

viously been seen by Menzies and by Lewis, but had not become generally known.

Some portions of Douglas' journal were published in 1836 by Sir W. J. Hooker in the "Companion to the Botanical Magazine" and the paper was later reprinted by the Oregon Historical Society. His collections were described in Hooker's *Flora Boreali-Americana* (1829-1840). In the main, however, the contents of the present volume are now for the first time made available for the general public.

The publication of this journal is a matter of interest and gratification to botanists. The pioneer botanical work in any region is necessarily concerned with the collecting and naming of plants. The taxonomic work must precede investigations in the more modern fields of morphology, ecology, pathology, and physiology. In the extent of territory covered, in the number of new species added to science, as well as the number introduced to cultivation in other countries, and in patience and perseverance under trying and even perilous circumstances, Douglas certainly ranks first among that remarkable group of pioneer collectors who made possible the present progress in botany in the Pacific Northwest.

His untimely death at the early age of 35 occurred in the Sandwich Islands in 1834. Such particulars as could be learned regarding the circumstances of his death were made known through a letter from missionaries of Hawaii to the British consul at the Sandwich Islands. It need hardly be added that the book is interesting and valuable to historians as well as to botanists.

GEORGE B. RIGG.

THE POLITICAL AND SECTIONAL INFLUENCE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS, 1828-1842. By Raynor G. Wellington. (Cambridge, Riverside Press, 1914. Pp. 131. \$1.25).

The land question has been a subject of much debate since the settlement of America and out of it has come a good deal of discussion. Private property in land, the influence of free land on democracy, the political part played by the cession of the common lands by the various states to the central government, and the economic issues arising out of the growth of slavery are some of the points of view elaborated by many writers. The angles of approach to the subject vary with the individual and his interests.

The present study attempts to show how the public lands, owing to the growth of sections having conflicting economic interests, became a subject for political bargainings and sectional alliances. As Professor Wellington well points out: "The struggles of the sections were centering about these three economic issues—tariff, public lands, and internal improvements. The interest of the different sections in these issues, in the order

of their importance was as follows: The Northwest—Low-priced public lands, internal improvements a high tariff; the Southwest—Low-priced public lands, a low tariff, internal improvements; the Seaboard South—A low tariff, no internal improvements at federal expense, high-priced public lands; the North Atlantic States—A high tariff, high-priced public lands, internal improvements. Under these conditions the North Atlantic States, the South and the West, needed the assistance of another section to get what each wanted most—a high tariff, a low tariff, and freedom of the public domain respectively. The most likely combination was for each allying section to give up a secondary interest in order to obtain its primary interest.”

Under other conditions the disposition of the public lands would have been a difficult rational problem, but a scientific settlement might have been reached. Compromise was the only thing possible, however, from 1828 to 1842, the period under discussion. The topic brought out in succeeding chapter on the relations between the question of the public lands and the tariff, the influence of the surplus and the panic during Jackson's and Van Buren's administrations, the election of 1840, and the attempts of the Whigs to use the election to further their own interests. The political influence of the question is brought out by the citation of opinions by Webster, Calhoun, Clay, Van Buren, Benton and other leaders whose views effected their political standing. It is interesting to note that although the West was growing in influence in regard to free land the passage of the Homestead Act was not possible before the outbreak of the Civil War.

In conclusion it may be said that the monograph is written in a thoroughly scientific manner and that the facts, gleaned from a wide range of primary sources, bring out the conditions and are stated in support of all conclusions. The result is a valuable addition to our knowledge of the influence of land on American economic and political conditions.

GEORGE MILTON JANES.

GROWTH OF AMERICAN STATE CONSTITUTIONS FROM 1776 TO THE END OF THE YEAR 1914. By James Quayle Dealey, Professor of Social and Political Science in Brown University. (Boston, Ginn and Co. 1915. Pp. 308. \$1.40).

The present book began as a series of newspaper articles, grew into a supplement number of the annals of the Academy of Social and Political Science in 1907 and now appears in a new and enlarged form as a valuable hand book on American State Constitutions. Part I, about one-third of the book, traces in outline, the changes in State Constitutions from