

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

County Archives of the State of Illinois (Illinois State Historical Library, *Collections*, vol. 12, *Bibliographical Series*, vol. 3). By THEODORE CALVIN PEASE, University of Illinois. (Springfield, Illinois State Historical Library, 1915. cxli, 730 p.)

The liberal appropriations for research and publication made by the state of Illinois to its historical library are fully justified by the appearance of this valuable inventory of the public records in its county courthouses. Other states have in recent years recognized the importance of such records by providing for commissioners to supervise their making and preservation, but Illinois alone has had the foresight to institute a comprehensive survey of the situation and to make the results of that survey available by publication. The amount of labor involved in such an enterprise is by no means inconsiderable, as can be seen from the fact that the work has been under way in Illinois since 1911. The expenditure of so much money and labor will never be regretted, however, for there is now available in print for the use not only of historical students but of all who are concerned with public records—and who is not?—a detailed descriptive statement of just what records are to be found in each of the county depositories.

While the bulk of the volume is of interest only to the people of Illinois, the introduction of one hundred and forty pages has a wide application. It is the only comprehensive study that has ever been made of American local records and sets forth clearly the character and content of such records, their historical value, and the necessity for revision and supervision of the methods by which they are made and cared for. The development of each recording office and of each class of records is traced from the beginning with constant reference to the controlling statutes. The frequency with which the laws of the state have been ignored or set at naught by the officials is surprising, but still more startling are the conclusions as to the safety of the existing records. Despite the fact that practically all the records of several counties have been destroyed by fire, entailing great incon-

venience and financial loss to the community, as well as making impossible an adequate knowledge of its history, nearly half of the counties of the state are still without fireproof courthouses. Some counties have the more important records in supposedly fireproof vaults, but it is asserted that "in nearly one-fifth of the counties of Illinois, the records are in immediate danger of wholesale destruction by fire." Nor is fire the only source of danger, for there are numerous instances of the wanton destruction of records by officials ignorant of their value. It is greatly to be hoped that the publication of this volume will arouse in officials and in the general public a greater sense of responsibility in archive matters, and that the excellent recommendations set forth will be made effective by legislation.

In the body of the book the counties are taken up in alphabetical order, with the exception of Cook which is treated first. In each case an introductory note describes the courthouse and indicates the provisions for the care of the archives. Then follow itemized inventories, classified usually under such headings as county commissioners' and supervisors' records, county court records, taxation records, records of vital statistics, probate court records, records of wills, bonds, and letters, circuit court records, and recorders' records. For each item inclusive dates and the number of volumes or filing boxes are given, and generally the present location of the material is indicated. Too often serious gaps in the records are disclosed.

The successful completion of this monumental work ought to stimulate other states to undertake a similar survey of their county archives. That the local records of Illinois have not been and are not being properly cared for is now definitely established. Is there any good reason for thinking that the situation is much better in the other states of the Northwest?

S. J. B.

Pioneer Laymen of North America. By the REV. T. J. CAMPBELL, S. J. Volume 1. (New York, The America Press, 1915. xvii, 287 p.)

This is the first of two volumes designed as companion books to the author's *Pioneer Priests of North America* (New York, 1908-11. 3 v.). It contains "condensed and somewhat rapid

narrations of the lives of" Cartier, Menéndez, Champlain, Maisonneuve, Charles le Moyne, and Radisson. The Catholic point of view is apparent throughout, and the didactic and controversial character of the work can be inferred from a sentence of the introduction: "From all [of the characters treated], however, lessons of conduct may be learned, and, here and there, in the course of a narrative, it is possible to correct certain false appreciations of facts and motives which a class of biased writers have fastened on American history." Students of Minnesota history will be most interested in the sketch of Radisson. Father Campbell assumes that the "two courageous young Frenchmen" who went into the interior in 1654 and returned in 1656 were Radisson and Groseilliers, but he gives no details about their first western expedition. The expedition of 1658-60 to Lake Superior and Minnesota is recounted briefly, and the alleged discovery of the Mississippi is discussed. The author apparently does not believe that Radisson saw the great river.

The volume is illustrated with a number of portraits and contains a list of books consulted. There are no footnote references, and the index is quite inadequate. A number of misprints are corrected on an errata slip, but others may be noted, as "on" for "one" (p. 238). The "war-whoop" of the United States at the time of the Oregon controversy was not "Forty-four fifty" but "Fifty-four forty or fight" (p. 283).

Minnesota, Its Story and Biography. By HENRY A. CASTLE and board of advisory editors. (Chicago and New York, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1915. 3 v.)

In their origin and root meanings story and history are alike. The former word is used in the title of this work, apparently as a mere synonym of history; but perhaps it is intended to carry a distinct significance, that the theme is treated in the style of the news reporter and editor. Twenty years in Minnesota journalism, between fifty and thirty years ago, gave to Captain Castle the skill and temperament which are discernible throughout volume 1, imparting enjoyable spice and flavor. Volumes 2 and 3 comprise about 1,760 biographical sketches of Minnesota people, mostly

now living, who have been prominent in the activities of state building and development.

Description and history of Minnesota, forming the first volume, are arranged in forty chapters. The first five relate chiefly to the physical geography, climate, early explorations, the Indian tribes and missions, and the fur-trade. Next are five chapters on the composite character of the immigration, from the older states and from foreign countries, by which this state has been settled, on early social conditions, on the boundaries of counties and the origin of their names, and on political history. Chapters 11 and 15 comprise treaties and wars with the red men, records and incidents in the war for the Union and in the Spanish-American War, and a concise cyclopedia of Minnesota chronology from 1362 to 1915. Chapters 16 to 20 relate to the capitol and the state government, to the common school system and colleges and universities, to agricultural education and the state and county fairs, and to Minnesota art schools and collections. The next five chapters treat of the activities and influence of women, of the state correctional and benevolent institutions, of the Minnesota National Guard and patriotic societies and institutions, of mail, telegraph, and telephone service, and of Minnesota journalism, literature, and libraries. Chapters 26 to 30 take up the railway system, banking and commerce and the great industries, religious organizations, and the natural resources and state parks. Another group of five chapters treats of the mainly grain-raising parts of the state, of its dairy and live-stock regions, of its products of fruits and vegetables, and of its timbered and mineral regions. Finally, five chapters are devoted to historical and descriptive notices of the large towns and cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul having each about twenty pages.

In covering so many subjects, of so diverse and wide range, some desirable parts of the narrative are scantily presented or even omitted; and a judicial review of motives, and of the moral or even the prudential quality of the chief actors in the history of the state, is not usually attempted. A complete and critical history of Minnesota waits yet to be published; but we are certainly much indebted to the author of this work for his collection of abundant and very interesting parts of this history, written always in an attractive and instructive manner.

The index, which fills twenty double-column pages, is sufficiently reliable for its citations of biographies; but it would be more convenient if some mark, as an asterisk, were to indicate such as are accompanied with portraits. In respect to other references the index is deficient of some which may be often sought by historical readers. For example, in a perusal of the first fifteen chapters the following references, besides many others, are found needful to be added: Adams, Rev. Moses N., 61; Andrews, Gen. C. C., 122, 185; Baker, Gen. James H., 40, 131; Bemidji, Ojibway chief, 165-66; Brower, Hon. J. V., 2; Carver, Jonathan, 31, 75, 150, 216; Castle, Henry A., 12, 148, 202-8; Donnelly, Ignatius, 120-22; Du Luth, explorer, 26, 37, 215; Flandrau, Charles E., 59, 94, 95; Fort Snelling, 40-46; Gear, Rev. E. G., 57; Graham, Duncan, 39; Groseilliers, 23, 32-36, 215; Hammond, Gov. Winfield S., 132; Hennepin, explorer, 26, 37, 38; Hubbard, Gov. L. F., 120-22, 185; Ireland, Archbishop, 12, 15; Kemper, Bishop Jackson, 58; Le Sueur, explorer, 23, 24, 37, 38, 149, 215; Long, Major Stephen H., 74; McMillan, Samuel J. R., 125, 126; Nelson, Knute, 123; Ordinance of 1787, 75-79; Perrot, explorer, 23, 28; Pike, Zebulon M., 24, 75, 216; Pond, Samuel W., and Gideon H., 60, 61; Radisson, 23, 32-36, 215; Ramsey, Alexander, 125, 130, 131, 174; Renville, Gabriel, 177-82; Renville, Joseph, 66; Rice, Henry M., 117, 122; Seward, William H., 110; Sibley, Henry H., 70, 117, 122, 130, 175; Taliaferro, Lawrence, 153; Verendrye, 23; Williamson, Rev. T. S., 60, 61; Winchell, Prof. Newton H., 2, 3, 8, 9; Windom, William, 123, 129.

For the biographies in this work, and in others sold like it by a canvass for subscribers, accuracy is generally attained as to dates, events, and names, because the details for the editor's use are supplied by the persons who are so commemorated, or, in the case of those who are deceased, by their kindred and friends. Much editorial care is also given to them, that they may receive the approval of subscribers who appear in the biographic list.

WARREN UPHAM

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

At the stated meeting of the executive council on October 11 a paper by Theodore C. Blegen on "James W. Taylor and American-Canadian Relations, 1859-93" was read by the secretary in the absence of Mr. Blegen. This paper consisted of several sections of the article by Mr. Blegen printed in this issue of the BULLETIN. At the December meeting of the council no papers will be read, but a report of the executive committee on the progress of the building will be presented, and an opportunity will be given for the members to examine the plans and specifications. A plaster model of the building, which has been installed in the society's museum, also will be on exhibition. The annual meeting of the society will take place on Monday evening, January 10, 1916. After a short business meeting in the rooms of the society, the annual address will be delivered in the senate chamber by President George E. Vincent of the University of Minnesota. His subject will be "The Social Memory."

Reviews or notices, generally commendatory in character, of volume 15 of the *Collections* have been noted as follows: *American Review of Reviews*, November (p. 636); *Midland of Iowa City*, August (p. 279); *The Nation*, September 23 (p. 388); *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, October (p. 582); *Indiana Magazine of History*, September (p. 276); *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, August 22; and *Duluth Herald*, August 7. The report of the museum committee on the Kensington Runestone, although originally published in separate form several years ago, appears to have attracted more attention than anything else in the volume. Identical notices of this report were published in the *Battle Lake Review*, July 29, and the *Northfield Norwegian American*, July 30. Other parts of the volume were reviewed in the *Minneapolis Journal*, August 15; *West St. Paul Times*, August 7; and *North St. Paul Sentinel*, August 27. The *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of September 5 printed a summary, with many quotations, of Mrs. Cathcart's "Sheaf of Remembrances"; and Dr. William E. Leonard's "Early Days in Minneapolis" was reprinted in full in

the *Minneapolis Journal* under the heading "How a Boy Watched a Great City Grow."

Mr. Warren Upham, who now holds the position of archeologist on the staff of the society, is engaged in the compilation of a work on "Minnesota Geographic Names." Including counties, townships, villages, cities, post offices, railroad stations, rivers, creeks, and lakes, there are some five thousand geographic names of historical significance in Minnesota. Mr. Upham is ascertaining, by means of county histories and other publications, records in the county auditors' offices, and interviews with old settlers, the origin and significance of as many as possible of these names, and the results will be published as one of the volumes of the *Collections*. The necessary field work in twenty-two counties in the northern part of the state was done a number of years ago, and the compiler expects to visit the remaining counties during the summer of 1916. It is hoped that local antiquarians will render him as much assistance as possible.

At a "book symposium," held by the Minnesota Library Association, September 17, as part of one of the sessions of its annual meeting, the superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society discussed the opportunities of local libraries for "Collecting Local History Material." On October 28 he spoke before a joint session of the history and civics and economics divisions of the Minnesota Educational Association on "What can be Done with Local, State, and Western History."

Ungdommens Ven, a Norwegian magazine published in Minneapolis, contains in the issue of July 15 an article on "The Minnesota Historical Society—Why of Particular Interest to Scandinavians?" by Theodore Blegen. The article is printed in English.

BUILDING PROGRESS

An unavoidable delay in sending this issue of the BULLETIN to the press makes possible an announcement of the actual beginning of work on the construction of the building for the society. The plans as originally drawn made provision in the building for the society, the state archives, and the public library commission. Later, however, in view of the crowded condition

of the capitol, it was decided to assign quarters in the building temporarily to the department of education as well, and this necessitated a revision of the plans and a giving-up by the society of its auditorium and other rooms. It is believed that the state will, in the near future, construct an office building to house its rapidly increasing activities, and when that time comes the space now assigned to the department of education will probably be restored to the society and the state archives.

The plans having been accepted by all parties concerned, the architect advertised for bids October 22, 1915, November 16 being fixed as the date for the opening of the bids. Separate bids were called for on general construction, heating, plumbing, electrical work, and elevators. When the bids were opened on November 16, the figures of the lowest bidders were so high as to make it appear that the building could not be constructed within the appropriation. The bid sheets, however, provided for various alternatives of material and types of construction and by taking advantage of these alternatives, it was possible to cut down very materially the amount of the figures. Certain changes were then made in the specifications for the building, the most important being the omission of the book stack equipment from the ground floor of the main stack room, and changes in the cutting and arrangement of the stone. No changes were made, however, which would seriously affect the first-class character of the building throughout. New bid sheets were drawn up providing for bids on the revised specifications, and the two lowest of the original bidders on general construction were invited to submit new bids. These were opened on November 29 and after a careful consideration of the various alternatives, the general construction contract was awarded on the following day to the George J. Grant Construction Company of St. Paul. The contracts for mechanical equipment were let December 3 on the basis of the original bids and alternatives as follows: heating, to George M. McGeary and Son of St. Paul; plumbing, to M. J. O'Neill of St. Paul; electrical equipment, to the Electrical Construction Company of St. Paul; elevators, to the Otis Elevator Company of Chicago.

The wrecking of the house on the site and the work of excavation was begun by the contractor December 7, and it is expected

that the excavation will be completed and the tunnel to the heating plant constructed during the winter. The contract calls for the completion of the building on or before October 1, 1917, and if no unexpected obstacles are encountered it will probably be completed several months before that date. A description of the building as it is now planned will be published in a future issue of the BULLETIN.

GIFTS

Mr. Victor Robertson has presented to the society a collection of papers, notes, and miscellanies of his father Colonel D. A. Robertson; also a number of photographs of Minnesota pioneers; two early publications on the city of Superior, Wisconsin; a Chinese book; a work entitled *The Jews at K'ai-Fung-Foo*, published at Shanghai in 1851; and several other pamphlets. Mr. Robertson has also been instrumental in securing gifts for the society from others and has taken steps which, it is hoped, will lead to the future acquisition of several important collections of papers.

Hon. Julius A. Schmahl has presented a manuscript copy of a "History of the Newspapers of Redwood County, Minnesota," which he has just completed. Mr. Schmahl was editor of the *Redwood Falls Gazette* from 1892 to 1906, when he was elected secretary of state. It is expected that some arrangement will be made for the publication of the paper. From Mr. Schmahl has also been received a copy of the *Redwood Falls Patriot* for May 4, 1869. This was the first paper published in the county, and no other issue is known to be in existence. The editor of the *Patriot* was Colonel Samuel McPhail.

Mr. W. A. Marin of Crookston has presented a typewritten copy of an interview on October 1, 1914, with Benjamin Dalbec, also of Crookston, containing the latter's recollections of the treaty negotiated by Governor Ramsey with the Ojibways at the Old Crossing of the Red Lake River, October 2, 1863.

From the Read's Landing Association of the Twin Cities through its president, Mr. Fred A. Bill, an interesting relic has been received in the shape of a large United States flag made by

the ladies of Read's Landing, Minnesota, in 1862. The flag was accompanied by a letter of presentation from the officers of the association which contains a detailed account of its history. From this it appears that the raising of a Confederate flag in the village by a party of southern sympathizers in the summer of 1862 called attention to the fact that the Republican Club had no flag, and so the ladies proceeded to make one from such materials as could be secured in the local stores. A flag pole one hundred and ten feet high was prepared by the club, and the "raising" was quite an event. The speaker engaged to come down from St. Paul failed to appear, so "the address of the day was delivered by Judge William Cady, a resident of the village with more than a local reputation." After the war the flag became the property of Henry Burkhardt who took it to Crookston, and in July, 1915, his son Otto Burkhardt presented it to the association.

From Mr. J. T. Gerould, librarian of the University of Minnesota, the society has received a number of copies of old newspapers. Of especial interest among them are the *Richmond* (Virginia) *Enquirer*, April 22, 1863, February 27 and November 9, 1864, the *Richmond Examiner*, June 5, 1863, the *Sentinel* of Richmond, March 23, 1864, *Brownlow's Knoxville Whig and Rebel Vindicator*, January 9, 1864, and the *Savannah Republican*, June 3, 1865. These will be welcome additions to the collection of miscellaneous newspapers.

A number of scrapbooks and papers of Rev. E. D. Neill, an early secretary of the society and historical writer, together with annotated copies of some of his books, have been received from his daughter Miss Minnesota Neill of Helena, Montana.

From Mr. Robert L. Schofield of Tacoma, Washington, have been received a number of museum articles including a pair of skates purchased in Red Wing in 1856, and an old trunk covered with calfskin which belonged to his grandfather Simeon Dibble of New York and was brought to Northfield in 1854.

The firm of C. J. Hibbard and Company, commercial and view photographers of Minneapolis, has presented a number of negatives made on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of Capitol and others of the completed building made in 1908.

The firm of Lee Brothers, photographers of Minneapolis, has undertaken to furnish the society with a collection of fine large photographs of prominent people of Minnesota. Lists have been compiled from *Who's Who in America* and other sources, and each individual whose name appears in the lists will be invited to have a picture taken without expense to himself or to the society. It is hoped that all will respond promptly to the invitation, as such a collection, if it can be made reasonably complete, will be of great value, and this value will increase as time passes and new generations come on the stage.

Mrs. John Farrington of St. Paul has presented a number of photographs of pioneer men and women of St. Paul, including those of Mrs. Henry M. Rice, Mrs. William Hollinshead, Miss Eliza Ann Gill, and Colonel Alexander Wilkin. Mr. Charles Borup presented framed pictures of his father Theodore C. Borup and of his grandfather Dr. Charles W. Borup. Both of these donations were secured for the society by Mr. Victor Robertson.

From Miss Delia E. Chaney of St. Paul has been received a collection of books and papers of her father Josiah B. Chaney, who had charge of the society's newspaper department from 1887 to 1908. These include two record books of the St. Paul Academy of Natural Sciences, 1870-83.

A large framed "View of St. Anthony, Minneapolis and St. Anthony's Falls (from Cheever's Tower) drawn from nature by E. Whitefield" and published at St. Anthony in 1857 has been presented by Miss K. E. Hart of St. Paul. The picture is number 39 of "Whitefield's Original Views of North American Cities" and only two or three other copies are known to be in existence.

From Mr. O. G. Hinkleman of Watertown, South Dakota, has been received a souvenir badge of the Philadelphia centennial.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The rapidly growing set of *Illinois Historical Collections* has recently been increased by the publication of two volumes, one of which is reviewed elsewhere in this number. Volume 10 of the set, which is the first volume of the *British Series*, is entitled *The Critical Period, 1763-1765*, and is edited by Clarence W. Alvord and Clarence E. Carter (Springfield, 1915. lvii, 597 p.). It contains a very complete collection of documents gathered from all parts of the United States, France, England, and Canada, illustrative of conditions in the Illinois country during these years, of the attempts of the British to occupy the country, and of the plans for the organization and government of the interior. Many of these documents are necessarily of significance for the history of the whole northwestern region. A second volume of the series is in press, and three or four others which are to follow in rapid succession will carry the story to the end of the British period in 1778.

The New York Historical Association has recently published as volume 13 of its *Proceedings* (1914. 476 p.) the papers read at its fifteenth annual meeting held at Oswego, September 29 to October 2, 1913. One of these papers, by Hon. James A. Holden, the state historian, is of general interest. Under the title "How the State and the Historical Association may be of Mutual Assistance," Mr. Holden sketches the historical work done under the auspices of the state in the past and outlines plans for the future. The recent combination of the work of the state library, the state archivist, the supervisor of records, and the state historian, under the education department, is dwelt upon, and a valuable survey is presented of the organization and activities of state historical societies and departments throughout the country and especially of their relations to, and support by, the state governments. This survey is based upon twenty-five replies to a questionnaire which was sent to all the states of the Union.

A California Historical Survey Commission was established by the last legislature for the purpose of making "a survey of the

material on local history within the State of California by investigating documents in local depositories and in the possession of private individuals and other sources of original information on the early history of the State of California and to compile and keep a record of such sources of information." The act establishing the commission, which went into effect August 11, apparently contemplates a permanent organization. The three members, who serve without pay, are to be appointed by the governor, two of them, however, upon nomination by the regents of the University of California and the officers of the Native Sons of the Golden West, respectively. Ten thousand dollars was appropriated for the expenses of the work, which, it is understood, will be carried on under the direction of the commission by Mr. Owen C. Coy.

The following information about the situation with reference to public archives in various states of the Union is gleaned from the report of the public archives committee of the National Association of State Libraries, published in the *Bulletin* of the American Library Association for July, 1915. The last California legislature appropriated thirty-five hundred dollars for the purchase and installation of equipment to be used for the filing and preservation of documents in the state archives (*Statutes*, 1915, ch. 354). About one third of the probate districts of Connecticut have deposited their files in the state library, and a part of these, numbering three hundred and fifty thousand manuscripts, have been repaired and classified so that they are now easily accessible. Legislation has been secured to enforce the use of permanent inks and papers for the making of records throughout the state. The regular appropriation for archives work has been increased from fifty-five hundred to sixty-five hundred dollars. In Iowa an index in the form of an inventory has been prepared for nearly all of the seventy thousand boxes and bound volumes of manuscript material which have been classified and filed by the archives department. A more detailed index of the papers of the territorial assembly is in course of preparation. The secretary of the State Historical Society of Nebraska reports that the society is charged with the care of the archives of the state, but has accomplished nothing as yet because of lack of space. In New York several

towns have recently sent their older records to the division of public records of the state library for permanent preservation. Many counties, cities, towns, and villages have been forced by state law to purchase safes or otherwise to make provision for the preservation of their records. Similarly in Rhode Island the state record commissioner has induced a number of towns to purchase fireproof receptacles for their records. In general the report shows that the importance of state and local archives is coming more and more to be recognized, but there is still a deplorable lack of attention to the subject in a number of states.

At the fifteenth annual meeting of the State Literary and Historical Association of North Carolina in December, 1914, one of the sessions was devoted to a conference on local history at which such subjects as the classes of material to be used, the importance of economic and social factors, and ways and means of securing the preparation of the right sort of county histories were discussed in a very practical way. The papers read at the conference are included in the *Proceedings* of the association published by the North Carolina Historical Commission as number 18 of its *Bulletins* (Raleigh, 1915. 150 p.).

The semi-centennial of the admission of Nebraska to the Union occurs in 1917, and the state historical society has appointed a large committee of citizens to arrange for the celebration of the event. In Indiana and Illinois elaborate plans are being developed for centennial celebrations in 1916 and 1918 respectively.

The Pennsylvania Historical Society has recently acquired a large collection of papers of Jay Cooke. In view of his connections with Minnesota railroad enterprises these papers ought to contain much material of value for the history of Minnesota.

Under the title "Preserving the Records of the West" in the *Manitoba Free Press* of October 16, Isaac Cowie reviews the work of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, including the four volumes of *Collections* which it has published. Attention is then called to the comatose state of the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, and it is pointed out that the newer prairie provinces are more progressive than Manitoba in caring for their historical and archival interests. Mr. Cowie is

doubtless also to be credited with the article signed "I. C." in the issue of the same paper for October 9. This is entitled "When the First Railway Locomotive Reached Manitoba Thirty-eight Years Ago" and tells, by means of extracts from contemporary papers, the story of the transportation of the old "Countess of Dufferin" down the Red River from Fisher's Landing in Minnesota to Winnipeg in 1877. The engine and several cars were loaded on barges and towed by the steamer "Selkirk."

Minnesota people will be interested in the articles in volume 15 (just out) of the *New International Encyclopædia* on Minneapolis, Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, Minnehaha, Minnesota, University of Minnesota, and Minnesota River. The historical sections of the articles on Minnesota and Minneapolis contain a number of inaccurate statements.

Forty Years in Canada by Colonel S. B. Steele (New York, 1915. xv, 428 p.) contains "reminiscences of the great North-West with some account of his service in South Africa." Colonel Steele was for many years connected with the Northwest Mounted Police, and his book throws light on the development of the western provinces, the history of which has many points of contact with that of Minnesota.

The Diplomacy of the War of 1812 by Frank A. Updyke (Baltimore, 1915. x, 494 p.) has been issued by Johns Hopkins University in its series of *Albert Shaw Lectures on Diplomatic History*. Among the subjects dealt with which have a special bearing on Minnesota history are the proposition for the establishment of a buffer Indian territory between the United States and Canada and the controversy over the boundary from Lake Huron to the Lake of the Woods.

The last section of Professor Knut Gjerset's *History of the Norwegian People* (New York, Macmillan, 1915. 2 v.) deals with Norwegian emigration to America and the Norwegians in the United States.

Volume 21 of the *Collections* of the Wisconsin Historical Society (Madison, 1915. 573 p.) consists of a comprehensive analytical index to the preceding twenty volumes of this set.

All workers in the field of western history will find this volume an indispensable key to a well-known storehouse of valuable material.

In the October number of the *Annals of Iowa* Mr. Stiles continues his outline of the classification of the state archives, dealing in this issue with the office of the state treasurer. The number contains also a suggestive editorial on "The Custody and Use of Historical Materials."

"Political Parties in the United States, 1800-1914" is the title of a valuable bibliography by Alta Claflin in the *Bulletin* of the New York Public Library for September.

Students interested in the history of the Lutheran element in the Northwest will find some valuable information in the recently issued *Minutes* of the twenty-fifth annual convention of the English Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the Northwest, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 1-4, 1915 (Milwaukee, [1915]. 95 p.).

The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company has brought out *Iowa, Its History and Its Foremost Citizens* by Johnson Brigham, state librarian (Chicago, 1915. 3 v.). The first volume is a narrative history with sections devoted to "Historical Biographies." The second and third volumes are entirely biographical.

Five account-books of the American Fur Company at Michilimackinac, 1817-34, have recently been acquired by the Public Archives of Canada. These doubtless throw light on the fur-trade in Minnesota during that period.

Famous Living Americans, edited by Mary and Edna Webb (Greencastle, Indiana, 1915. 594 p.), contains brief biographies of forty-three men and women of prominence. The only representative of Minnesota in the list is James J. Hill, whose career is sketched appreciatively by Andrew T. Weaver of Northwestern University.

"James H. Shields: An Appreciation" is the title of a brief article by General John B. O'Meara in volume 14 of the *Journal* of the American Irish Historical Society (New York, 1915. 393 p.). It is illustrated with a photograph of the statue of General Shields recently erected at Carrollton, Missouri.

Teachers who are looking for material on Minnesota history suitable for use by children should know of *The Story of Minnesota* by Hubert M. Skinner (1913. 32 p.). It is number 521 of the *Instructor Literature Series* published by Hall and McCreary of Chicago and can be obtained for the small sum of five cents. On the whole the booklet is well written and accurate.

Under the heading "A Great American Churchman" the *Nation* of September 2 contains an appreciative sketch of the career of Archbishop John Ireland. The article is in the "Notes from the Capital" by "Vieillard."

The firms which prepare and publish histories of the commercial type appear to be unusually active in Minnesota at the present time. Besides the Lewis Publishing Company of Chicago, which produced Captain Castle's *History of Minnesota*, reviewed elsewhere in this number, at least three firms are operating in the state. Works have been issued recently on Carver and Hennepin counties (together) by Henry Taylor and Company of Chicago; on Stearns County by H. C. Cooper Jr. and Company of Chicago; and on Morrison and Todd counties (together) by B. F. Bowen and Company of Indianapolis. These will be reviewed later in the BULLETIN. Similar histories are announced as in preparation on Renville, Redwood, and McLeod counties by Cooper, and on Ottertail, Grant and Douglas, Nicollet and Le Sueur, and Brown by Bowen.

On August 26 and 27 in the open-air stadium of Anoka was staged an elaborate historical pageant, reproducing in fifteen tableaux representative scenes of the town's history from the earliest times. The pageant was written by Roe G. Chase of the *Anoka Herald*, and the task of presenting it was undertaken by fifteen clubs and organizations of Anoka. Over three hundred persons took part in the different tableaux. An idea of the character of the production may be gained from the subjects of the scenes represented: the mound-builders; the coming of the Indians; the coming of the white man, 1659; the coming of Father Hennepin, 1680; Captain Jonathan Carver, 1766; the new town started, 1852; the first Fourth of July celebration, 1855; the first volunteer, April 15, 1861; Company A, Eighth Minnesota

Infantry, 1862; during the war, 1863; the heroes return, 1865; the town burns, 1884; and the pioneers.

The Old Trails Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has placed upon the walls of the historic round tower at Fort Snelling a bronze tablet in memory of Colonel Henry Leavenworth and his command of one hundred men, who, in 1819, were the first soldiers to occupy the reservation. The unveiling of the tablet took place on September 11, 1915, in the presence of several hundred people. Mrs. Richard Chute, a member of the chapter and a resident of the state since territorial days, presented the tablet to the United States and to the state of Minnesota. Major John F. Madden, commandant at the post, made the speech of acceptance on behalf of the United States, and Governor W. S. Hammond, on behalf of the state. In the principal address Mrs. James T. Morris, regent of the Old Trails Chapter, sketched the history of the Fort Snelling reservation; former Governor S. R. Van Sant spoke on "What the Mississippi has Meant to Our Country," and Levi Longfellow, on "Minnesota's Part in the Civil War." One of the most interesting features of the occasion was the placing of sixty wreaths of white roses about the tablet in memory of the sixty unknown soldiers of Colonel Leavenworth's command who died during the winter of 1819-20, by a band of children, most of whom were descendants of Minnesota pioneers.

The November 3 issue of the *Manitoba Free Press* gives an account of the Indian Treaty Memorial which was to be unveiled on November 9 at Fort Qu'Appelle. The monument was erected by the Saskatchewan branch of the Western Art Association and commemorates the signing of the first treaty between the government of Great Britain and the Indians of the Northwest territories, September 15, 1874, by which territory comprising the greater part of the present province of Saskatchewan was surrendered by the Indians.

To commemorate the sixty-seventh anniversary of the Stillwater convention of August 26, 1848, which drew up and presented to Congress a memorial asking the organization of the territory of Minnesota, the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers' Asso-

ciation planned an old-time river-men's excursion down the Mississippi from St. Paul to Stillwater, August 25, 1915. Nearly three hundred persons made the trip, among them about one hundred and fifty of the "real territorials, including most of the old captains." Among those on board was Auguste L. Larpenteur of St. Paul, the sole surviving delegate to the 1848 convention. Incidents of the trip and bits of talk reminiscent of early days are interestingly reported by the *Minneapolis Journal* of August 26 under the heading "Three Pioneers Tell about Beginning of Minnesota."

The nineteenth annual convention and reunion of the Norwegian Pioneers' Association of America was held at Red Wing, October 7 and 8, 1915. Many of the early Norwegian settlers of Goodhue, Pierce, and Wabasha counties attended the meetings. The convention closed with a banquet, attended by some one hundred persons, at which a number of interesting reminiscent and patriotic speeches were given by notable men of Norwegian nationality.

The forty-first annual convention of the St. Croix Valley Old Settlers' Association was held in Stillwater, September 15, 1915. An invitation was extended to all territorial pioneers who came to Washington County prior to 1850 to attend the meeting. Sixteen persons were present.

Special services were held in Fergus Falls, October 30 and 31, 1915, to commemorate the forty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Swedish Baptist Church of that city. The October 30 issue of the *Fergus Falls Journal* contains a brief historical sketch of the church and of the part it has played in the social and religious life of the community.

The *Minneapolis Journal* of September 22 announced the excavation near Minnehaha Falls of a large stone slab with what afterwards proved to be the Spanish coat of arms carved upon it. Considerable interest was aroused by the "find," and it was exploited at length in the newspapers with elaborate speculations as to its origin. Theories connecting it with the expeditions of Coronado, De Soto, and Cabeza de Vaca became untenable when it was pointed out that the fleur-de-lis which appears on a small

medallion in the center of the carving was not a part of the Spanish coat of arms until after the accession of the Bourbon-Angevin line to the Spanish throne in 1701. An enterprising newspaper writer then put forth the theory that the stone was set up by survivors of a "lost expedition" from Santa Fe in 1720. The "mystery" was cleared up about a month later, when a police officer in Minneapolis, who had been a private in the United States army in the Philippines, announced that the stone was brought from the Philippines to Fort Snelling by an officer of the Twenty-first United States Infantry in 1902. Later it was discarded, and two privates carried it off and hid it in the bushes. From other evidence it appears that a resident of the neighborhood took possession of the stone about nine years ago and used it as a doorstep to his house for a number of years. When the house was demolished, the stone doubtless fell into the cellar, whence it was "excavated."

The letter from Aaron Foster published in the "Selections from the Murray Papers" in the last issue of the BULLETIN contains a reference to a Dr. Day among the "St. Paul Boys" in Leavenworth and a footnote states that this was "probably Dr. David Day." To Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul, who has a wealth of lore about Minnesota medical history at his command, we are indebted for the following information. The Dr. Day referred to was Dr. John Harvey Day, a brother of Dr. David Day. The former was born in Virginia in 1816. He arrived in St. Paul in 1851 after a brief residence in Stillwater, probably to take up the practice of his brother who went to Long Prairie to serve as physician to the Winnebago Indians. Dr. J. H. Day served in the territorial legislature in 1854 and in September of that year moved to Leavenworth. Later he removed to Walla Walla, Washington, where he died in 1897. Dr. Armstrong gives as reference the *Minnesota Pioneer*, October 16, 1851, May 2 and August 19, 1854.

MINNESOTA PUBLICATIONS

The *Yearbook* of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor (1915. 79 p.) contains a "History of the Labor Movement of Minnesota" compiled by W. E. M'Ewen, historian of the federa-

tion and formerly state commissioner of labor. This is an expansion of a briefer sketch published in the preceding *Yearbook*, the additional matter relating principally to the activities of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly from 1882 to 1893. The work is a collection of data and documentary materials rather than a history, but it will be useful to students of the subject. It is worthy of note that the early records of many important organizations, including the state federation itself, are reported as lost. The only way to insure the preservation of such material is to deposit it in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society or some other institution equipped with the facilities for caring for it. The compiler found in the society's library copies of the charter of the second trade union organized in Minnesota, in 1859, and of the constitution and by-laws of a local union of the Working Men's Association of the United States, organized in 1873. These are important documents, and it is doubtful if other copies are in existence. Besides the *Yearbook* the federation has published the *Proceedings* of its thirty-third convention held at Winona, July 19-21, 1915 (144 p.).

A *Bulletin for Teachers of History*, by Dr. August C. Krey, has been issued by the University of Minnesota as number 7 of its *Current Problems* series (Minneapolis, 1915. 20 p.). It treats critically of such important topics as the teacher's preparation, materials for the history course, and methods of teaching. The many practical suggestions are accompanied by concrete bibliographical references. The importance of local history as a field for advanced work on the part of high-school teachers and students is indicated, and it is pointed out that the cultivation of this field brings the teacher and the community into direct contact. Attention is called to the work of the Minnesota Historical Society and especially to the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN.

A very useful *Bibliography of Minnesota Mining and Geology*, by Winifred Gregory, has been issued by the Minnesota School of Mines Experiment Station as number 4 of its *Bulletins* (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota, 1915. 157 p.). It contains nearly a thousand items, many with annotations, and covers not only books but articles in periodicals and collections of various

sorts. A comprehensive index adds materially to the value of the work.

Barley Investigations, by C. P. Bull of the division of agronomy and farm management of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, has been issued by the station as *Bulletin 148* (University Farm, St. Paul, 1915. 47 p.). Mr. Bull is also the author of *Bulletin 149*, entitled *Corn*, part 1 of which deals with the relation of cultivation to the yield and character of the crop, and part 2 with the relation of the number of stalks per hill to the yield (University Farm, St. Paul, 1915. 23 p.). In *Bulletin 150* on *Tobacco-Growing in Minnesota* (University Farm, St. Paul, 1915. 47 p.) Mr. Bull gives the results of the investigations which have been conducted in the state since 1910 with a view to stimulating the production of tobacco for market; the grades best suited to the soil and climate of Minnesota are described, and directions for the care and cultivation of the growing crop and for the harvesting, curing, and marketing of the matured plants are given in detail.

The Lawyers' Coöperative Publishing Company has issued volume 129 of *Minnesota Reports* (St. Paul, 1915. xx, 644 p.) covering cases argued and determined in the supreme court from March 5 to June 4, 1915. Henry Burleigh Wenzell is the reporter.

A book which will be most useful to those visiting St. Paul and to its own citizens, as well as of value to its future historians, is *The City of Saint Paul and Vicinity*, issued by George F. C. Paul (St. Paul, c. 1915. 173 p.). The topics treated are arranged alphabetically, and the volume contains maps and numerous illustrations.

Wheat and Flour Primer, an attractive booklet issued by the Washburn-Crosby Company of Minneapolis (20 p.), is written, as its title indicates, for children; in simple words the history of a grain of wheat is traced from the time of its sowing until, after passing through the various stages of the milling process, it leaves the mill in the form of flour.

The *Irish Standard* published in September its thirtieth anniversary number (Minneapolis, 1915. 184 p.). Besides papers and editorial comments of especial interest to Irish-Americans and

communicants of the Roman Catholic Church, the volume contains descriptive articles, including brief historical statements, on one hundred and twenty-seven leading cities and towns of Minnesota and North Dakota. Portraits of prominent Catholic churchmen and numerous other illustrations contribute to the value of the publication.

The *Seventh Year-Book* of the St. Paul Institute (St. Paul, 1915. vi, 204 p.) records the progress made during the year ending May 31, 1915, along the various lines of institute activity: literary, scientific, artistic, musical, and educational. Some account is given also of the origin of the institute and what it was able to accomplish in its early years from 1908 to 1913, including a description of its museum and art gallery and of its evening schools.

The *Twenty-sixth Annual Report* of the Great Northern Railway Company is a complete and valuable statement of the resources, earnings, and cost of maintenance of the Great Northern system for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915 (49 p.).

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Minnesota has issued the *Minutes* of its thirty-ninth annual meeting held at Fairmont, August 24-27, 1915 (Minneapolis, 1915. 154 p.). The volume contains a detailed report of the various activities of this organization.

The commissioner of insurance, S. D. Works, has transmitted to the governor of the state the *Forty-fourth Annual Report* of the insurance department covering the year ending June 1, 1915 (Minneapolis, 1915. 230 p.).

The St. Paul Seminary has issued its *Register* for 1915, containing announcements of its courses of study for the year 1915-16 ([St. Paul, 1915.] 108 p.).

Number 8 of volume 3 of *Ah La Ha Sa*, a publication issued monthly during the school year by the students of Albert Lea High School, is the *Annual* for 1915.

Dr. Daniel Avery Langworthy of Minneapolis, who was a captain in the Eighty-fifth New York Volunteers during the Civil War, has written a most interesting account of his experiences in

the war under the title *Reminiscences of a Prisoner of War and His Escape* (Minneapolis, 1915. 74 p.).

Plays of the Pioneers, a Book of Historical Pageant-Plays by Constance D'Arcy Mackay (New York, 1915. 175 p.) contains, besides the six plays, directions for costuming and producing outdoor pageants. Of the plays, "The Passing of Hiawatha" has a special interest for Minnesota people, but "The Pioneers," which brings out in allegory the struggles and achievements of those who conquered the American wilderness, would be appropriate for production in any American community.

"The Women and Children of Fort St. Anthony, Later Named Fort Snelling" is the title of an article by Warren Upham in the July issue of the *Magazine of History*. Attention is called to a map drawn in 1823 or 1824 by one of the officers of the fort and found among the papers of General Sibley. On this map seven of the lakes and an island bear the Christian names of pioneer women. The article attempts to identify each of the women thus commemorated and presents considerable biographical and genealogical data about the families residing at the fort.

An article by Dr. J. S. Young of the political science department of the University of Minnesota, entitled "Administrative Reorganization in Minnesota," appeared in the *American Political Science Review*, 9: 273 (May, 1915). Dr. Young's paper is a study of the work of the efficiency and economy commission. A few separates have been issued.

The Minnesotan is the title of a new Minnesota periodical, the first issue of which appeared in July, 1915. It is the official publication of the Minnesota State Art Commission and will be issued monthly. *The Minnesotan* will serve the people of the state by offering suggestions in regard to home building, home furnishing, landscape gardening, community development, and the industrial and commercial arts.

The Minnesota State Normal Board has begun the publication of a *Quarterly Journal*, the first number appearing in October, 1915. It is edited by the presidents of the normal schools and is devoted to the interests of elementary education.

The week of October 10 to 16 was observed throughout the state as "Minnesota newspaper week," the papers very generally issuing special editions devoted to setting forth the resources and advantages of Minnesota and of their respective localities. The addition of brief county and town histories and of reminiscent articles by early settlers contributed to make these editions of value to the student of Minnesota history. Among the more important of the articles containing historical data may be noted: "The First Settlers, a Pioneer's Story of the Settlement of Stevens County" in the *Morris Sun*, October 14; "Reminiscent," an article setting forth in chronological order the leading facts in the history of Brown County, in the *Springfield Advance*, October 14; "Hardships and Trials of the Early Settlers have Gone," a history of Jackson County taken from a souvenir edition of the *Jackson Republic* of March 1, 1895, reprinted in the *Lakefield Standard*, October 14; "A Brief Sketch of the Early History of Rock County" and "A Brief Sketch of the Early History of Hills," extracts from A. P. Rose's *History of Rock and Pipestone Counties* (Luverne, 1911), in the *Hills Crescent*, October 14; "Pioneer Days," an account of early days in Nobles County, in the *Adrian Democrat*, October 15; "From the Days of the Flail and Hand Corn Planter to Progressive Farming," describing primitive agricultural conditions in Renville County, in the *Morton Enterprise*, October 14; "How Fairfax Received Its Name," in the *Fairfax Standard*, October 14; "Early History of Rush City," a composite paper prepared, it is interesting to note, by the high-school class in American government, in the *Rush City Post*, October 15; "City of Le Sueur, Its Early History" in the *Le Sueur News*, October 14; "Description of Cannon Falls Twenty-nine Years Ago," a reprint from the *Cannon Falls Beacon* of April 9, 1886, in the *Beacon*, October 15; "An Historical Glimpse of the Village of Elgin" and "Founders of Elgin" in the *Elgin Monitor*, October 15; "How Slayton Came to Be" and an account of the settlement of the village of Avoca in the *Murray County Herald*, October 15; and a history of Murray County and of its towns and villages in the *Slayton Gazette*, October 14.

Among other articles which have appeared in recent issues of the newspapers of the state, describing incidents of early local history or recalling early experiences of state-wide significance

may be noted the following: "Austin in Ye Olden Times," by "An Old Timer," in the *Mower County Transcript-Republican*, October 20; "History of Eden Lake Township" in the *Eden Valley Journal*, October 28; "Melrose First Settled in 1856," in the *Melrose Beacon*, August 19; "The Big Blizzard of 1880," in the *Minneota Mascot*, October 15; "Early Resident Tells of Raid by Indians," by George C. Canfield in the *Northfield Norwegian American*, July 30; "Visits Scenes after Fifty Years," an account of the overland journey of Company H, Sixth Minnesota Infantry, from Fort Snelling to Fort Ripley in 1862 and of the building of a stockade at the latter post, in the *Brainerd Dispatch*, September 24; "Files of Old Newspapers Tell of Hanging of Three Indians," by John Coates of St. Cloud, who clears up some points of dispute in regard to this event which occurred near Little Falls, August 19, 1857, in the *St. Cloud Journal-Press*, September 4; "Early Minnesota Mothers Knew," by C. M. B. Hatch of Minneapolis, a member of Hatch's Battalion organized in 1863 to round up and capture renegade Indian bands along the Minnesota border in the Red River country, in the *Minneapolis Daily Tribune*, August 22; "A Survivor of the Little Crow Massacre," by John A. Humphrey of St. Paul, an account of the events of the memorable week of August 19-26, 1862, which he, a boy of twelve, passed within the walls of Fort Ridgely, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 12.

The *Northfield Independent's* issue of September 16 was an elaborate number of forty pages, the home trade edition. In its leading article, entitled "The Old and the New," are gathered reminiscences of several of Northfield's pioneer citizens, and throughout the paper are personal sketches of many of its early settlers. In the Minnesota week edition of October 14 Mrs. M. W. Skinner "Writes of Early Days of Minnesota," and in the October 21 issue of the *Independent* appeared a short sketch of W. G. Campbell, a well-known Northfield pioneer.

In a communication to the *Martin County Independent* of September 18, A. N. Fancher describes the locust scourge which in 1873 almost wholly destroyed the crops in several of the counties of southwestern Minnesota. Accompanying Mr. Fancher's account is a copy of an article by L. F. Brainerd, a Martin County

pioneer, which appeared in the *Janesville Argus*, August 25, 1874, the original manuscript of which is now in the possession of J. Mapson of Center Creek. Another article by Mr. Fancher, with the suggestive title "Primitive were Gospel Methods in Pioneer Days," appeared in the *Fairmont Sentinel* of September 29.

The important part played by Young America in early territorial days as a trading and stopping post in the trail from Mendota by way of Lac qui Parle, Big Stone, and Red River to Selkirk is told by J. F. Rosenwald in a letter published in the *Young America Eagle*, August 20, and reprinted in the *Madison Western Guard*, September 3. This trail was more used than any other in the Northwest, and was one of the most important agencies in the development of this entire region.

The September 15 issue of the *Martin County Independent* contains an account of an early fort built at Fairmont in 1862 as a protection against hostile Indian attacks. The article closes with an extract from Judge Lorin Cray's "Experiences in South-eastern Minnesota, 1859 to 1867," published in volume 15 of the *Minnesota Historical Collections*. Judge Cray was a member of Company D of the Ninth Minnesota Infantry which was stationed at Fairmont in the summer of 1863. In the August 21 issue of the *Mankato Free Press* Judge Cray tells of the construction of a sod fort at Judson by his company in the spring of the same year.

The Old Settlers' Association of Ottertail County through its county historian L. R. Adley, some time ago sent out circular letters to the pioneer settlers of the county, asking them to send in accounts of their personal recollections of early days. Some of the replies have been appearing in the columns of the *Fergus Falls Weekly Journal*: in the July 1 issue under the title "Days of Long Ago" County Commissioner Andrew Johnson relates his experiences in the county in 1873; and in the August 12 issue A. J. Pierce in "Early Experiences" tells of the settlement of the town of Paddock.

Colonel J. A. Everett of Fairmont completed in the September 18 issue of the *Martin County Independent* a series of articles entitled "Reminiscences from the Civil War" which have been appearing at weekly intervals beginning with the June 12 issue.



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