

Registres du Conseil de Genève. Publiés par la Société d'Histoire et d'Archéologie de Genève. Tome II., 1461-1477 (Volumes 5-7). (Geneva, H. Kündig, 1906, pp. ix, 571.) This bulky volume suggests the amount of business transacted by the Genevan councils. The records of six years cover 480 printed quarto pages. In 1474, presumably a fairly typical year, over two meetings a week were held by the councils—and in only one was the secretary obliged to record “*multa fuerunt dicta, sed nichil conclusum est.*” The municipal housekeeping is like that recorded in the first volume.¹ Certain items throw interesting side-lights on Genevan life: the sturdy maintenance of their liberties against duke and bishop; the order of 1461 “that every one should have a sword behind the door in front of his house or in the workshop of his house”; the attempted regulation of vice through a queen of the vicious; careful auditing of treasurer's accounts, and shrewd bargaining over relief from feudal obligations; an amusing case of a packed caucus where there was “much cavilling” because “more than twelve appeared who were not invited”, with the natural result that in the subsequent annual election the primary assembly broke the slate.

But in these years the councils' records take a wider range. Through dealings with Savoy, Louis XI., Charles the Bold, and the Swiss, Geneva was drawn into vexatious and costly trials; yet through them she added to her thrifty and independent characteristics a needed breadth of interest and experience in the larger interests of Europe.

The volume is prepared with the care and accuracy to be expected from its editors, Louis Dufour-Vernes, the Genevan archivist, and Victor Van Berchem. The improvements which they have introduced into the second volume should be continued and possibly extended—an appendix (with an inedited letter of Charles the Bold), lists of Genevan officers, foot-notes which are models of brevity and usefulness, and a greater fullness and subdivision of the index.

HERBERT D. FOSTER.

Nonciatures de France: Nonciatures de Clément VII. Publiées par l'Abbé J. Fraikin, Ancien Chapelain de St.-Louis-des-Français. Tome I. Depuis la Bataille de Pavie jusqu'au Rappel d'Acciaiuoli, 25 février 1525—juin 1527. (Paris, Picard, 1906, pp. lxxxvii, 451.) This is one of the volumes in the series called “Archives de l'Histoire Religieuse de la France”, managed by a committee of which Professor Imbart de la Tour is president, and of which Count Boulay de la Meurthe, Professor E. Chatelain, Abbé Ulysse Chevalier, M. Noël Valois, and other well-known scholars are members. Its publications are to lie principally but not solely in the sixteenth century. The preceding issues were: *Mémoires des Evêques de France sur la Conduite à tenir à l'égard des Réformés* (1698), ed. Jean Lemoine, and *Ambassades en Angleterre de Jean du Bellay*, I. 1527-1529, ed. V. L. Bourrilly and P. de Vaissière. The committee proposes, as one considerable section of its work, to

¹ See AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, VII. 546.

print the despatches of the papal nuncios in France, from the time of Clement VII. to that of Gregory XIII. Thus it will do for France a work parallel to that which is being done for Germany by the joint efforts of the Prussian and Austrian Historical Institutes in Rome and the Görres-Gesellschaft, and to that which was begun for Spain by Hinojosa. Pieper's articles of a dozen years ago, together with those, more specifically relating to France, which Abbé Pierre Richard has within the last two years published in the *Revue des Questions Historiques* and the *Revue d'Histoire Ecclésiastique*, have made clear the earlier history of the institution of nuncios. The correspondence of those of Paris is not complete till we reach the year 1570 and the establishment of the office of the papal secretary of state; but in Clement VII.'s time the institution is well established though not potent. The French committee intends to print the letters and despatches of the nuncios, but not, as a rule, the enclosures. The present volume contains 225 letters and despatches, and also a certain number of papal bulls and royal letters-patent. While it embraces some portions of the correspondence of Capino da Capo and of the cardinal-legate Giovanni Salviati, it is mainly made up of that of Roberto Acciaiuoli, derived mostly from volume I. of the "Nunziatura di Francia" in the Vatican archives and from a volume in those of Florence. Thorough search elsewhere has brought some additional gleanings. Of the letters printed, a good number are already printed in Desjardins's *Relations entre la France et la Toscane*, because Acciaiuoli was also a Florentine ambassador; and much of the information is in Marino Sanuto. Yet there are additional facts relating to the French court and to the changing relations between France and England. The editing seems to answer the highest requirements of scholarship. An excellent introduction traces clearly the papal diplomacy from the battle of Pavia to the check of the league of Cognac.

The True Story of Robert Browne, (1550?-1633), Father of Congregationalism; Including various Points hitherto unknown or misunderstood, with some Account of the Development of his Religious Views, and an extended and improved List of his Writings. By Champlin Burrage, M.A., Research Fellow of Newton Theological Institution. (Oxford, University Press; London, H. Frowde, 1906, pp. viii, 75.) Mr. Champlin Burrage, son of Rev. Dr. Henry S. Burrage, the well-known Baptist historian, has devoted himself for a number of years to investigation in England of the sources of Congregationalism, and especially to the life and writings of Robert Browne. His efforts have been crowned with marked success. Three unpublished manuscripts of Browne of decided importance are the trophies of his search, one of which was printed, in 1904, as *A New Years Gift* (London). By reason of the new light which these discoveries throw upon Browne's history and views, and by further investigation of the tangled story, he has been able to correct and supplement not merely the work of older biographers, of whom the late Rev. Dr. Henry M. Dexter was the