

however, that Miss Keys has gone very far afield for illustrative material such as might have been furnished by the Johnson Manuscripts, the newspapers, or the broadside collections. Colden has been presented to us in four characters, or rather as one character playing four parts—savant, surveyor, politician, executive. Aside from the fact that it is difficult to separate the surveyor from the politician, this arrangement does little violence to chronology, and is on the whole probably the best possible one. The style is a bit loose, the manner a bit casual; one is perhaps somewhat at sea in the mass of facts, unrelieved for the most part by any very suggestive generalization. Whatever the “general reader” may think, the specialist will nevertheless be grateful for much new light on the web of intrigue which enmeshed the colonial governors from Burnet to Clinton. And meantime three points of more general interest emerge from the detailed narrative: the extent to which personal and family rivalries dominated New York provincial politics; the incredible neglect of the English government to support its officials in their efforts to check the encroachments of the assembly on executive functions; the uselessness of the well-meaning doctrinaire in practical administration. Miss Keys has appreciated Colden perfectly: “With all his interests, all his learning, all his real worth, he had learned no lesson from experience” (p. 258). The least valuable part of the work is that which deals with the period after 1765. The author has apparently missed the striking significance of Colden’s brief day of popularity after the death of Moore. The meaning of the elections of 1768 and 1769 is not correctly appreciated. Statements with respect to the election of the Committee of Fifty-One and the election of the delegates to the First Continental Congress are misleading (p. 355). An unfortunate blunder of the publishers has resulted in a systematic misplacement of the pages from 352 to 369. The citation of authorities is not so full as could be wished, and there is no critical bibliography.

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*The Writings of James Madison.* Edited by Gaillard Hunt. Vol. VI., 1790–1802. (New York, G. P. Putnam’s Sons, 1906, pp. xvii, 464.) There is little that is new in this sixth volume. About half of it consists of Madison’s speeches in the First Congress, for which the text in the *Annals* seems to be taken as sufficiently ample and authoritative, his various contributions to Freneau’s *National Gazette*, “*Helvidius*”, his speech on the Jay treaty, and his Virginia report of 1799–1800. The rest is correspondence, embracing a dozen or so of family letters not printed in the former or Congressional edition, but of small importance, dealing largely with the errands which a son or brother visiting Philadelphia would inevitably do for a country family or neighborhood in Virginia. There are also a few other new letters, and from Madison’s assumption of the secretaryship of state in May, 1801, an important series of instructions to the American representatives in England, France

and Spain. The foot-notes, though not numerous, are almost uniformly good. That on p. 411 seems open to criticism. Madison says, speaking of Adams in a letter to Jefferson, January 10, 1801, "The follies of his administration, the oblique stroke at his Predecessor in the letter to Coxe, and the crooked character of that to T. Pinkney, are working powerfully against him." Under the name of "T. Pinkney" Mr. Hunt says, in a foot-note, "Pickering is meant". It seems much more natural to suppose no error, but to infer that the reference is to Adams's conciliatory letter of October 27, 1800, to Thomas Pinckney of South Carolina, called out by the publication of his unfortunate letter of May, 1792, to Tench Coxe, and by Pinckney's request for an explanation.

It is not easy to reconcile one's self to the mode of arrangement which the editor has followed in the case of letters contemporary with the public papers printed. The principle has been to give the latter the first place, at the top of the pages, and to "run in" the letters below, in smaller type, though elsewhere letters have a larger type than documents. Letters, documents, foot-notes, and even foot-notes to foot-notes, run across from page to page in such a manner that we sometimes have on the same page four strata of typography. Thus on pp. 43-123, beneath the newspaper contributions, we have twenty-seven letters, forty-seven foot-notes to the text and foot-notes to foot-notes, and a group of documents, the most interesting of all, relative to Washington's proposed farewell address of 1792. The effect is both ugly and confusing.

*Pubblica Dimostrazione di Simpatia per il Papa Pio IX. e per l'Italia avvenuta a New York, Lunedì 29 Novembre 1847, tratta dai Rendiconti inglesi di quell'anno, con Prefazione, Note, ed Appendici*, di H. Nelson Gay. (Roma, Roux e Viarengo; Boston, N. J. Bartlett and Company, 1907, pp. 94.) With this volume Mr. H. Nelson Gay begins what promises to be a useful series of publications on the more important phases of the *Relations between the United States and Italy, 1847-1871*. The book relates to a great mass-meeting held in New York in favor of Italian independence, the first gathering of this character convened outside Italy. The greater part of the volume is an Italian translation of the rare report of the *Proceedings*, prepared under the supervision of the committee of arrangements. The report, which includes letters and addresses from several of the most prominent citizens of the United States, welcoming as an extension of popular constitutional government the reforms instituted by the new Pope, constitutes one of the earliest and truest declarations of faith in a free and united Italy. No historian of either country mentions the meeting, yet it is important as a declaration of American public opinion and as marking the beginning of a quarter of a century of good relations between the United States and the constitutional states of Italy.

The volume contains a brief preface and appendixes including sketches based in part upon unpublished documents of the lives of the