

of the constitution—one of the most difficult fields of law—can be so simplified as to be of very great value to students in the elementary schools, but assuming that some adequate understanding is attainable by young pupils this book should abundantly meet their needs.

There are three divisions of the field. Part one contains a simple explanation of government in general and our government in particular. Part two takes up the Constitution of the United States and explains it section by section in the simplest possible language. Necessarily all the complicated and debatable clauses and phrases that have exercised the reasoning powers of the greatest lawyers and jurists are passed over without clarification. In part three Professor Meany has given a clear and concise exposition of the constitution and government of Washington. It is up-to-date, informing and pleasingly presented.

An appendix reprints the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States and that of the State of Washington. At the end of each chapter are found references for further reading, suggestive questions, and subjects for discussion in class, and throughout the book are well chosen and well executed illustrations. Mechanically and typographically the book is beyond criticism. A glossary of difficult terms and an index make the contents readily accessible. Both authors are to be congratulated on their successful command of easy clear-cut English, which will without question grip the attention of their readers.

EDWARD McMAHON.

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*Condensed Popular History of the United States of America.* By GUST. S. STALEY. (Yakima, Washington, 1924. Pp. 75).

This little volume is an attempt on the part of an intelligent citizen interested in the study of the history of his country to awaken a deeper interest in that history. It is designed to meet the needs of a hurrying world that has little time for serious prolonged study of anything. It is both an outline and a summary. From the college point of view it is therefore unorthodox, but it may supply a real need that the college course does not. Most people still conceive of history as facts. History is no more facts than bricks are a house. Something more is needed. The bricks must be arranged according to the plan in the builder's mind; the facts so as to show how the present has unfolded itself from the past. This is extremely hard to do briefly. The briefer the summary the

greater the difficulty. To condense a book or a chapter into a sentence invites inevitable error. Still this little volume may make an appeal that a more elaborate account would not awaken at all, and it was this appeal that the author had in mind.

EDWARD McMAHON.

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*The Inside Passage to Alaska, 1792-1920.* By WILLIAM WATSON WOOLLEN. (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1924. Two volumes. Pp. 342; 318. \$12.50).

The title of this work indicates that it is well within the purview of the *Washington Historical Quarterly*, but the memory of the author is much more fondly cherished in his native State of Indiana than it is in Alaska or the Pacific Northwest. At the time of his death, on March 26, 1921, he was the senior member of the bar of Indianapolis both in age and in continuous practice. On account of his long and successful career as a lawyer and on account of well known law-books he had written, his demise inspired impressive ceremonies on the part of the Indianapolis Bar Association. That would have been deemed a sufficient crowning glory for his sixty years of activity as a lawyer. Not so in his case. In a few years it will all be forgotten. William Watson Woollen was a very unusual character. His avocation will surely eclipse his vocation. He was a nature lover of the highest type like John Muir and John Burroughs.

He was a member of a number of scientific organizations and was the guiding spirit of the Nature Study Club of Indiana. On a wild tract of land at Buzzard's Roost, outside of Indianapolis, he established a refuge for birds and other wild creatures. There he studied for years by himself and with the Nature Club. Since his death a tablet has been placed there to his memory and the place has been renamed "Woollen's Garden of Birds and Botany."

In 1912, he made a trip to the Pacific Coast, and, while approaching Sitka from Skagway, he resolved to write a book on "The Inside Passage to Alaska." His lawyer instinct prompted him to get all the facts. That proved laborious. He consulted available books and ultimately made five personal trips to Alaska gathering materials. As he saw the end of life approaching he worked feverishly on his manuscript. He was not able to give it the final revision. This was done by Paul L. Haworth, author of *Trailmakers of the Northwest* and other works. The editor has done his work capably and with a sincere sympathy.