

THE COLUMBIA RIVER, ITS HISTORY, ITS MYTHS, ITS SCENERY, ITS COMMERCE. By William Dennison Lyman. (New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1911. Pp. 409. \$1.75.)

The original edition of this volume in The American Waterway Series deals with the great river and the parts of the Northwest about it, viz., Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia. The present edition is cheaper in price and suitable for use in teachers' reading circles. The author's purpose, "To convey to his reader a lively sense of the romance, the heroism, and the adventure" of the region, together with something of the sentiment and spirit which is called "Western," has been well done. The work is popular in character, avoids all attempts at settling controverted points, and, while aiming at historical accuracy, cites no authorities in the fashion approved by historical scholars. This seems to the reviewer the greatest weakness in the work. Not a few of the general readers, for whom the book is planned, are especially interested and well informed on the history of the Northwest. These will challenge many of the views expressed and regret that the author has offered no definite citations to his authorities. This problem is faced, of course, by every popular series, and no doubt the author and his publishers have decided to meet the popular view and ignore the other.

The first seven chapters, a little more than two-thirds of the book, deal with the history of the region running through the periods of discovery, exploration, fur trading, missionary endeavor, pioneering, mining, farming, etc.

Part II. consists of six chapters describing a journey down the river, which the author hopes will fill the minds of the readers "with a longing to see it face to face." In this he is successful.

Keeping in mind the reader for whom the book is intended, the narrative is written with spirit and insight, and on the whole appears exceedingly well done.

EDWARD M'MAHON.

Other Books Received

BANCROFT, HUBERT HOWE. Retrospection, Political and Personal. (New York, The Bancroft Company. Pp. 562. \$2.00.)

BEARD, CHARLES A. The Supreme Court and the Constitution. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1912. Pp. 127. \$1.00 net.)

CHANNING, EDWARD. A History of the United States, Volume III., The American Revolution, 1761-1789. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1912. Pp. 585. \$2.50 net.)