

Reviews and Notices

A Child's Life of George Washington. By Louise Embree.
Illustrations by Clotilda Embree. E. P. Dutton and
Company, New York, 1932. Pp. 255, \$2.50.

Louise Embree of Princeton, Indiana, has made the life of Washington intelligible and interesting to children of school age, even those in the lowest grades. It is a very attractive addition to Indiana's contribution to the George Washington Bicentennial. It may seem at times that Miss Embree "talks down" over much to youthful readers. However, the proof of the pudding is in the eating and the book has already proved its popularity with those for whom it was intended. An account of this sort could not be expected to make new contributions to historical knowledge nor to take a critical attitude toward its subject. Miss Embree, however, has made a very comprehensive and well proportioned story of Washington's crowded life and diverse activities. There is a short bibliography. Numerous allusions show that the writer has kept up to date about information on Washington. Her mention of "Wakefield," the birthplace of George Washington, and other references, would enable well informed readers to date the book, even if the year of publication were omitted.

A word should be said about the silhouette illustrations by Clotilde Embree (Mrs. Claude Douglass Funk) of Princeton, New York City, and now of Indianapolis, varying from little insertions to full-page illustrations. They add greatly to the pleasure of the reader with their spirited presentation of eighteenth century citizens. It is surprising how much dramatic interest is contained in some of the black and white sketches, how much pathos has been put into some, and how much cheerfulness and liveliness into others.

It is to be hoped that many children throughout the country will add to their participation in the Bicentennial activities the reading of this life of the "Father of his Country." They will come from it with a fine appreciation of Washington's character and services.

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