

papers, memoirs and diaries, thus reaching the life of the people of the time. In the "Critical Essay on Authorities," a lengthy bibliography is of invaluable aid to the student of this period, especially because of the penetrating analysis of the material. The interests covered include all phases of activity: labor, immigration, religion, philanthropy, woman's rights, literature, and the fine arts. In consequence, an unusually rich and varied procession of individuals and groups are described. Some of the material has never before been presented and is extremely valuable in completing the details of the usual picture of the life in the period drawn with a few heavy strokes. Not only are details added, the picture is changed from the over-simplified economic-political type and becomes much more adequate since the details describe the life of the people rather than the parades of the parties. In the chapters on the Civil War, the emphasis is on the man in the ranks, not on the generals.

It is nearly a century since Marx wrote his essay on "The Holy Family" in which he interpreted religion in the light of economic factors and emphasized every-day life. The success of the economic interpretation has increased tremendously our knowledge of the life of people, but not until recently has the American historian rounded the presentation by including social and cultural factors. In the period from 1850 to 1865, there was so much humanitarian striving, so much that was new in literature and education, that a political or economic history fails to explain the nature of the "irrepressible conflict." A volume as comprehensive as Professor Cole's is therefore of great value in explaining the differences between the northern and southern civilizations. The southerners "sickened at the name" of a free society consisting of "greasy mechanics, filthy operatives, small-fisted farmers, and moon-struck theorists." The northerners who were anti-slavery considered slavery a moral wrong because of its effect upon white people and free labor. The differences between these two opinions constituted "the irrepressible conflict," led to bloodshed and civil war, and heralded modern America.

EBBA DAHLIN

Five Fur Traders of the Northwest. Edited by CHARLES M. GATES, with an Introduction by Grace Lee Nute. (Minneapolis: Published for the Minnesota Society of the Colonial Dames of America, by the University of Minnesota Press, 1933. Pp. 298. \$3.50.)

Forty Years a Fur Trader on the Upper Missouri. By CHARLES LARPENTEUR. Historical Introduction by Milo Milton Quaife. (Chicago: The Lakeside Press, Christmas, 1933. Pp. 388.)

In his Foreword to *Five Fur Traders of the Northwest*, Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, Superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, states, "This volume is a monument commemorating a significant chapter in the history of the western world. The setting up of such a monument is in itself of deep significance. It is a mark of increasing popular interest in the history of nation and of locality, and this in turn is an unmistakable evidence of maturity in point of view and in judgment." This volume contains the *Narrative* of Peter Pond, and the *Diaries* of John Macdonnell, Archibald N. McLeod, Hugh Fairies, and Thomas Connor. The diaries cover the period from 1793 to 1805, while the narrative of Pond is of course earlier. The area is largely that of the Great Lakes Region extending to Lake Winnipeg in the latitude of Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota and along the Southern portion of Canada.

The *Personal Narrative* of Charles Larpenteur covers a later period, 1833 to 1872, and relates to the fur trade of the Upper Missouri River. The life record of Larpenteur is rated as one of the most important sources available for the history of this time and region. The present convenient and useful edition follows the edition edited by Elliot Coues. We learn from Dr. Quaife's Introduction that the original manuscript is in the Minnesota Historical Society and that Dr. Coues pretty completely revamped the language and literary construction while preparing it for publication in the L. C. Harper printing of 1898.

The issue of six fur trade items in the two volumes above mentioned is in keeping with the present tendency to make original sources readily available.

The Memorial of John Mears to the House of Commons Respecting the Capture of Vessels in Nootka Sound. With an Introduction and Notes by NELLIE B. PIPES. (Portland: Metropolitan Press, 1933. Pp. 92. \$2.00.)

This is a well printed and well bound reprint of an important and rare publication relating to the Nootka Sound controversy.