

seaboard was lured by the thought of freedom and the romance which clothes a little known frontier land, was not written by Middle Westerners, engaged in settling the new territory, but by travelers, many of them travelers from foreign countries, such as DeTocqueville, Levasseur, Volney, Collot, and many others, covering the period from the earliest settlement to the coming of the sharp-tongued Mrs. Trollope. Besides their descriptions, there was another literature of travel, the books prepared for the prospective emigrant, the Western gazetteers, guide books and travelers' directories.

Other chapters of Dr. Rusk's book discuss the newspapers and magazines of the period, the controversial writings, political and religious, the past named particularly interesting because such controversy was the breath of life to the Western pioneer, and his oratorical style herein displayed, says Dr. Rusk, was more Western than anything else in the West. Scholarly writings and school books, fiction, poetry, the drama, and the vogue of British and Eastern authors, are the subjects of other chapters. Of these, the one on the drama is of particular value, since information concerning the amateur theatricals and the traveling players of the pioneer period is exceedingly difficult to find.

The greater part of the second volume is occupied with a bibliography which renders the work additionally valuable. *Literature of the Middle Western Frontier* will be welcomed as a reference book indispensable to all students of the pioneer period of the Middle West.

KATE MILNER RABB.

Indiana, Its History, Constitution and Present Government,
By GEORGE S. COTTMAN. The Bobbs-Merrill Company,
Indianapolis, 1925.

This is a textbook for use in the schools under the new requirement that the Constitution of Indiana be a part of the curriculum. It is well adapted to its purpose, and in addition affords the general reader a very good survey of the development and organization of the state. Especial praise is due the author and publisher for their splendid illustrative matter; the pictures are both ornamental and instructive. The work ought to be a veritable godsend to all teachers and students of Indiana history.