

HISTORY OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. By Edmond S. Meany. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1909. Pp. xii., 406.)

The appearance of Professor Meany's book, while the publication of the Quarterly was temporarily suspended, prevented a more timely notice of its publication. It occupies, however, so important a place in the field of history covered by this journal that adequate notice is imperatively demanded.

The text is arranged under five heads, as follows: Part I., The Period of Discovery, includes four short chapters (forty-four pages); Part II., The Period of Exploration (thirty-four pages) carries the narration through the explorations of Mackenzie, Lewis and Clark, Wyeth, and closes with the Wilkes Expedition.

Part III., The Period of Occupation (forty-seven pages) opens with the settlement at Astoria and the joint occupancy of the Territory by England and the United States and ends with the settlement of the northwestern boundary of the United States by the treaty of 1846. Part IV., Territorial Days (one hundred and forty-one pages) by far the longest section of the work deals with the history of the Territory proper and leads directly to the last division. Part V. (forty-eight pages), which in a similar way brings the history of the state to the time of publication. In this latter section two chapters trace the evolution of the state government, and other chapters set forth the economic, political and social achievements. A final and distinctly noteworthy chapter presents the federal activity in the state.

The book throughout bears abundant evidence of the thorough mastery of the subject matter to which Professor Meany has devoted a life time of earnest and conscientious endeavor. The narrative is written with an enthusiasm and spirit born of intimate acquaintance with and love of the work. Additional insight is gained by the fact that the author knew and was to some extent himself one of the actors in the story.

The controverted phases are handled with fairness and good judgment, and nowhere else, so far as the reviewer knows, can one turn for light on these controversies with such complete satisfaction.

The book is well made and attractive in appearance. Useful and well executed political and physiographic maps make for the usefulness of the book, as also does an adequate index. About fifty illustrations of historical interest and four appendixes complete the volume.

The work has been so well done in every way that it will long remain the final word in its field.

EDWARD M'MAHON.