

fies the "captaincy general" of Yucatán with the real institution of that name in Guatemala (p. 247). Some of his citations, also, from Rodríguez San Pedro (not San Pedro), the title of whose work is nowhere given, are wrongly paged. The paper by Professor Murakami, embodying his investigations in the archives of Spain, Italy, and Japan, is perhaps the most interesting of all the contributions, and affords remarkable testimony to the Europeanization of scientific method in the "land of the rising sun".

WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

*Brissot de Warville: a Study in the History of the French Revolution.* By ELOISE ELLERY, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History in Vassar College. [The Vassar Semi-Centennial Series.] (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1915. Pp. xix, 528.)

BRISSET has at last found a most faithful biographer in Miss Ellery. Her work is the result of long and patient investigations carried on in the archives and libraries of Europe and of the United States. If she did not discover a large amount of new material relating to the life of Brissot, it was not due to lack of industry. Her most important discoveries were made in the archives of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, Mass., and of the New York Historical Society. The letters found in these places, written to Brissot or by him, supply many new data upon his visit to America and his financial relations with Americans. The very full bibliography, from which little is missing, is tangible proof of a serious effort to examine all the evidence. With this material at her command, Miss Ellery has constructed a detailed, sober account of one of the most important of the secondary figures of the Revolution. The volume is especially interesting as the first life of Brissot that has been written; it is further interesting as one of the best of a number of biographies of the statesmen of the French Revolution written in recent years by women.

The impossibility of writing history without evidence is well illustrated by the chapter devoted to the life of Brissot up to the outbreak of the Revolution, a period of thirty-five years; it contains thirty-six pages and is chiefly a condensation of the first volume of Brissot's *Mémoires*. To his travels in the United States, covering a period of five months, almost as much space is given. It is in this chapter that the manuscript material found in this country was utilized. Students of our early history will find interesting matter here on trade and land-speculation.

It is inevitable, in a work covering so long a period of time, that all parts could not be investigated with the thoroughness one would expect to find in a monograph and it would not be difficult, were it worth while, to indicate some topics that had not been adequately treated. In

one case, that of the outbreak of the war with Austria, the rôle of Brissot has not been correctly evaluated because of a failure to understand the significance of the European situation, Miss Ellery following the traditional view of the origin of the war rather than the newer interpretations of Glagau, Clapham, and Cahen. In the treatment of Brissot's attack on Delessart, in the same chapter, it would have been more to the point to reproduce the articles of the decree proposed by Brissot instead of giving so much space to the untrustworthy recollections of Dumont upon the decree.

As a rule Miss Ellery makes use too exclusively of evidence emanating from Brissot—newspapers, speeches, pamphlets, letters—not enough use being made of other sources. Following the practice common among historians of citing but a single source in proof of a fact, she does not conform to the better scientific standard of using two independent sources when that is possible. In the study of the debates in the French assemblies, two independent newspapers are always available and should be used.

The bibliography would be more useful, if it had been given a more scientific form, *i. e.*, if it had been divided into sources and secondary works, instead of "Manuscripts" and "Printed Matter". There seems, also, to have been some uncertainty as to the classification of the material under the various subheads. Although there is a subhead for "Letters", the despatches of the Venetian ambassador are found under "Pamphlets, Addresses, Contemporary Criticism", the despatches of the English ambassador under "Collections of Documents", and the *Lettres et Documents Inédits* of Feuillet de Conches under "General Works", *i. e.*, secondary works. Two noticeable misspellings of names are those of Kornman, which appears as "Korman" both in the text and in the index, and that of Montesquiou, the French general, which appears in the text and index as "Montesquieu".

*Church and Reform in Scotland: a History from 1797 to 1843.* By WILLIAM LAW MATHIESON, Hon. LL.D. (Glasgow: James Maclehose and Sons. 1916. Pp. xii, 378.)

THIS is the last volume of a history of Scotland since the Reformation, which Mr. Mathieson has published under four titles: *Politics and Religion in Scotland* (1550-1695), *Scotland and the Union* (1695-1747), *The Awakening of Scotland* (1747-1797), and this. It is a story of substantial progress he now tells. From what Macaulay declared the worst constitution in Europe, Scotland emerged into a free and orderly government. She passed from legal methods so clumsy and laws so preposterous as to seem aimed at the defeat of justice, into equality for all before the law, and modern methods for adjudication of rights. And along with this went the softening of religious animosities, the enlargement of the national outlook by philosophy and literature, and the decay of a blind conservatism in politics.