

BOOK REVIEWS

The Journal of John Work, A Chief-trader of the Hudson's Bay Company. Edited by WILLIAM S. LEWIS and PAUL C. PHILLIPS. (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1923. Pp. 209. \$6.00 net.)

Collectors of Northwest Americana will note that this book is limited to an edition of 1,000 copies printed direct from type and the type distributed.

The editors have given a vast amount of effort to make an accurate transcript of the original manuscript and to identify the regions traversed, in terms of present day geography. In this connection they acknowledge assistance from such local authorities as T. C. Elliott, of Walla Walla, Washington; John E. Rees, of Salmon, Idaho; Miss Jean Bishop, of Dillon, Montana; and Miss Hazel Herman, of the State University of Montana.

The ground covered in the journal reproduced is thus described in the publisher's announcement: "At the direction of Dr. John McLoughlin, Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company interests in the Pacific Northwest, John Work started from Fort Vancouver in August, 1831, and followed up the Columbia to Walla Walla. From there he crossed over to Snake River and followed the Lolo trail once traversed by Lewis and Clark through Lolo Pass into what is now Montana. He then began his hunting and trading along Clark's Fork, the Blackfoot, and back to Clark's Fork across to the Beaverhead country and thence across the mountains into the region now included in the State of Idaho. He then explored all the great rivers of southern and southeastern Idaho and returned to Fort Vancouver in July, 1832."

Abundant footnotes, signed by the initials of their authors, give a fine sense of scholarly devotion on the part of the editors. A helpful essay on "The Fur Trade in the Northwest" occupies pages 15 to 53. It is signed by the initials of Professor Phillips. An unsigned chapter, covering pages 55 to 69, is entitled "Life of John Work." The great trader and explorer richly deserves this biographical attention and many will be delighted to have the record in this permanent form.

An appendix contains two letters by John Work, a list of twenty-three such letters and a brief bibliography of the fur

trade in the Northwest. A photograph of John Work is used as frontispiece. The book has four other illustrations and a map showing the route of the journey here recorded. A copious index adds much to the value of the book.

Readers of the *Washington Historical Quarterly* and of the *Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society* are aware of other journals of other trips by John Work. Each publication has contained a number of such journals edited by T. C. Elliott and one portion edited by William S. Lewis and Jacob A. Meyers. Some of these are cited in footnotes in the present volume. The one complete journal here reproduced gives the book unity and affords the opportunity for gathering the supplemental chapters, a combination which will provide for the volume a choice place in all collections of Northwest Americana.

EDMOND S. MEANY.

Origin of Washington Geographic Names. By EDMOND S. MEANY.
(Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1923. Pp. 357.)

This book has been published as a series of articles in the *Washington Historical Quarterly* beginning in October, 1917. Criticisms were invited and such as were received were incorporated in this reprinted volume. The edition in book form comprises only 250 copies intended for the libraries that may need a reference work of this nature. The origins of 2042 names are recorded. There are also 771 cross-references to facilitate the tracing of obsolete names. An analysis of the names recorded shows that they were conferred as follows: for individual persons, 824; for physical features (such as Mound Prairie), 399; Indian names, 386; for other towns or countries, 191; for crops, plants, animals, etc., 115; freak names (such as Hogum, Hungry Harbor, Hellgate and Pandora), 65; Spanish names, 33; for American ships, 17; for British ships, 6; Biblical names, 6.

In the preparation of the work, all known sources were consulted, such as maps, charts, diaries, books of travel, histories, newspapers and pamphlets. Thousands of letters were written and many personal interviews were held with pioneers. Great effort was made toward completeness but that is impossible in a