

detail. He introduces no new or unusual material. In point of view and interpretation he follows the conservative path. There are no footnote references nor a bibliography. The value of this book lies in the fact that he has written an interesting story. There are no new contributions in subject matter nor in the method of treatment aside from the literary style.

ERMA NELSON.

History of the United States of America. By HENRY WILLIAM ELSON, A.M., Litt. D. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1926. Pp. 996. \$3.75.)

The first edition of this book was published in 1904, and it has been very widely used as a supplementary text, and by the general reader. From time to time reprints of it have been made to supply the demand but until the present it has not been revised. The original was literally full of errors and misstatements of facts, but this revision has eliminated them. The new book follows the general lines of the first edition but there have been many restatements of the subject matter. In some cases the chapters have been entirely re-written and new materials have been added. The writer frankly admits a modification of view point and has been helped by numerous friendly criticisms. Barring a certain journalistic style reminiscent of the "sob-stuff" of the metropolitan dailies which many people believe essential to arousing an interest in history, the book has been well done. It has had a very wide circle of readers and it is gratifying to note the great improvement in accuracy.

EDWARD McMAHON.

The Writing of History. By JEAN JULES JUSSERAND, WILBUR CORTEZ ABBOTT, CHARLES W. COLBY, and JOHN SPENCER BASSETT. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1926. Pp. 143. \$1.50.)

The Executive Council of the American Historical Association, realizing that the writing of history in the United States was not in a satisfactory state, caused to be appointed by the Association in 1920, a special committee consisting of Jean Jules Jusserand, then Ambassador from France, Doctor Charles William Colby and Professor Wilbur Cortez Abbott. Two years later, Professor John Spencer Bassett, Secretary of the Association, was added to the committee. After planning the work each member submitted to the others his own conclusions. It was