

*A History of Minnesota*, By WILLIAM WATTS FOLWELL. In four volumes. Volume two. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1924, p. 477.

During February of the present year the Minnesota Historical Society published the second volume of a history of the state of Minnesota, to be completed in four volumes, by William Watts Folwell, president emeritus of the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Folwell is a native of New York state and a graduate of Hobart college. Soon after his graduation he taught mathematics his Alma Mater, traveled and studied in Europe and returned just in time to enlist and serve three years in the Union army. He came to Minnesota in 1869 as president of the State University which office he held for fifteen years. He served the University twenty-three years more as librarian and professor of political science; he retired from the University work in 1907. As a closing work of a very useful life Mr. Folwell has written this history of Minnesota.

After reading the second volume with considerable care one retains his high opinion of this scholarly piece of work. It follows in good order the first volume, giving a full account of the activities of the people of Minnesota during the days of early statehood, of the loyal support of the union during the Civil war, something of the troubles at home with the Indians during this formative period, and an interesting account of the first railroad of the state. Throughout the book the author keeps in close touch with the people and gives the reader vivid pictures of the struggles of the early pioneers of that state.

The volume has received some adverse criticism on the ground of perspective. Such criticism is not merited. A historian is bound by the facts of his investigation. The Indian wars monopolized the attention of Minnesota for three or four years and a history failing to leave this impression would be less than truthful. In my judgment there is nothing better in the two volumes than the author's account of these Indian troubles. The footnotes and bibliographical work maintains its former high level. It is to be hoped the author will pre-

serve his critical attitude down through the period when he was an active participant.

PAUL B. PARKER.

*Messages and Papers of Jonathan Jennings, Ratliff Boon, and William Hendricks, 1816-1825.* Edited by LOGAN ESAREY, Indianapolis, Indiana Historical Commission, 1824. Pp. xvi, 544.

This volume is the twelfth of the Indiana Historical *Collections* and the third in the series of Governor's Messages and Letters. It includes the messages and other official papers of the three governors who served the state of Indiana from 1816 to 1825. It also presents a number of speeches and letters of Governor Hendricks from the periods preceding and following his term as governor. Very little of the correspondence of Governor Jennings has been discovered. In the case of Governor Boon, simply his message of December 2, 1822, is included. In fact, this was his only message, since he acted as governor for a few weeks only following the resignation of Governor Jennings near the close of his second term.

Doctor Esarey furnishes an introduction of twenty-five pages dealing in an interesting and instructive manner with the political history of the territory and state from 1800 to 1825. In addition, he presents brief biographical sketches of each of the three governors. He adheres to his policy, followed in the preparation of the two preceding volumes in the series, of avoiding as far as possible the use of footnotes and other editorial detail. Perhaps he is too modest in this regard. The volume is well-printed, well-bound, and attractive. It gives pleasure to all who are interested in the history of Indiana and the Middle West, to see these volumes come from the press. The people of the state and the members of the General Assembly should be proud of the opportunity to continue their support of the Indiana Historical Commission in the good work of publishing the sources of the State's history.

WILLIAM O. LYNCH.