

agreeable intercourse with Lord Clarendon." He was not successful in his mission but his relations with Clarendon were friendly throughout.

For the moment, however, the purchase of Cuba was overshadowed by a protracted controversy, indulged in by Buchanan, as usual, with scarcely a ray of humor, over the proper dress of the American minister: a controversy not settled until February, 1855, when Buchanan, who all along had stoutly refused to adopt court costume, compromised by appearing at the queen's levee "in the simple dress of an American Citizen", re-enforced by "a very plain black handled and black hilted dress sword". "My reception", he wrote to Marcy, "was all that I could have desired." He declined the suggestion of Clarendon that he recommend a treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the abolition of privateering, a position in which he was sustained by the President. For the manner of conducting the Ostend conference, the most striking event of his ministerial career, he emphatically disclaimed responsibility, writing to Marcy on December 22, 1854, "Never did I obey any instruction so reluctantly."

Professor Moore is of the opinion that Buchanan's protestations against the use of his name as a candidate for the presidency, of which this volume like the earlier ones contains a number of instances, were, as on their face they appear to be, sincere. As late as December 28, 1855, he reiterates his position, this time, stating frankly his unwillingness to see the slavery controversy reopened. He had asked to be recalled by the end of September but the letter of recall, though dated September 11, did not reach him until November 5. By that time the excitement aroused in this country by the despatch of a British fleet to American waters convinced him that his departure might well be deferred, as President Pierce had expressed the hope that it might be; and he was still at his post at the date at which the entries in this volume cease.

WILLIAM MACDONALD.

*Guillaume d'Orange et les Origines des Antilles Françaises: Étude Historique d'après les Chroniques de l'Époque et de nombreux Documents Inédits, accompagnée d'un Exposé de la Descendance de Guillaume d'Orange et de Pièces Justificatives.* Par le Vicomte DU MOTÉY. (Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils. 1908. Pp. xi, 471.)

By joining the expedition of 1628 to St. Christopher, Guillaume d'Orange became a trusted aide of the daring D'Esnambuc and played an heroic part in the early struggles of that colony. Towards 1637 he passed, at the call of Governor L'Olive, his uncle by marriage, to Guadeloupe and became for twelve years a mainstay of the young colony, sometimes as a courageous warrior, sometimes as a thrifty planter, always as a refuge of the poor and depressed. Later he passed to

Martinique, where he spent the last fifteen years of his life, 1649-1674. His life thus concerns the early history of these three most important French Antilles of the seventeenth century. The author has given an interesting account of this history and has rendered a service in rescuing from oblivion the name of one of the courageous French pioneer-colonists whose deeds add much to the glory of France. Scholars, however, will search in vain for any new facts of importance (aside from facts concerning the personal life of Orange) not related by Du Tertre or modern historians like Margry. There is evidence of considerable research in different depots of archives in Brittany and Normandy, and the author publishes (ch. XIII.) some interesting contracts for the transportation of colonists, engagement of indentured servants, etc. But for the most part his researches in these archives concern the more distinctly genealogical phase of his biography. This material and a few manuscripts at the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Colonial Office at Paris, and above all Du Tertre, whom he cites constantly, constitute the sources used by the author. He shows no evidence of having consulted in the Archives Coloniales the series F<sup>2</sup>, carton 15, concerning the Compagnie des Isles, or series C<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>8</sup>, for the correspondence from Guadeloupe and Martinique, or the important "Collection de Moreau de St. Méry".

Neither the author's evaluation of sources used nor his method of utilizing them will bear close analysis. Let us take, for instance, the three sources especially indicated by him (p. 36). "Two principal documents together with the history of Du Tertre permit one to reconstruct his [Orange's] life. The first is an official summary of his services inserted in a concession of privileges granted him by the Compagnie des Indes Occidentales in 1671 (referred to as *Exemption de 1671*). The other document is a very precious family memoir, drawn up in 1727 to gain the title of nobility (*Mémoire de 1727*)."

If one accepts the author's evaluation, we have here three sources of first-class importance. As to Du Tertre, there is no denying that, having been a personal friend of Orange, he is a most excellent guide both for a biography and for the early history of the Antilles. One bemoans the fact, however, that the author has not availed himself of the opportunity to make a critical study of that historian. He should not have accepted, for instance, Du Tertre's account of the English attack of 1667 on Fort Royal without consulting easily accessible English sources for the same event found in *Cal. St. P. Col., A. and W. I., 1661-1668*, nos. 1569-1570, 1575. As for the *Exemption de 1671*, published on pp. 418-420, one cannot regard it too seriously as an attempt to state accurately the events of Orange's life, but rather as a general tribute to his services. The author has certainly given an exaggerated value to the *Mémoire de 1727*. Any careful reading of that document will reveal the fact that it is based wholly upon Du Tertre and the *Exemption de 1671*. To the former it refers specifically four times, and in one case

gives a quotation verbatim; as to the latter there will not rest much doubt of the above statement, if one compares the passage in the two documents concerning Orange's forced expedition to Barbuda and then notices the specific reference to this document at folio 100 of the memoir. Space alone forbids an enumeration of several cases which prove the inaccurate character of the memoir. Thus the author's "très précieux mémoire" is not, correctly speaking, a source, and his three sources are reduced to two, one only being of great value. The present writer lays stress on these details because they throw light on the character of the author's work. By following the *Exemption de 1671* and the *Mémoire de 1727*, the one composed thirty-six years after the event and the other ninety-two, in reality only one source, the author gives Orange a prominent place in the initial expedition to colonize Guadeloupe (chs. VIII., IX., and X.). Du Tertre's account of the same expedition (I. 76 ff.) makes no mention of his name and an official document whose existence in the Archives Coloniales is indicated by the author himself (p. 104, note 2) rather implies the contrary. Furthermore a comparison of the passage in question of the *Exemption de 1671* with the corresponding passage in Du Tertre will reveal an inaccuracy of detail on the part of the former. This and many other cases show that the author fails to conform to some of the fundamental principles of modern historical scholarship.

Genealogists will find much to interest them on pp. 332-414, where the author traces in great detail the descendants of Guillaume d'Orange, in which list appear no less personages than the Empress Josephine and the present king of Sweden, to whom the book is dedicated.

STEWART L. MIMS.

#### MINOR NOTICES

*Der Kampf um die Herrschaft im Mittelmeer: Die Geschichtliche Entwicklung des Mittelmeerraums.* Von Dr. Paul Herre, Privatdozent an der Universität Leipzig. (Leipzig, Quelle und Meyer, 1909, pp. vii, 172.) As the author states in the preface, the design of this book is not to add new original material or to bring out newly discovered facts, but to emphasize by the skilful marshalling of comparatively well-known facts the geographical, political, and economic unity of the countries of Southern Europe, Asia Minor, and Northern Africa in the Mediterranean world, and to explain the ebb and flow of the currents of various civilizations among the many different peoples upon the shores of that great inland sea. Herr Herre concedes (chapter VII.) that at times this unity of the Mediterranean world becomes less sharply defined and its history tends to become merged in that of all Western Europe. Nevertheless, he is able to keep very close to a continuous narrative of Mediterranean questions affecting exclusively the countries around that sea. He shows originality in interpreting the essential characteristics of their peoples and civilizations.