

Book Reviews

North Carolina Manual, 1925. Publications of North Carolina Historical Commission. By R. B. HOUSE, Sec. State Printers, Raleigh. Pp. 583.

This is the twelfth biennial volume of this publication and it seems to be filling a demand. The usual official reports are included but the long and often mischievous tables of statistics frequently found in *Year Books* are omitted. The historical touches make it generally valuable as a handy reference on state history. The political and biographical material will render it valuable for future historians. Its size makes it convenient and will tend largely to prolong its life. In most respects it is superior to the bulky volumes put out by some states.

Trail-Makers of the Middle Border. By HAMLIN GARLAND, New York. Macmillan Co., 1926, p. 426.

This is a semi-historical tale of a band of settlers from the White mountain district of Maine migrating to the western border of Wisconsin about the year 1850. The Grahams were typical Yankees, the McLanes, whom they neighbored with in the new home, were typical Virginians. The story is of the opening of new farms, lumbering on the Wisconsin and ends with the Civil War—Grant and Vicksburg. Though not so good perhaps as the author's *Son of the Middle Border*, it is an excellent addition to our pioneer literature.

Year Book of the Missouri Historical Society, 1926. By the SOCIETY, St. Louis, 1926, p. 184.

The principal fact in this annual report is the announcement of the consolidation of the Missouri Historical Society, organized in 1866, and the Louisiana Purchase Historical Association, chartered in 1916. The new charter dates from October 19, 1925. Thomas M. Marshall remains secretary of

the new society and Stella M. Drum, librarian. The volume contains the official reports, membership lists and various committee reports. The consolidated society, in its new building at St. Louis, now has one of the large and valuable collections of original historical material in the U. S., especially on such subjects as Mississippi River trade, Fur Trade, and Western Development.

Little Bear. By ELMORE BARCE, Fowler, Indiana. Christopher Publishing House, Boston, 1926. Chapter IX, p. 108.

This is a story of the North American Indians with the Kickapoos on the stage a large part of the time. The Indians are a group of brave people fighting a losing fight. They are driven westward from their present homeland. The author has endeavored to set forth the inspiring worthiness of the Indians. He uses "Little Bear," a Kickapoo Boy of the Washash, as the hero and places him in the care of Wm. H. Harrison, who takes the place of Little Bear's father who was killed by Lean Dog, a very close friend.

Stories of the Indians, of their modes of life, of their homes, of their pleasures, of their sorrows, of their religion, of their superstition, of their social life—these have been told in a clear and interesting style. The vivid contrasts among the various tribes of Indians are handled in a clear manner. The author lays many historical scenes and names some geographical sites of note. Mr. Barce brings out the likeness in spirit between the Whites and the Indians, the change from the tribal form of government to a democratic form of government, the horrors of liquor and how the civilized people are getting away from the use of it, how intermarriage between the Whites and the Indians are not approved by the Indians. The following shows the advancement in thought of the younger generation of Indians, "Father, when mercy fails and deeds of love, all must fail. This the Red Fox told me long ago. To war is useless. All must be brothers, or all destroyed. The Great Spirit has said it and it is so."

It is by no means easy to get so much interesting material in one small book and still keep clear on content, yet Attorney Barce has done this well.

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