

too deeply, he has shown the effects of two disastrous marriages—one to Dorothea Lange—on Dixon's work. Throughout the book Burnside's economy of words and detail seems to speak of the man Dixon. One gathers that Dixon also would have appreciated Burnside's economy, just as Dixon wasted no lines or details in his forceful, dramatic Indian portraits and landscapes. Because Burnside rarely peers beneath the surface—in fact, seems to have had few facts about Dixon's personal life—one gathers that the artist was a loner, a man with few close friends. Dixon seemed to value communication with the public through his pictures more than communication with his fellow artists. Naturally the reader is left wishing for a more intimate portrait.

Dixon's record speaks well for itself. His earth-colored pictures, his stoic Indians, his homage to the cowboy and buffalo of the nineteenth century are familiar to most Westerners and are considered a part of Western history.

Brigham Young University Press has given both Burnside, a professor of art history there, and Dixon a splendid format—a handsome, oversized book lavish with wide margins, thirty-two color plates, and eighty-three black and white plates. Just as helpful to the scholar are the appendices: a catalog of Dixon's oil paintings, his illustrations in books and periodicals, his exhibitions, and the locations of his murals.

Kane, Elizabeth Wood. *Twelve Mormon Homes Visited in Succession on a Journey Through Utah to Arizona*. Introduction and notes by Everett L. Cooley. Salt Lake City: Tanner Trust Fund, University of Utah Library, 1974. xxi, 149 pp. \$12.00.

Reviewed by Eugene E. Campbell, professor of history at Brigham Young University.

This interesting book, first published in 1874 in a limited edition, is now made available to a wider audience through the efforts of the Tanner Trust Fund, and the University of Utah Library, under the general editorship of Everett L. Cooley—reprinted as a part of the series on "Utah, the Mormons and the West." *Twelve Mormon Homes* meets the

series' stipulations that their publications should "have intellectual appeal as accurate history and . . . emotional interest as good literature" in an admirable way. It presents a valuable historical picture of home and community life in several Utah towns visited by Elizabeth and Thomas Kane in the course of a trip with Brigham Young from Salt Lake City to St. George in December 1872. In addition, it gives important insights into the character and personality of Brigham Young in his declining years, and a view of polygamy through the eyes of a cultured Easterner, who was much opposed to the practice, but sympathetic to those who practiced it—especially the women.

The literary style is an intimate conversational narrative written by an intelligent, educated lady who realized that she was having a rare experience and wanted to make the most of it. Her descriptions of the scenery, homes, customs, food, religious attitudes and practices, and personalities help to make her book very interesting reading. Her allusions to well-known books and historical personalities give an added dimension to the somewhat folksy travelogue.

One of the most interesting contributions of the book is her impressions of Brigham Young, who had been indicted for adultery and murder a year before, and had been under house arrest for 120 days earlier in 1872. The Mormon leader's appearance, attitudes, and sources of power were carefully observed by his Eastern guest. She was amused by his odd traveling costume, "a great surtout, reaching almost to his feet, of dark-green cloth (Mahomet color?) lined with fur; a fur collar, cap, and a pair of sealskin boots with undyed fur outward [and] . . . a hideous pair of green goggles." But when he removed the goggles, and she met his "keen, blue-gray eyes . . . with their characteristic look of shrewd and cunning insight," she felt "no further inclination to laugh." She was amused at his insistence that every food cover on the table be removed when he pronounced grace and worried about the food getting cold as the prayers were prolonged. But she recognized him to be an effective leader:

I noticed that he never seemed uninterested, but gave an unforced attention to the person addressing him, which suggested a mind free from care. I used to fancy that he wasted a great deal of power in this way; but I soon saw

that he was accumulating it. Power, I mean, at least as the driving wheel of his people's industry.

Although she shows a constant interest in polygamy as practiced by her various hosts, she never speculates about Brigham Young's numerous families.

Everett Cooley's introduction gives valuable information about Thomas L. Kane's relationship with the Mormons, including a revisionist view concerning his early motives for befriending the Saints. The editor's footnotes are almost all of an explanatory nature, made necessary by Elizabeth Kane's attempt to conceal her hosts' identities by changing their names. Cooley's identification of these people along with other biographical notes makes Mrs. Kane's narrative much more interesting and informative.

There is very little to criticize about this publication. Perhaps some mention could have been made about Thomas Kane's role in publicizing myths concerning the seagull and cricket episode of 1848, but this is a relatively minor matter. One disappointing aspect of the book is that it ends too soon—just when they arrive in St. George. There is no description of the two-month stay in Utah's Dixie. The editor has attempted to supply this information but is not even certain of their place of residence. Perhaps more extensive research will fill this gap in the Kanes' interesting and informative experience.

Rhodehamel, Josephine DeWitt, and Raymund Francis Wood. *Ina Coolbrith: Librarian and Laureate of California*. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1973. 531 pp. \$11.95.

Reviewed by Helen Hinckley Jones, writer and recently retired teacher of creative writing at Pasadena City College.

Can one, after reading a book twice, write an objective critical review of a biography which is the result of years of careful, even loving research? One need only scan the fifty pages in small print of footnotes and the thirty pages of bibliography to get an idea of the time and care that have gone into the effort to make Ina Coolbrith live for a new generation.