

as the preceding one. This listed the publications of 313 societies, covered 561 pages and contained a 77-page index. This was a distinct step in advance but the index was far from complete.

In the present edition, occupying a whole volume, the publications of some 500 historical societies are listed, covering 1,374 pages and containing 341 pages of index. The main index is by author and subject, followed by a biographical index and an index of societies. Each item as listed is given a serial number and the index refers to this number—a very satisfactory time-saving device from the standpoint of the user.

A key to the contents of all publications of the historical societies of North America is a reference work of unusual value. Too high praise cannot be given to the patience and persistence which were employed toward making this bibliography complete. Although covering so broad a field, it should prove of great value to students of the Pacific Northwest. A glance at the index reveals twelve items under the State and Territory of "Washington" and fifty-four items under the word "Oregon." As an illustration of the way in which an exhaustive bibliography of this kind brings up out-of-the-way information, the following may be of interest. In the index of this bibliography under "Seattle" and under "Yesler," reference is made to an article upon Henry L. Yesler, the founder of Seattle. Reference from the index to the article in question shows it to be a "Denkschrift uber Henry L. Yesler, Grunder d. Stadt Seattle," by A. E. Schade, published in the seventh annual report of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, Baltimore, 1893. Even the most careful student of Seattle local history would be likely to miss an item of this kind, but for some such general bibliography.

—CHARLES W. SMITH.

Bradford's History of Plymouth Plantation, 1606-1646. Edited by William T. Davis. [Original Narratives of Early American History, edited by J. Franklin Jameson, Vol. VI.] New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1908, pp. VII, 419.)

Bradford's History is the latest volume in the series of Original Narratives which are being reproduced under the auspices of the American Historical Association, and like its predecessors is a reprint in convenient and well-edited form of a valuable historical narrative. This volume deals with the history of Plymouth Plantation down to 1646.

The Bradford manuscript has had a curious history. Bradford left it to his son and for some years it continued in the possession of the Bradford descendants, but after having been used by three or four early historical writers it disappeared. In 1855 it was discovered in the library of the Bishop of London, probably having been carried to England by Governor Hutchinson, who was using it in the preparation of his history of Massachusetts Bay.

A copy was made for the Massachusetts Historical Society and edited by Charles Deane, was printed in the collections of that society in 1856. In this form it has long been known to historical students having access to the larger libraries. The State of Massachusetts made several unsuccessful attempts to recover the manuscript, but was not finally successful until 1897, and in the following year the manuscript and an account of the proceedings incident to its delivery were published by the State.

The present volume is based on the Massachusetts reprint and has the advantage of Mr. Davis' careful editing and an interesting introductory chapter. It is hardly necessary to comment on the importance of Governor Bradford's history for "without it the history of the Plymouth Colony, now so complete, would have been, so far as its early years are concerned, involved in mystery." The story is interestingly and quaintly told by Bradford, and we are fortunate in having it now in usable and convenient form and at a price within the reach of all.

—EDWARD McMAHON.

Alexander H. Stephens. By Louis Pendleton. [The American Crisis Biographies, edited by Ellis Paxson Oberholtzer.] (Philadelphia: George W. Jacobs, 1908, pp. 406.)

One who expects to find in this volume a new life of Alex. H. Stephens is destined to disappointment. The volume is a scissors-and-pastepot condensation of two earlier biographies of Stephens, together with a few selections or condensations from Stephens' "War Between the States." Practically the only parts contributed by the author are three chapters in which, as "a fellow Georgian," he tells the reader some things he thinks the reader ought to know, not that they have any direct bearing on Stephens' character or actions, but apparently on the theory that they should be known.

The first biography of Stephens came from the pen of Henry Cleveland in 1866, and is a meagre account, chiefly valuable for