

rians in other states. It is to be hoped that Washington will be among the first to follow in making a reliable record of the beginnings and development of this most important feature in our civilization. Here is a great opportunity for a student of history and education in the state of Washington.

PAUL J. KRUSE.

SPENCER FULLERTON BAIRD: A BIOGRAPHY. By William Healey Dall. (Philadelphia, Lippincott, 1915. Pp. 462. \$3.50.)

"The two men who have exerted the strongest influence upon natural history studies in this country are Louis Agassiz and Professor Baird." This judgment of the late Dr. J. S. Billings indicates the importance of the present and first adequate biography of Spencer Fullerton Baird.

The subject of this notable biography was for thirty-seven years in the scientific service of the United States Government. During his entire career he was directly or indirectly concerned in the organization and administration of the scientific work of the numerous surveys and explorations sent out by the Government. He was in Washington City as a youth of nineteen when the collections from the now famous Wilkes Exploring Expedition were being received by the Museum of the Patent Office. So interested did he become in the scientific material which he there saw that he at once applied for a position as curator. He failed to secure the position but in 1850 became Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and later Secretary of this Organization which position he held through life. Under his direction, the natural history reports of many of the surveys of the West were prepared and he personally wrote the two volumes of the Pacific Railroad Survey devoted to mammals and birds.

The volume contains many selections from Professor Baird's correspondence with Audubon, Agassiz, Dana and other scientists of note and is so full of human interest that anyone, regardless of profession, will find it a delightful book to read. The author, Dr. W. H. Dall, has written many books and monographs on Alaska and the Northwest and has been a curator of the United States National Museum since 1880.

COLLECTIONS OF THE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. VOLUME 13, 1913-1914. Edited by William E. Connelley. (Topeka, State Printer, 1915. Pp. 602.)

This volume will prove of value in the Pacific Northwest by rea-

son of an able and suggestive paper by W. E. Connelley upon "National Aspects of the Old Oregon Trail." Painstaking care is evidenced in the preparation and editing of the entire volume. Much of fact and incident is here collected for the use of present and future students. A fifty-seven page, double-column index is furnished.

CALIFORNIA, 1849-1913; OR, THE RAMBLING SKETCHES AND EXPERIENCES OF SIXTY-FOUR YEARS' RESIDENCE IN THAT STATE. (Oakland, DeWitt and Snelling, 1913. Pp. 48. \$.50.)

Here is the unpretentious story of a '49-er from Vermont. The narrative begins with the trip over the Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri. Many incidents are related bearing upon early mining days in the Golden State.

TEXAS IN THE MIDDLE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY. By Herbert Eugene Bolton. (Berkeley, University of California Press, 1915. Pp. 501. \$3.25 paper, \$3.50 cloth.)

The sub-title is Studies in Spanish Colonial History and Administration. It is Volume III in the University of California Publications in History. Professor Bolton has made himself an authority on the history of the Southwest. This large work, based on the original sources, may well be accepted as final on its definite time and place. The book is illustrated with maps and diagrams. In dignity and scholarship it reflects credit on the great institution from which it is issued.

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS. (Lansing, Michigan Historical Commission, 1915. Pp. 601.)

This is Volume XXXIX of the Collections. It is packed with valuable materials pertaining to the history of Michigan. It is a fine example of what an enterprising state can do toward preserving the record of men and events important in the annals of the commonwealth.

THE MILITARY OBLIGATION OF CITIZENSHIP. By Leonard Wood. (Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1916. Pp. 76. 75 cents net.)

The distinguished Major General, United States Army, gave an address at Princeton on April 15, 1915, on "The Policy of the United