chancellor's censorious counsel and in need of a scapegoat on whom to blame England's debacles in the Anglo-Dutch War. Clarendon, ever his sovereign's loyal servant, died in exile but not before completing his *History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars in England* (published 1702–04), on which, writes Harris, "in a sense this whole book has been in the nature of a commentary."

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE FAMILY AND  
MARRIAGE IN EUROPE**

by Jack Goody  
Cambridge, 1983  
308 pp. \$39.50 cloth,  
\$12.95 paper

Before the end of the fourth century A.D., Europe was not radically different from North Africa, Asia, or the Near East in its marital customs and domestic arrangements. Close marriage (the practice of marrying relatives) was common, even encouraged; a bachelor was obliged to marry his brother's widow; and adoption was routine. All of this began changing, says Goody, a Cambridge University anthropologist, as the Christian Church, under the aegis of Rome's converted Emperor Constantine (A.D. 280–337), shifted from being a loosely organized sect to a "property-holding corporation, capable of acquiring land by gift, by inheritance, or by purchase." Faced with growing responsibilities, including the care and feeding of its ecclesiastical ranks, the church began supporting a system of marital injunctions that would tend, over time, to make it harder for families to accu-