

dustry is its judicious combination of statistics with textual comment and explanation. The review is by countries; and by reason of the difficulties inseparable from the inception of an enterprise, the reports from South America are, in this number, fragmentary, while those from Portugal, Central America, the West Indies, and parts of Africa, fail entirely. The review gains in variety and interest from the freedom allowed to each contributor in the method of marshalling his material and facts. The policy of the publication is to secure, as far as possible, reports on each country from its own citizens. For the United States Professor Emery, of New Haven, contributes, in the present volume, the general review, and the reports on economic policy, on the principal industries, and on export trade; the reports on agriculture, and on labor and capital are, respectively, by Professors Taylor and Commons, of the University of Wisconsin; while that on banking and exchange is by Professor Morton of Yale University. The report for the British Empire with the colonies, including a retrospect of earlier periods not given in the case of other countries, is contributed by Professor Hewins, of the Tariff Commission, London. No general summary of all countries is attempted in this volume.

*A Conspectus of American Biography.* Compiled by George Derby. (New York, James T. White and Company, 1906, pp. 752.) This volume, though half its pages are filled with other matter, is primarily the index volume to the *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*. The "other matter" is of various sorts, though chiefly consisting of official lists. Besides extensive lists of officials of the Federal government during its history, there are such lists as these: governors, United States senators, and chief justices of the several states, presidents of American colleges and universities; also officials of a great variety of organizations. Indeed a glance at some of the pages would incline one to believe that no organization, convention, or conference had been omitted. A further examination, however, leads to the conclusion that there are sins of omission as well as of commission. Likewise in the list of pre-eminent Americans, there is some darkness surrounding the reason for inclusion and exclusion and classification. The selection of notable sayings and sentiments of famous Americans will strike many persons as being haphazard, particularly as regards the proportions of space allotted to the respective worthies. Yet the volume will be found useful for reference.

The volume of Professor Jameson's *Original Narratives of Early American History* (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, pp. 411, 2 maps) devoted to the Spanish explorers in the southern portion of the United States, prior to 1543, is made up of the narrative of Cabeza de Vaca, the Gentleman of Elvas's account of De Soto's journey, and Castañeda's history of the Coronado expedition. The translations are those with which students have long been familiar, although care has

been taken to compare these with the original texts, resulting in the improvement of some passages, and the restoration, so far as this is now possible, of the native names to the form recorded by the actual explorers.

The Introduction and Notes to the De Soto narrative are by Mr. Theodore H. Lewis, and to the remainder of the volume by Mr. Frederick W. Hodge of the Bureau of American Ethnology. Mr. Hodge has been able to identify a considerable number of Indian localities which had puzzled earlier writers who have dealt with the journeyings of Cabeza de Vaca, while his frequent visits to the Southwest have given him a familiarity with the country traversed by Coronado's followers which long ago placed him in the position of authority regarding the route of that expedition. Mr. Lewis has also won a position of very nearly equal rank as a court of last resort in matters relating to the much less easily followed route of De Soto, by his contributions to the *Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society*. His notes to Professor Jameson's volume are a most useful summary of the results of his personal examination of a large part of the territory through which the inland discoverer of the Mississippi River must have wandered.

G. P. W.

Luis Gonzales Obregón has gathered together under the title *Los Precursores de la Independencia Mexicana en el Siglo XVI*. (Paris and Mexico, Bouret, 1906) various details and extracts from documents bearing upon the tendencies to separation from Spain evinced during the first half-century of the life of the colony of Mexico. On stray episode in connection therewith is the application of the "water-cure" to extract from one of Cortés's family a confession of participation in an alleged conspiracy to set up a separate government in Mexico. This work would be more valuable if these early symptoms of a desire for separation from Spain had been traced down to the actual revolts of the nineteenth century. Various essays (among them, one by Ferdinand Blumentritt) have been written upon the tendencies toward separation displayed from the first among the colonies of Spain in America, but the subject is one which lacks a comprehensive treatment.

José Luis Blasio, one of Emperor Maximilian's private secretaries, has written a gossip account of his relations with Louis Napoleon's puppet and victim under the title *Maximiliano Intimo: Memorias de un secretario particular*. (Paris and Mexico, Bouret, 1906.) Much of it is trivial, some passages violate good taste, but it presents on the whole a pleasing picture, with some new details of Maximilian's private life, also reproducing some little known letters bearing on events at the time of his execution.

The English author of a recently published biography, or rather panegyric, of General and President Diaz quoted considerably from what was alleged to be the "private diary" of Diaz kept during the

years of his military career, and opened for the exclusive benefit of this writer. The quotations were really from reminiscences of Diaz's military career related by him to one of his friends a score of years ago, and privately published by the latter. Their circulation has been limited, and the publication of extracts from them in this English biography seems to have inspired a reproduction in Spanish of selections from the reminiscences, together with what is termed "an essay in psychological history", viz., the anonymous author's rather prolix interpretations and interpolations, *Porfirio Diaz (Sept. 1830-Sept. 1865), Ensayo de Psicología Histórica*. (Paris and Mexico, Bouret, 1906.) We are given the hint that, for some reason or other, the reminiscences will probably never be made public in their entirety, at least in their original form. But the anonymous author partly promises to conclude the biography from the year 1865.

*From Trail to Railway through the Appalachians*, by Albert Perry Brigham, Professor of Geology in Colgate University (Boston, Ginn and Company, pp. 188) is an interesting, unpretentious effort to correlate, within a space suitable for youthful students, the geography and history of the eastern United States. The author, without underrating physiography, is of the opinion that geography in the schools should return somewhat to human interests. Beginning his narrative with Boston and the Berkshires, Professor Brigham passes in turn to the valleys of the Mohawk and Hudson, Delaware, Susquehanna, Ohio, and the Great Valley and mountains of Virginia and the South. With anecdotes and with illustrations, many of the features and much of the life, past and present, of these regions, are presented in a form suitable to the readers for whom the book is designed. The narrative avoids the precise divisions of a text-book. Roads and the westward movement are its main topics; and the geography is not taught formally, but is interwoven with the story.

In connection with the bi-centenary celebration of the birth of Franklin, Dr. Julius F. Sachse has issued *Benjamin Franklin as a Free Mason* (Philadelphia, 1906, pp. viii, 150). The work, compiled at the request of the Masonic Grand Master of Pennsylvania, is an exhaustive treatment of the Masonic side of Franklin's career. As early as 1734, Franklin was elected Grand Master of Pennsylvania. In addition to his activity in the lodges of America, he was interested also in those of England and, still more, in those of France. Franklin carefully retained all his French lodge notices and correspondence, but of the American and English, next to none can be found.

*Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1766-1769*. Edited by John Pendleton Kennedy. (Richmond, 1906, pp. xlv, 372.) Proceeding backward from the Revolution, the librarian of the Virginia State Library brings out the third volume of his handsome series of the journals of the Burgesses. He seems to count it as embracing the journals of five sessions; but as his phrases are obscure and in part