

*Historical Sketches of the Wabash Valley.* By J. WESLEY WHICKER, Attica, Indiana. Published by the author, 1917; pp. 159.

The author is an attorney, and a descendant of one of the early settlers of the community. The sketches represent the work of leisure hours in a field which has always had a fascination for the author. They were originally written for and published in the *Attica Ledger* as a means of rousing local interest in the centennial celebration of Indiana. The writer is well acquainted with the traditional history of the Middle Wabash Valley, and from these he has woven many delightful stories. While not always adhering to strictly documentary evidence, he never leaves the reader in doubt as to the source of his information. The sketches of Cicot, the scout, and Burnett, of Sheshepah, Topenebee, the Battle of Kickapoo, Ouiatenon, Harrison and the Battle of Tippecanoe are all most interesting. In fact there is not a dry sketch among the forty-six which constitute the volume. The biographies of Senator Hannegan, and Dr. Evans, the accounts of the building of the Wabash and Erie canal, the Wabash railroad, the founding and mutual rivalries of the towns of Maysville, Attica and Covington ending in the "Greek War" are all well told. There were also "communities"—the "Coal Creek Community", the "Fountain County Community" and the "Grand Prairie Harmonical Institute"—as well as a station on the "Underground", and a rendezvous of horsethieves. The author has done a public service to his county in thus putting these stories in form for preservation.

*History of the United States Political Industrial Social.* By CHARLES MANFRED THOMPSON, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Illinois. Benj. H. Sanborn & Co., Chicago, 1917. pp. xx—540.

Professor Thompson has written his text from the economic standpoint. All the larger phases of our history, colonization, revolution, western migration, civil war, and political reorganization are interpreted by economic motives. Admitting that this is the proper method of writing and teaching