

the south by the Ohio River "insulated"? The appropriateness of the use of the words "startling" (e.g., p. 37) and "striking" (e.g., p. 421) is not always clear.

Although the style is hardly sprightly and the pattern is more the mosaic of a McMaster than a synthesis by a Becker, the *Civilization of the Old Northwest* does assemble much material of value and interest to the student of the *Kulturgeschichte* of early pioneer America. Hinsdale called attention to the necessity of such a sequel to his book when he wrote: "The influence of the country beyond the Alleghany Mountains on the population that occupies it, its reaction on the Atlantic Plains, and its effect on the national life, character, and government are themes demanding fuller investigation than they have ever received;" and then characteristically added, "but this work may fitly close with a rapid view of the trend of political thought in the Old Northwest" (pp. 405-406). Bond's book is that sequel and is in fulfillment of the desire of Frederick Jackson Turner expressed about a quarter of a century ago when he said in a commencement address at Indiana University: "American society has reached the end of the first great period of its formation. It must survey itself, reflect upon its origin, consider what freightage of purpose it carried in its long march across the continent, what ambitions it had for the man, what role it would play in the world" (*The Frontier in American History*, p. 281). It is hoped that this excellent pioneer effort of Dr. Bond may stimulate others to further fulfillment of the desire of the master historian of the West.

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The twelfth number of the *Franciscan Studies* which is dated August, 1933, is a monograph by Theodore Roemer, O. M. Cap., Ph.D., entitled *Ludwig-Missionsverein and the Church in the United States, 1838-1918* (New York, 1933, Joseph F. Wagner, Inc.). This study consists of one hundred sixty-one pages, including an index and bibliography and sells for sixty cents. The author had access to excellent sources which he used with skill. In the introduction to his bibliography, he says: "The source material for this study was gathered in the archives of the Ludwig-Missionsverein at Munich. These contain about 2,300 letters from the United

States, written by bishops, priests, nuns and laymen. These are supplemented by 300 letters published in the *Munich Annalen*, 1848 to 1918, most of which have not been preserved in the originals." The information gathered at Munich was checked and enriched by researches made in the United States, especially in Milwaukee, Racine and Detroit. The Editors of the *Franciscan Studies* are to be highly commended for the publication of this doctoral dissertation.

A Business System of City Government by Theodore F. Thieme, is a pamphlet of ninety pages which was recently published by the author. (Copies are not for sale, but may be obtained from Mr. Thieme by those interested in problems of City government.) Mr. Thieme, who has had an outstanding career as a business man of Fort Wayne, has long been deeply interested in the improvement of both state and city government, and the present appeal shows that his desire for reform in the municipal field has not abated. He begins with a strong indictment of the present regime:

City government in America is a conspicuous failure. The failure of its government has been forced upon every city, large or small, in the United States, time and again for the past fifty years. The government of cities in the United States, almost without exception, is *bad—bad* almost beyond expression; the most backward, the most deplorable, the worst in the civilized world. . . .

After discussing attempts at improvement so often made and attempting to show the reasons why they were thwarted, the crusading author deals with the nature of the city and follows with the recommendation that municipal government be made a profession. Types of city government are explained and the systems in use in nineteen of the world's important cities are described by the use of material contained in letters obtained by Mr. Thieme from the mayors of the cities concerned. Contrasting these cities with American cities, he finds them to be marked by "progress and efficiency," while in those of our country "waste, confusion, corruption and backwardness" are prevalent.

Mr. Thieme believes in municipal ownership of public utilities and in "home rule" for cities. He is hopeful of a better future, and concludes his stimulating contribution by the paragraph:

We may be at the dawn of an awakening that will bring a spirit of enlightened coöperation, national and local, such as we have never yet contemplated. Perhaps the nation will come to the aid of the cities by maintaining a great academy for the training of public administrators as it does for the army and navy, as suggested recently by a prominent writer. Then our cities would become reservoirs of confidence and strength rather than spectacles of confusion and incapacity. Instead of being the failures of democracy, they may become the hope of democracy.

The *Proceedings* of the Fifteenth Annual Indiana History Conference, which was held at Indianapolis on December 8-9, 1933, have been published recently by the Indiana Historical Bureau (*Indiana History Bulletin*, Number 5, Volume XI, February, 1934). The *Bulletin* runs to 138 pp., and contains several of the papers which were read at the Conference, while the titles of the remaining papers are given with an indication of where they are to be published except in those instances where not available for publication. The following are to be found in the *Bulletin*: "The Bicentennial of General Arthur St. Clair," by Mrs. Frederic Krull; "Preliterate Cultures in Indiana," by Glen A. Black; and "Successive Stages of Occupation of a Notable Prehistoric Site," by E. Y. Guernsey.

Thomas B. Stevenson of Evansville, Indiana, has in his possession a collection of letters which were written to his father Colonel Thomas B. Stevenson, by Henry Clay during the years 1844 to 1851. Colonel Stevenson edited Whig papers at various times in Maysville, Frankfort, and Cincinnati. He was devoted to the interests of Clay. Most of the letters relate to the presidential campaign of 1848 in which Clay refused to play any part after the nomination of General Taylor. When preparing Clay's correspondence for publication Calvin Colton obtained only one of the letters to Colonel Stevenson. This was one written at New Orleans on January 31, 1849, which Colonel Stevenson had given to his brother. Fortunately, Colton learned of the other letters before completing the manuscript of his life of Clay written to accompany the correspondence and speeches. Volume IV of the *Works of Henry Clay*, made up of the correspondence, came out too soon for the insertion of the letters of Stevenson, the consequence of which was that these important letters were relegated to an appendix of Volume III, the last of the

biographical sketch. No mention whatever is made of the Stevenson collection in Volume IV of the *Works*, though it is discussed in the preface and contents of Volume III. In the later edition of Clay's *Works* (1904), the Stevenson letters were not incorporated with the general body of correspondence, but were allowed to remain as an appendix of Volume III. This is bad enough, but still worse is the fact that even in the new edition, no mention of the Stevenson collection is made except in the preface and contents of Volume III.

The valuable letters thus published out of place were edited by Colonel Stevenson. Some names and other matter which he deleted for reasons that seemed good to him can be supplied from copies of the originals furnished to the *Indiana Magazine of History* by Daniel W. Snapp of the Bosse High School in Evansville. The part omitted at the beginning of the letter of February 19, 1848, reads:

I have recd. your favor of the 11th inst—for which I thank you. I have only time to express the results of my observation and opinion.

1. I think the fervor for Genl Taylor abated.
2. That it is probably impracticable for him to get the nomination, or if he were to get it to be elected, without a more distinct avowal of Whig principles than he has yet made.
3. That the demonstrations in my favor have considerably increased of late.

The letters from Clay to Stevenson dated December 7, 1847, May 20, 1848, October 29, 1848, and November 3, 1850, in which there are omissions as published, are not now in the collection of original letters. The omitted name in the letter of August 5, 1848, is *Genl. Vance* [Joseph Vance]. In the letter of August 14, 1848, the first name missing is *Mr. Van Trump* [Philadelph Van Trump], the second is *Vance*, and the third is *Mr. Campbell* [Lewis D. Campbell]. A name is omitted in the letters of September 12, and October 9, 1848, which in each case is *T. Corwin* [Thomas Corwin]. The deleted matter at the beginning of the letter of December 21, 1849, pertains to a personal interest of Colonel Stevenson, in which Clay was trying to aid him.