
NEW TITLES

*History***DIARY OF MY TRAVELS
IN AMERICA**

by Louis-Philippe, King of
France, 1830–1848; Preface
by Henry Steele Commager
Delacorte, 1977
202 pp. \$14.95
L of C No. 77-23955
ISBN: 0-440-01844-7

France supplied several chroniclers of life in the nation-in-the-rough that was the United States in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Following Crèvecoeur and Brissot but preceding Tocqueville was a young Bourbon prince, Louis-Philippe, Duc d'Orléans, who in 1830 became his country's king. Banished to America during the French Revolution, and lacking the funds to keep up with Philadelphia's high society, Louis-Philippe in 1797, at the age of 23, set out on horseback to explore the country. He went as far south as New Orleans, as far west as the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and as far north as Portland, Maine. Only a fraction of the journal he kept remains. What survives is in part a travelers' guide to country inns and roads, in part the musings of a homesick young Frenchman ("A landscape cannot be beautiful where there are only trees"). Pluck, humor, and an aristocratic sensibility flavor his observations. Westward migrants were "the most villainous breed of men I have ever come across . . . crude, lazy, and inhospitable to an extreme." Cherokee tribesmen looked "as Capuchin monks would . . . if they let the hair grow inside their aureoles."

ANYANG

by Li Chi
Univ. of Wash., 1978
304 pp. \$25
L of C 75-40873
ISBN 0-295490-5

At the turn of this century, Chinese antiquarians discovered "oracle bones" (tortoise shells on which diviners asked questions of the gods) near Anyang in Honan Province. During the drought of 1920, hunger spurred village diggers to find and sell many such artifacts to collectors and commercial dealers. But systematic excavations could not begin until a new generation of Chinese archaeologists, influenced by the West, broke through traditional taboos segregating book learning and field labor. Finally, in 1927, a major series of digs led by Harvard-trained anthropologist Li Chi got started. His book is