

most people can count on, and one preparing to follow in her footsteps had best take her story with a grain of salt.

Occasionally the pill shows through the sugar coating—that is to say, in some places the book reads like a real estate agent's advertisement or an apple-grower's text-book—but in general the style of writing is smooth and easy, pleasant and interesting to read. She has many bright and entertaining things to say of the varied types of people resident in the country, their past experiences, their present successes or failures, and philosophies. A slight love story—perhaps a little more sugar coating—runs through the whole, concerning a young man who comes to visit the author, and the young wife of a crabbed well-borer who disposes of himself conveniently and heroically by drowning, while rescuing a little Indian boy who had fallen into the Columbia.

The main interest, however, is the development of the apple-growing country, and the author has succeeded in giving a pleasant picture which will doubtless draw the attention of many toward orcharding.

EVELYN MAY BLODGETT.

The Cruise of the Corwin. By JOHN MUIR. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1917. Pp. 279.)

In a series of letters to the San Francisco Evening Bulletin and in his private journal kept from day to day, John Muir left a very complete and extremely valuable record of his experiences and observations while on board the revenue steamer "Corwin" in the Far North. In June of 1881, the *Jeannette*, in command of Lieutenant George W. DeLong, was crushed in the ice and sank about one hundred and fifty miles north of the New Siberian Islands.

In the spring of 1880, when the *Jeannette* had been missing for nearly a year, the *Corwin* was commissioned, in addition to her regular duties, to search for traces of the lost vessel and her crew. Again in 1881 she set sail from San Francisco with the same object in view and it was at this time that John Muir was one of the party. He had long been eager to study the evidences of glaciation in the Arctic region and so took advantage of this rare opportunity.

The *Corwin* touched at many points in the Far North, Wrangell Land and Herald Island being of particular interest. Mr. Muir's report is the first and practically the only scientific account of this part of the Arctic regions. In addition to his geological reports, some interesting botanical notes are included.

The author showed himself much interested also in the people of the lands which he visited, and has given us a fascinating account of

the lives and customs of the various tribes of Indians found along the Alaskan and Siberian coasts. His descriptions of their villages, their homes and of the people themselves are extremely interesting.

The Cruise of the *Corwin* is edited by William Frederic Badè and is exceptionally well done. It was a rather difficult task to take material from two sources and put it together without danger of repetition, but Mr. Badè has been very successful in selecting the most important and essential material and has presented it in a very readable form. At the end of the narrative he has included as an appendix the scientific record of the glaciation of the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions visited during the cruise, also Mr. Muir's botanical notes. While these are readable they are of chief interest to scientists. The book is a valuable contribution to the literature of the Far North.

MARGARET SCHUMACHER.

The Education of Henry Adams, an Autobiography. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1918. Pp. 519. \$5.00.)

Readers in the State of Washington are interested in all members of America's most wonderful family—the Adamses. Within the State there is a county and a mountain named in honor of John Adams. His son, John Quincy Adams, was one of the negotiators of the Treaty of Ghent, 1814, which practically saved Oregon to the United States. Charles Francis Adams, of the next generation, succeeded his father and grandfather in the important position as United States Minister to Great Britain. His term, from 1861 to 1868, was filled with such firmness, tact, and good sense that it is cited "among the foremost triumphs of American diplomacy." His third son, Henry Adams, author of the present work, was his private secretary during those stressful years.

Henry Adams was one of the most brilliant historians produced by America; more from the quality than from the quantity of his work is this true. The present book is the cap-sheaf of his intellectual harvest. Worthington C. Ford says in *The Nations* "The book is unique." People and events are observed for seventy years to value their contributions toward an education. The pages have a peculiar fascination. They are utterly frank and, at the same time, they sparkle with wit and a puzzling distrust of a really great fund of knowledge.

The book circulated in manuscript form for ten years and was then left with Senator Henry Cabot Lodge for publication after the author's death. The death occurred on March 28, 1918. The Senator