

sketches which constitute the whole of volume two can not be improved on; they can always be taken as the absolute truth for they are practically written by the subjects of the sketches themselves though retouched by an employe of the publishing company. Volume one is seldom if ever illustrated at all. Volume two is profusely illustrated with portraits of distinguished citizens. From a technical point of view the work is to be criticised for containing no map and no index of illustrations.

The History of Sullivan County in volume one is largely the work of Thomas J. Wolfe, of Sullivan, now more than seventy-eight years of age, whose own memory extends over much of the ground he covers. This county is no exception to the general rule in Indiana, for all its early records were destroyed in the burning of the court-house (Sullivan, February 7, 1850.) Some of the imported facts in the county history, therefore, have been lost and accuracy in other matters can not be attained. Mr. Wolfe does not give a history of the county and its inhabitants, but a series of twenty-eight chapters upon various subjects, chiefly institutions in the county, e. g., Military Annals, Education, Churches.

#### A HISTORY OF CLAY COUNTY.

[William Travis. Illustrated. 2 v., pp. 627, 537. The Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, 1909.]

This is a Lewis Publishing Company history with the merits and weaknesses described above. Perhaps volume one should be noticed as making even less pretense than usual to being a consecutive history. The last 228 pages are devoted to four hundred detached reminiscences of various affairs, many entirely unimportant. The lack of a detailed index renders this of very little use. Among the chapters of especial interest are those on Indian Occupation and Relics, and the Wabash and Erie Canal and Feeders-Reservoir War.

Again the reviewer is confronted with the tragedy of Indiana history in the apparently universal destruction of early records. All records of Clay county prior to 1851, except those in the recorder's office, were destroyed by the court-house fire at Bowling Green on November 30, 1851.