

The Problem of the Pacific. By C. BRUNSDON FLETCHER. (New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1919. Pp. 254. \$3.00 net.)

The author opens his preface by declaring: "This book is not an ordered history of the Pacific. Its main object is to show how four Powers during a century have been reaching towards a mastery of half of the world—the Pacific Ocean covers a whole hemisphere—and only as the main facts of this mastery are kept in mind will a Peace Conference be able to do justice to the interests now dominant."

His description of the first chapter is worth repeating: "A century completed with war: Its history in the Pacific marked by chapters of special importance: Each decade from 1814 begins with some notable event: The Monroe Doctrine in 1824 and Alaska: Australia conquered in 1814, 1824, 1834: France and Tahiti in 1844, and Britain's settlement with America: The year 1854 and Japan's beginning as a Power: Germany also enters the Pacific in that year: Effect upon the Pacific of Prussia's attack upon Denmark in 1864: Fiji annexed in 1874: Germany's annexations in 1884: War between China and Japan in 1894: War between Japan and Russia in 1904: Opening of Kiel and Panama Canals in 1914."

The ambitions of Germany and Japan bulk large in the subsequent chapters and the position of Australia is given prominence. The author's preface is dated at Sydney in May, 1918. His conclusion is a plea for a better understanding of Australia and the last words: "While some things may have to wait, the main purpose of English-speaking peoples in spreading the blessings of real liberty will be greatly served."

The Degradation of the Democratic Dogma. By HENRY ADAMS. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1919. Pp. 317. \$2.50.)

In this *Quarterly* for January, 1919, there appeared a review of the remarkable book entitled "The Education of Henry Adams." In correspondence with the dead author's brother, Brooks Adams, it developed that he had a manuscript giving further views of Henry Adams on the philosophy of history which would be published. It here appears as "The Rule or Phase Applied to History."

The first half of the volume is by the brother, Brooks Adams, on "The Heritage of Henry Adams." This is followed by a letter to the American Historical Association of which he was president can Teachers of History (1910) and by the final "Phase." inn 1894 and by the hitherto privately published "Letter to Ameri-