

of his neighbors has been expressed in the columns of the *Star*.

The illustrations throughout the booklet are exceptionally good. They demonstrate the photographic ability of the author.

Doctors Under Three Flags. By Fannie Anderson. (Detroit: Wayne University Press, 1951, pp. x, 185. Illustrations, notes, bibliography. \$3.50.)

It is doubtful if anyone is better qualified to write a medical history of the Detroit area than Mrs. Anderson, the bibliographer of medical literature at Wayne University. A native Detroiter long interested in the history of her city, especially insofar as it concerns the field of medicine, she has written a compact volume of five chapters tracing the medical history of the strait's city from the date of its founding in 1701 to the end of Michigan's territorial period in 1837.

The result of Mrs. Anderson's investigations into the annals of old Detroit (fifty-one of the sixty-one items listed in the bibliography of unpublished accounts were from the Burton Historical Collection in the Detroit Public Library) is a most imposing and well-documented presentation of little known factual material about the various men who served that post as physicians during the French, British, and early American period. Yet, while admiring Mrs. Anderson's persistent and careful research into all available sources, one must wonder at the importance of a good bit of the material she has seen fit to include in her study. Much of the biographical data is so meager and insignificant that it can serve no purpose for anyone. Take, for example, the statement regarding Dr. William Holmes (p. 81): "According to the Macomb books he bought a cow for £10 on August 6, 1790, and rented a house from Captain Henry Bird of the Eighth Regiment from August 10, 1790, to June 10, 1792, paying sixty shillings per month." On the other hand, much of the material on the practice of medicine and surgery, the various prescriptions used and fees charged, as well as the biographical material on the life of Dr. George Christian Anthon, is notably good. Where the sources were adequate, Mrs. Anderson has done well.

It is unfortunate that an index was not included in the volume. A biographical index at least would have made the book more valuable to students of genealogy in the Detroit area. Factual and typographical errors are few. Three of the latter were noted, while the "John Hay" mentioned on page 41 is more correctly given as "Jehu" Hay on page 73. The eleven illustrations are most appropriate and add considerably to the interest and value of the book.

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The Early Histories of St. Louis. Edited by John F. McDermott. (St. Louis: St. Louis Historical Documents Foundation, 1952, pp. 171. Index, end maps, illustrations. \$4.00.)

This collection of the first historical sketches of the founding and early years of St. Louis which are based on the primary sources is made up of selections from the writings of six of her original citizens. Not intended as a history of the city, its purpose is, instead, to bring together under one cover all such accounts for the benefit, primarily, of the scholar.

The basic document, and the only eyewitness account of the founding of St. Louis is Auguste Chouteau's "Narrative," a fourteen-page fragment which is possibly part of a longer journal which has never been located. Written during the first or second decade of the nineteenth century, after the events which it mentions had taken place, the narrative covers the years 1762-1765. The original document in Chouteau's handwriting is now in possession of the St. Louis Mercantile Library. Four of Chouteau's depositions made in 1825 before Theodore Hunt, Recorder of Land Titles, are also given in this volume in their chronological sequence and these, together with the "Narrative" and some recorded conversations with Chouteau form the basis for most of the later accounts.

The five other selections included are: (1) John A. Paxton's "Notes on St. Louis," an unpagged preface to his *St. Louis Directory of 1821*, the first part of which very clearly depends on Chouteau's "Narrative"; (2) Lewis C.