

Clay and Gallatin have been fully treated. The present volume fills a gap that has heretofore existed and deserves a cordial welcome for that reason.

Miss Donnan, as editor, has given evidence of a high grade of scholarship. The footnotes are apt, full and illuminating. Under the modest title of "Preface," she has given in brief but interesting form all the essentials that are available of Bayard's biography. She frankly says: "He was not a great statesman, he had not a mind of marked originality or vision, but he was a careful and judicious lawyer, with a thoroughly competent grasp of the subjects with which he dealt, a sincere and high-minded public servant, and a warm-hearted and amiable man. That he gained not only the respect but also the devotion of those who came into close association with him is clearly shown by the letters, as is also his devotion to his family, the separation from which never ceased to be a source of sorrow to him."

On pages 9 and 10 she tells the story of a search for pictures of the Americans made by P. van Huffel at the time of the negotiation. Dr. J. Franklin Jameson of the Carnegie Institution of Washington visited Ghent in 1912, in connection with the then proposed celebration of the century of peace. He there learned of the pencil portraits by the well known artist. The celebration was abandoned on account of the great war but Dr. Jameson's vigorous search revealed the pictures. They were in the possession of a grandson of Christopher Hughes in Baltimore. Hughes was secretary of the American commission at Ghent and was later United States Minister to Sweden. The rescued pencil portrait of Bayard by Van Huffel in 1814 and an engraving by St. Mémin about 1798 appear as the frontispiece and the only illustration in the book.

EDMOND S. MEANY.

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TRAVELS IN ALASKA. By John Muir. (Boston, Houghton-Mifflin Company, 1915. Pp. 327. \$2.50 net.)

Here is a posthumous volume from the pen of the greatest exponent of nature yet developed in the far west. The Scotch boy was moved in early life to Wisconsin where he lived a wonderful boyhood. But his long years of vigorous manhood were lived joyously and effectively upon the Pacific Coast.

The preface of the present volume is written by William Frederic Badé, ripe scholar and Professor of Oriental Theological Literature and Semitic Languages in Pacific Theological Seminary, University of California. He begins: "Forty years ago John Muir wrote to a friend: 'I am hopelessly and forever a mountaineer. \* \* \* Civilization and

fever, and all the morbidity that has been hooted at me, have not dimmed my glacial eyes, and I care to live only to entice people to look at Nature's loveliness.' How gloriously he fulfilled the promise of his early manhood! Fame, all unbidden, wore a path to his door, but he always remained a modest, unspoiled mountaineer."

The professor also pays a beautiful tribute to Mrs. Marion Randall Parsons, close friend of the great naturalist, who had worked much with him and knew well the pencilled notes on the manuscripts. "The labor involved," says the preface, "was the greater in order that the finished work might exhibit the last touches of Muir's master-hand, and yet contain nothing that did not flow from his pen. All readers of this book will feel grateful for her labor of love."

The contents of the volume are divided into two parts, one giving the trip to Alaska in 1879 including the wonderful experiences that resulted in the discovery of the great glacier since called by his name and also in the writing of the American classic, the little dog story called "Stickeen." The other part of the book gives the trip of 1880, the most charming portion of which is "My sled-trip on the Muir Glacier."

Those who love the out-of-doors in the great far west and especially the numerous hosts who already know the writings of John Muir will greet with keen delight this new volume. They will also rejoice over the promise in the preface of further salvage from the naturalist's unpublished writings.

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WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS,  
Volume II, 1907-1914. (Olympia, Public Printer, 1915. Pp. 483.)

The appearance of this book was noted in the *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Volume VI, pages 284-285. As there stated, it is to tie by publication, the work of the Society back to its former publication in 1906.

The book carries thirty illustrations, mostly portraits. Following the lists of officers and committees, the book contains eight chapters or parts as follows: History of the Washington State Historical Society, Dedication Exercises of the Monuments Erected by the Washington State Historical Society, Unveiling of the Statues of Francis W. Cushman and Robert L. McCormick, Documents Relating to Other Historical Events, Papers Relating to the History of the State of Washington, Papers Relating to Mt. Tacoma-Rainier, Biographical, The Tacoma Research Club of the State Historical Society.

A few of these need further comment. The documents relating to other historical events are an account of the reception to Ezra Meeker on his return from recrossing the continent with an ox team, golden anniver-