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*Steel Remembered: Photographs from the LTV Steel Collection*  
(review)

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commodities and establishment of the “corn belt”; settlement in remote areas of the state; agrarian leaders; and perseverance of Indiana agriculturalists in the late nineteenth century in competition with others of the Midwest and Corn Belt. Finally, he completes the text with a glimpse into the twentieth century and advances that would be made. Although each chapter does address Indiana and its early settlers, the examples are few and not consistent throughout the text. At times the text itself is vague and too general. The greater importance of Salstrom’s manuscript is the placement of Indiana, its pioneers, and family farming within the larger context of American agriculture prior to the twentieth century. Salstrom’s use of statistics and trends within the larger subfield of agricultural history adds to this study.

Written as a brief study of Indiana’s farming history, while providing the larger agricultural context, the book also includes an extensive list of sources and source citations. Although primary and unpublished sources are few, the list of secondary sources cited is all inclusive. Chapters contain extensive citations, and although chapter text rarely identifies scholars, the presence of the notes and the bibliography allows readers to find sources. It is from the source list that readers can view the breadth of this work, rather than from the text itself. *From Pioneering to Persevering: Family Farming in Indiana to 1880* gives a small glimpse of Indiana pioneer agriculture and the traditions of family farming, but readers will have a hard time answering the “whys.”

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*Steel Remembered: Photographs from the LTV Steel Collection.* By Christopher J. Dawson. (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2008. xvi, 155 pp. Cloth \$39.00, ISBN 978-0-87338-911-2.)

We are accustomed to photographs of deserted, rusted, and decayed steel mills that graphically depict the nation’s rust belt in decline. With this volume of remarkable photographs culled from the LTV Steel Collection, Christopher J. Dawson reminds us of the time when the steel industry was the nation’s economic pacesetter. The Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) acquired the collection, one of the largest collections of steel industry records in the United States, after the bankruptcy of LTV. In addition to print records, the collection includes thousands of photographs. For *Steel Remembered*, Dawson, who was curator of Urban and Industrial History at the WRHS, selected photographs of Republic Steel, Otis Steel, and Cor-rigan, McKinney Steel mills, most located in Ohio. Taken between 1910 and 1970 by unnamed photographers for company publications and records, the images are good examples of industrial photography and are interesting to business and labor historians.

A lively and informative preface describes the acquisition, processing, and distribution of the massive steel industry collection. A clearly written and instructive overview of the steelmaking process, past and present, follows. Three separate chapters then offer concise and straightforward business histories of each of the three firms—all of which became part of LTV—followed by photographs. The photos in the Corrigan, McKinney Steel chapter are of the building of the plant in 1914 and 1915. There is scant human activity in these monumental construction photographs, although in most at least one figure or automobile emphasizes the scale of the buildings. The photos of the Otis Steel mill are not the famous ones taken by photojournalist Margaret Bourke-White. Shot by staff photographers for Otis Steel's in-house magazine, these photos nevertheless are important because they show workers as well as work processes in the 1930s. Interior shots of the mill include workers whose inadequate safety gear heightens the manifest danger of steel jobs. Work crew photos provide employees' names that call attention to diverse ethnic backgrounds. Two photographs on facing pages speak to racial segregation in the steel industry: on the left the blooming mill crew is all white; all the blooming mill slab yard workers on the right are black.

The Republic Steel chapter has stunning photos of blast furnace casts, Bessemer converter blasts, open hearth and electric furnace tappings, basic oxygen furnace charges, teeming, running ingots, and cold-rolled, coiled, and polished steel. Taken from the 1930s through the 1960s, these pictures document change over time. Open hearth furnaces and hot strip mills in the 1930s exposed workers to all kinds of dangers. But basic oxygen furnaces and other technological advances by the 1960s placed workers in control rooms where they observed rather than physically controlled the process.

*Steel Remembered* is neither labor history nor business history. The photographs that Christopher Dawson has selected, however, inform them. And this absorbing book should encourage scholars to use the LTV Steel Collection to write them.

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*A Little More Freedom: African Americans Enter the Urban Midwest, 1860–1930.* By Jackson S. Blocker. (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2008. xviii, 330 pp. Cloth \$49.95, ISBN 978-0-8142-1067-3.)

*A Little More Freedom* is a provocative and engaging examination of African American migration to lower urban midwestern communities in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois between the Civil War and the Great Depression. This compelling social, cultural, and political analysis traces the movement of a race of people struggling for complete citizenship in America. The narrative chal-