

almost exclusively employed as a punishment for criminals. There was no clear differentiation between the treatment of accused and convicted prisoners, or between the treatment of criminals, feeble-minded, and insane.

In 1796 the first criminal code adopted provided the death penalty for treason, murder, and petit treason, and the second offense of manslaughter, sodomy, rape, arson, burglary, robbery, and forgery, with long terms of imprisonment for arson, blasphemy, bribery, burglary, conspiracy, and perjury.

The first state prison, opened in 1799, was called a "Penitentiary House", but it had no reformatory features, and, after thirty years' experience, was pronounced a failure in an intelligent report in 1830. From that day to 1917, the state prison remained among the unprogressive prisons of the United States, in both its industries and its discipline.

The organization of the State Reform School for Boys in 1865, and the State Industrial School for Girls in 1871, were distinct marks of progress, though neither one of those institutions has yet attained a place in the first rank of juvenile reformatories.

The State Reformatory for Men at Rahway, opened in 1901, and the State Reformatory for Women opened at Clinton in 1913, represent modern ideas in their spirit and organization, though the Rahway institution has never been able to escape entirely from the original notion that it was an "intermediate prison".

The *Report of the Prison Inquiry Commission*, of which this *History* forms a part, is a vital document which has resulted in a complete revolution of the New Jersey state prison under which Mr. Burdette Lewis is organizing a new order of prison discipline and prison industry.

The Romance of Old Philadelphia. By John T. Faris. (Philadelphia and London, J. B. Lippincott Company, 1918, pp. 336, \$4.50.) The author has collected a series of stories, quotations, and illustrations of the life of Philadelphia to the end of the eighteenth century. They relate to the perils of the immigrants on the Atlantic and the discomforts of settling, the initial stages of government and business, the social, charitable, and educational interests of colonial days, church and marriage customs, the difficulties of correspondence and transportation, and various events of Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary days, ending with the last decade of the century, when the city was the seat of government of the new United States.

The selections are well made and interesting. It is hard to see the merit of the entire omission of the great store-house of such material, Watson's *Annals*, of which the author speaks in the preface. Most of the items will be new to the general reader and historians will find accounts with which they have been unfamiliar.

One wonders however whether this manner of treatment lends itself

to an accurate appreciation of colonial conditions. The events are often so disconnected with each other and with their historic setting, that their relation to the general situation is often lost. For instance, as one of many illustrations, if a few words had been added to explain the causes of the election riot of 1742 (p. 92) interest would have been added to the fact that there *was* a riot. Again (p. 153) if it had been mentioned that the master who inflicted such a severe punishment upon Israel Pemberton was the saintly Francis Daniel Pastorius, the "Pennsylvania Pilgrim" of Whittier, the narrative would have had added point.

Errors seem to be few. The letter said to have been written to *William Penn* in 1742 is evidently a mistake. It may be questioned also whether "the struggle with pioneer conditions in the midst of savages" was very severe.

The author rightly emphasizes these colonial days of Pennsylvania. It may have been a "holy experiment", but it was made with a heterogeneous population which soon adopted customs, modes of government, and ideals of its own, which make old Philadelphia unique among colonial cities. It is quite worth while therefore to have presented to us in such an attractive form so much of interest and historic value. In the extensive research, in the style of composition, and in the judgment displayed in the selections there is great merit.

I. S.

La France et la Guerre de l'Indépendance Américaine (1776-1783). Par le Capitaine Joachim Merlant, Professeur-Adjoint à la Faculté des Lettres de l'Université de Montpellier. [Bibliothèque France-Amérique.] (Paris, Félix Alcan, 1918, pp. ii, 194, 3.50 fr.) Toward the end of 1909 the Comité France-Amérique was formed in Paris. The purposes of this organization are stated in its publications thus:

To labor for the promotion of closer relations, economic, intellectual, artistic, and so forth, between the nations of the New World and the French nation; to establish a monthly review wherein to bring together the best available studies of the economic and intellectual life of the American peoples; to attract to France students and travellers from the two Americas and prepare them a cordial welcome; to encourage every enterprise calculated to make America better known to France and vice versa.

In carrying out this laudable programme, the Comité have undertaken the publication of several volumes on very diverse themes, one being a French translation of Mr. Croly's *Promise of American Life*, and another the volume before us.

Let it be said at once that notwithstanding this propagandist intention Captain Merlant has given us an excellent and valuable little volume, which, so far from suffering from this primary purpose, has probably gained in eloquence and grace of presentation. In general, the