

**THE DAMNABLE QUESTION: A Study in Anglo-Irish Relations**

By George Dangerfield  
 Atlantic-Little, Brown, 1976  
 400 pp. \$14.95  
 L of C 76-5456  
 ISBN 0-316-17200-6

In elegant prose, George Dangerfield, a distinguished English historian, provides a compelling account of the evolution of the "Irish problem" from 1800 until the Anglo-Irish treaty in 1921. Concentrating on the years 1912 to 1921, he terms the Easter Rebellion of 1916 "a point of no return." The brutal British reaction to the Dublin uprising converted a minority revolutionary movement into a popular cause. The settlement of 1921 divided Ireland and, Dangerfield contends, left "no chance" as the revolution in the South continued "to test the concept of an Irish Republic for a United Ireland"—the only solution that might have worked.

**URBAN SLAVERY IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH 1820-1860: A Quantitative History**

By Claudia Dale Goldin  
 Univ. of Chicago, 1976  
 168 pp. \$12.95  
 L of C 75-20887  
 ISBN 0-226-30104-4

For decades historians have agreed that slavery in the cities of the American South gradually diminished because the conditions of urban life made the use of slaves expensive and inefficient. Goldin rejects this assumption as uncritical acceptance of arguments made by white laborers who were rivals for jobs in the slavery era. Reexamining the question, she finds instead that the costs of keeping slaves in cities ran no higher than in the country, that slaves worked well apart from their masters without the threat of the lash, and that urban slave prices were comparable to those in rural regions. In short, slavery before the Civil War was not simply a rural phenomenon but flourished in the cities as well. Goldin's econometrical approach, using such prosaic data as price indexes, demonstrates again the worth of continued reexamination of the history of slavery in America.

**GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY IN THE WILSON ERA: The U.S. Navy in Haiti, 1915-1916**

By David Healy  
 Univ. of Wis., 1976  
 268 pp. \$15  
 L of C 75-32074  
 ISBN 0-299-06980-X

Implicit in this compact monograph are some parallels to recent U.S. interventions overseas. David Healy of the University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee) shows that Woodrow Wilson, despite his calls for spreading democracy and self-government, treated the Caribbean as an American lake and the Haitians as children in need of guidance. The principal instruments of his paternalism were U.S. Navy officers, who took on unwonted