

historical introduction and a few notes. One must admire the restraint of the editor, for almost every sentence of Hall is a fit text for a lecture. The book has always been a great favorite with the editor and it can easily be believed then that the editorial work was a pleasure. However, it is unfortunate that, by oversight, the author's notes were not distinguished from the editor's. Altogether the book is one of the most valuable sources on Indiana history, the more valuable because of the character of the writer and his remarkable opportunity for observation. Every library and school in Indiana should have a copy of this rare old book. (For a fuller description of this book see an article entitled "Local Life and Color in the New Purchase" in this magazine, December, 1913, by Professor James Albert Woodburn.)

*Mount Vernon, Washington's Home and the Nation's Shrine.*

BY PAUL WILSTACH, 1916. New York, Doubleday, Page and Company. pp. 301.

THIS volume might be termed a personal biography of Washington, as distinguished from that class of biographies which, under title of a personal name, give the history of an era. From Mr. Wilstach's pages one gets the impression of a more than ordinarily beneficent and public spirited farmer but still only what one might expect as the highest type of the Virginia planter. It is fortunate that Mr. Wilstach has not felt himself called upon to besmirch his portrait in order to make it human. There is a deeper significance in this volume. It is a detailed story of the building up of a great home. Washington farmed largely for enjoyment. Mount Vernon was built up as a place where one would wish to live. In a very emphatic way it shows what is possible in greater or less degree on every farm. Finally this volume should increase the regard Americans have for their first President. A little more sentiment of the kind will not be apt to hurt most Americans. The volume is beautifully illustrated—there being fifty cuts, many of them full page. On the front cover is a picture of the Mount Vernon mansion in white, on a blue color, surrounded with gilt.