
B O O K N O T E S

Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane. By James D. McLaird. (Pierre: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, South Dakota Biography Series, 2008, ix + 174 pages, paper \$12.95.)

This second offering in the South Dakota Biography Series, put out by that state's historical society, examines how the stories of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane came to be so closely entwined in our cultural memory. Although James Butler Hickok and Martha Canary were not much more than acquaintances, who were in Deadwood at the same time for only a few weeks, they are buried beside one another and live on as a pair in literature and film. In this volume, historian James D. McLaird explores the intersections between myth and reality as he reconstructs the lives of two of America's most notorious wild westerners.