

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-

Readers of "The Education of Henry Adams" will surely want to read this book. In a private letter, Brooks Adams says: "I am afraid you will hardly find the book alluring, as it is not optimistic." But he adds later, "Such as we are—we are." He thinks the "Letter to Teachers" is one of the ablest things his brother Henry ever wrote.

The Life of General Ely S. Parker. By ARTHUR C. PARKER. (Buffalo, N. Y.: Buffalo Historical Society. 1919. Pp. 346.)

This interesting addition to Americana is written by a great-nephew of General Parker. The author has achieved reputation as a scholar and writer. He is now State Archaeologist of New York. General Parker was the last Grand Sachem of the Iroquois and was military secretary of General Grant. He made a most remarkable link between the great race of Indians and their white neighbors. This book with its sympathetic records and collection of illustrations will prove to be a monument to one of America's admirable Indian characters.

Taxation in Nevada. By ROMANZO ADAMS. (Reno: Nevada Historical Society. 1918. Pp. 199. \$1.50.)

This little volume, well described by its title, is one in the Nevada Applied History Series, edited by Jeanne Elizabeth Wier.

Correspondence of the Reverend Ezra Fisher. Edited by SARAH FISHER HENDERSON, NELLIE EDITH LATOURETTE and KENNETH SCOTT LATOURETTE. (Portland: Miss Freda Latourette, 325 Chamber of Commerce Building. 1919. Pp. 492. \$3.50 net.)

Rev. Ezra Fisher was a pioneer Missionary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Oregon.

The first twenty-nine pages are devoted to a biographical sketch of the missionary. His correspondence from the Middle West concludes on page 155 when he wrote on April 12, 1845, "We are now here (Davenport) on our way to Oregon." The last entry bears the date of March 31, 1857. That span of a dozen years was filled with important events in Oregon history and these pages of letters throw light that will be welcome by all who study the period. Like most missionaries he gained his living from the soil. In 1861, he left the region of Willamette Valley and moved to The Dalles.