

The Mexican War Diary of George B. McClellan. Edited by WILLIAM STARR MYERS, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History and Politics, Princeton University. Princeton University Press, 1917; pp. 97. \$1.00 net.

THIS little volume is a by-product of the author's work of the last four or five years on the biography of General McClellan. The writer of the *Diary* graduated from West Point in 1846, just in time to go to the front as a second lieutenant of engineers. He left school September 24, 1846, and the *Diary* ends abruptly after the Battle of Cerro Gordo, although the author continued on to the capture of Mexico and remained there for some time after the war closed. He landed in 1846 at Brazos and marched down the Mexican coast almost to Vera Cruz. The *Diary* in part seems to have been written from day to day and in part seems to have been composed some time, though never very long, after the events described happened. His observations about the volunteers and the general conduct of the war are about what one would expect from a young man just from the training school. A reader will be tempted to say he can see in the general's comments the beginning of the difficulty which prevented his success in the Civil War. A comparison of this with *Grant's Memoirs* will readily show the difference between the two men. The author has, by means of footnotes, made the *Diary* intelligible, so that aside from its historical value, the volume will furnish an evening's genuine pleasure to a red-blooded reader.

Indiana Historical Society Publications, Vol. VI, No. 1. Proceedings of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Ohio Valley Historical Association. Edited by HARLOW LINDLEY. Indianapolis, 1916. pp. 269. 50c.

THE Association held its tenth meeting at Indianapolis October 4 and 5, 1916. Nine papers were read besides the welcome address by Daniel W. Howe, president of the Indiana Historical Society, and the response by the president, Harlow Lindley. The papers were Speculation in the Thirties, by Prof. R. C. McGrane; The New Purchase, by Prof. James A. Woodburn; A Lost Opportunity, Internal Improvements, by

W. C. Ford; Kentucky's Contribution to Indiana, by Prof. James R. Robertson; Organizing a State, by Logan Esarey; Early Railroad Building in Indiana, by Ralph Blank (only a small part of this is printed); Civil War Politics in Indiana, by Charles Kettleborough; Personal Genesis of the Monroe Doctrine, by ex-Governor William A. McCorkle; and a Hoosier Domesday, by Prof. Frederick L. Paxton.

THROUGH the courtesy of Mrs. Benjamin D. Walcott, 1455 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, vice regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, the SURVEY has received the *Annual Report* of that association. This is a nation-wide organization to look after and improve Mt. Vernon. The purpose is to restore the grounds to the condition they were in about 1790 and maintain them as nearly in that condition as possible. There were last year 127,203 visitors to the grounds.

THE university library recently received from one of its alumni a copy of Prof. Richard Owen's farewell address to Indiana University. The title of the address is "Happiness and Home, Temporal and Eternal", and it was delivered at the college chapel May 11, 1879. An audience could hardly be held together to listen to such an address now, but nothing so clearly marks the difference between college life then and now, and between the college students then and now as these old addresses. The librarian is always very glad to receive such papers.

Biennial Report of the Secretary of State for the Term Ending September 30, 1916. By HOMER L. COOK, Secretary of State. Fort Wayne.

THE first section of this report deals with the financial business transacted by the department. The receipts for the two years total \$815,411.76. This money was collected from taxes on motor vehicles, dealers' licenses, chauffeurs' licenses, taxes on foreign and domestic corporations and the sale of *Supreme Court Reports*. The receipts are in the form of fees. There follow in the report lists of the State officers, their