

large amount of repetition. On the whole perhaps the author has selected the lesser of the difficulties.

There is a criticism that might be suggested on the general format of the book. It is too thick for its size of page and style of binding. The thickness of the 882 pages equals five-ninths the width of the type page. Unless one breaks the binding reading its small pages is like reading a bill on a telephone post. One must either keep his head nodding or else keep the book turning. This criticism is useless as the different volumes have to conform to the style and format of the others of the series.

Some of the controverted points in regard to the documents offered are discussed at the close of the volume. The *Memoir* of Colonel Clark has been criticised as that of a vain old man, prepared long after the events which it describes and after the natural keenness of his mind had been dulled by years of intemperance. In general the author dissents from this criticism and regards the *Memoir* as a valuable and trustworthy document. The volume should find a place in all Indiana libraries.

LOGAN ESAREY

"PAUL CUFFE and His Contribution to the American Colonization Society," is the title of a 32-page separate from Volume VI of the *Proceedings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association*. The author is Henry Noble Sherwood, formerly professor of history in the University of Cincinnati. Paul Cuffe was a colored man who lived at Cuttyhunk, Massachusetts. He accumulated a considerable amount of property as a trader and sailor. This property he generously used in providing for the education of the American negro and his deportation to Africa. He took a small colony of negroes to Sierra Leone in 1813 and made several trips to America and England. In England he had an interview with the directors of the African institution and advised with them as to the best means to stop the slave trade. Cuffe was intimate with the principal men who organized the American Colonization Society and the example he gave in negro deportation was an encouragement to them to persevere in the objects of the society. His death in 1817 was the occasion of many tributes by the members of the newly formed society. Mr. Sherwood has recently published through Mississippi Valley Historical Association, "The Settlement of the John Randolph

Slaves in Ohio" and through Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society, "The Deportation Movement in Ohio." These with other contributions will constitute his doctor's thesis in Indiana University.

THE Attica *Ledger Press*, December 12, 1913, has some interesting reminiscences by two of the pioneers of the town. The article is headed "First School in Attica."

*History of Johnson County, Indiana.* By ELBA L. BRANIGIN, A. M. (Indianapolis; B. F. Bowen & Co., Inc. Pp. 863.)

MR. BRANIGIN, the author of the above is a well-known attorney of Franklin, an alumnus of Franklin College. The author pitches right into his work and gives us 557 pages of history. The familiar discussion of Moundbuilders is missing as are also the well-worn biographies of the presidents of the United States that have done duty to pad so many country histories and from present indications are going to have to work over time again in the near future. Johnson county is not rich in historical material. It is just one of the plain substantial counties of Indiana. But the author has found plenty of valuable materials to make a good readable volume, materials well worthy of preservation. We frequently overlook this value in county histories. Not every county has been the seat of world-famed events but every county in Indiana has a number of churches, schools, lodges, cities or towns, newspapers and other results of social and neighborhood activities that have clustered around them many enduring memories and traditions. These are just as surely the materials of history as are marches, sieges, or congressional fiascoes. Mr. Branigin has done this. He has preserved a history of nearly, if not all these institutions. The diary of Samuel W. Van Nuys, a volunteer of Company F, Seventh Indiana, is a novelty in a county history and opens up a field not usually worked by local historians. Lists of county, township, city and town officers are given, election statistics and census materials bearing on the growth of the county.

The last 300 pages are taken up with biographies. These are usually written by the persons themselves and are thus autobiographies. While there are a great many wasted adjectives interspersed here and there the substance of each sketch is fact. A great deal of valuable material is thus preserved. Society is able to