

tribes or bands found their way from there to the East, one must not overlook the possibility of another solution." On page 407, he says: "Therefore, it is unlikely that the Southwest or Pacific Coast was settled by people coming from the East. If there was any migration it was more likely to have been from the West to the East and at a period of unknown antiquity, since the forms described between the covers of this book developed in the East and not in the West."

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THE MIDDLE GROUP OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS. By John Spencer Bassett, Ph. D., LL.D. (New York, The Macmillan Co., 1917. Pp. 324. \$2.)

The middle period of American historical writing as treated by Professor Bassett begins with the work of Jared Sparks about 1826 and extends to 1884 with the organization of the American Historical Association and the more marked emphasis upon strictly scientific historical writing of which that association was at once the outgrowth and in turn the cause.

An interesting chapter traces the early progress of history before the time of Sparks in very interesting fashion. Sparks, Bancroft, Motley and Peter Force are studied at length as the leading historians of the middle period. The work is, of course, creditably and sympathetically done by Professor Bassett, and historical students everywhere will hope that "health and years" will allow him to fulfill his wish to complete his work along the line of the present volume.

From the press of Smith College (Smith College Studies in History, Volume II, No. 2, January, 1917,) also comes a small volume edited by Professor Bassett, giving the "Correspondence of George Bancroft and Jared Sparks, 1823-32," which supplements the first book and throws an interesting light on the relationship existing between Sparks, as editor of the North American Review, and George Bancroft, one of the reviewers for that publication.

EDWARD McMAHON.

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THE ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Volume X, Parts 1 and 2, 1915-16).

This report contains, in addition to many valuable articles dealing with South Pacific Coast history, two reprints that are rare. One is the report of Commodore Stocton on the battles of January 8 and