

BOOK REVIEWS.

Doniphan's Expedition and the Conquest of New Mexico and California. By William Elsey Connelley. (Topeka, Kansas: Published by the author, 1907, pp. X. 670.)

The student of Western history will find in this volume an interesting story of pioneer achievements. The bulk of the volume consists of a reprint of Doniphan's Expedition, etc., as published by Jno. T. Hughes in 1847. Mr. Connelley's work is that of editor and publisher mainly, though he has made some valuable additions.

Jno. Taylor Hughes, born in Kentucky, July 25, 1817, was a descendant of Stephen Hughes, who early came to Maryland from Wales. Members of the Hughes family later moved to Virginia. Each generation followed the receding frontier westward into Kentucky and then into Missouri, where the author of Doniphan's Expedition grew to manhood. In 1840 he graduated from Bonne Femme College and was teaching school at Liberty, Mo., when war with Mexico was declared. He enlisted as a private and his company was part of Doniphan's regiment. He early made known his intention of becoming the historian of the expedition if he survived, and was given every opportunity to secure material for his contemplated work.

Doniphan's force, the First Regiment Missouri Mounted Volunteers, made up about half the army under the command of Colonel (later Brigadier-General) Stephen W. Kearny, the whole being known as the Army of the West. Kearny conducted the expedition to Santa Fe, where he left the bulk of his army under Doniphan while he pushed on with a few men to California. Doniphan in turn left Colonel Sterling Price in charge of Santa Fe and pushed on to Chihuahua. Two brilliant and decisive battles were fought at Brazito and Sacramento and Chihuahua was conquered.

From Chihuahua Doniphan marched his forces to Saltillo, from whence, as their period of enlistment would soon expire, they were ordered home. The march was continued to Matamoras, and from there they took ships to New Orleans, where they were mustered out of the service. This march from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe, Chihuahua, Saltillo and Matamoras—about 3,600 miles—is called Doniphan's Expedition.

Hughes' narrative is extremely interesting. It is written from the standpoint of the man in the ranks and has a wealth of interest and detail pertaining to the actual difficulties of the march that is rarely obtainable for such a movement. Hughes was a keen observer and interestingly describes the country, its people, the army and its maneuvers. Few travelers have written with a readier pen.

Mr. Connelley has added fuller information in a multitude of foot notes, as well as full and interesting sketches of Doniphan, Hughes, Sterling Price, a part of the hitherto unprinted diary of Hughes, the official rosters of the companies and eleven appendices, all of which enhance the value of the original work.

The whole volume shows careful editing and it will take first rank as a personal narrative dealing with the Mexican War. The whole story is so well told that it is hard to put it aside until it has been read through.

EDWARD McMAHON.

Robert Lucas. By John C. Parish [Iowa Biographical Series, edited by Benjamin F. Shambough]. (Iowa City, the State Historical Society of Iowa, 1907, pp. XI. 356.)

This study of Robert Lucas is a valuable volume dealing with a Western pioneer's activities as a soldier in the War of 1812, as a politician, legislator and Governor of Ohio, and as Territorial Governor of Iowa. The study is valuable not because Lucas was a great actor in any of these capacities, but rather because he was such a good type of the men that have filled and are still filling these positions in the newer Western States. Lucas was essentially a Western pioneer, self-made, partially educated, independent, somewhat dogmatic, set in his opinions even to the point of being stubborn, but, notwithstanding, possessed of a good fund of common sense and practical ability. In addition to the clear delineation of Lucas' character, the book contains a wealth of material setting forth the life of a pioneer State and its problems. With but slight modifications, similar characters can be found working out similar problems in State government in many States of the far West to-day.

Robert Lucas' paternal ancestors were Quakers who came from England in the days of William Penn. When Buck County ceased to be a pioneer county the family moved across the mountains into Western Virginia, where Robert Lucas was born. By 1800 the Lucas family had settled in the Scioto river valley,