

Loughton Smith of South Carolina, Federalist member of Congress, relating to journeys in New England in 1790 and from Philadelphia to Charleston in 1791. Smith was a man of ability, observant and intelligent. Mr. Albert Matthews narrates his life, gives his bibliography, and distinguishes him carefully from other William Smiths with whom he has been sadly confused. An account of Joseph Badger, a worthy Boston artist of moderate talent who painted portraits between 1740 and 1765, is contributed by Mr. Lawrence Park. A descriptive list of Badger's work is added, and is accompanied by excellent reproductions of seven of his portraits. Mr. Chester N. Greenough has a learned paper on Algernon Sidney and the Motto of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mr. W. C. Ford casts new light, from Virginian records, on Captain Wollaston and Thomas Weston of early Massachusetts. The chief memoirs are of Professor W. W. Goodwin, of Richard Olney, and of F. B. Sanborn.

Records of the Columbia Historical Society, Washington, D. C. Volume 21. (Washington, the Society, 1918, pp. vi, 401.) Most of the matter in this volume is, naturally, occupied with local and even antiquarian topics, biographical sketches of persons active in the affairs of the District of Columbia rather than in those of the United States, and similar contributions. Three papers, however, have in part a wider range. Rev. Dr. George Williamson Smith, formerly president of Trinity College, who in March and April, 1861, was in the Navy Department at Washington, casts interesting light upon the situation of the capital city in those anxious weeks, in a paper entitled *A Critical Moment for Washington*. Major Gist Blair, in the course of a paper called *Annals of Silver Spring*, gives many interesting biographical details respecting Francis P. Blair and Montgomery Blair, and prints a long letter of Mrs. Jefferson Davis to the latter written in May, 1865, and hitherto unprinted, in which she describes fully the events attending the flight and capture of her husband. In view of the immense importance which the work of the American Red Cross has assumed, much historical value attaches also to a paper on Miss Clara Barton, prepared by the late Mrs. Corra Bacon-Foster.

The Papers of Thomas Ruffin. Collected and edited by J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton, Ph.D., Alumni Professor of History in the University of North Carolina. Volume I. (Raleigh, North Carolina Historical Commission, 1918, pp. 541.) Thomas Ruffin (1787-1870), chief justice of North Carolina from 1833 to 1852, a prominent Whig during most of his life, and an earnest opponent of secession in 1860, was a man whose correspondence must yield something of value to the historian. If to this it be added that Ruffin was to the conservatives of North Carolina what Chief Justice Marshall was to conservatives of the country, no question will be raised as to the importance of this pub-

lication. And it should be said at the beginning that the work of the editor, Professor J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton, is admirably done.

This volume gives the letters of Ruffin and to Ruffin covering the period from 1803 to 1830; but there are only twenty-nine of the former, while there are more than 450 of the latter. The volume also contains an address of William A. Graham on Ruffin and a short biography by Professor Hamilton himself. These sketches give a fair, but insufficient, view of the career of the man whose correspondence we now have. It is to be hoped that some North Carolina scholar will now undertake to present the great judge in fuller form.

Although this collection of Ruffin *Papers* does not offer any letters from the great national leaders of the Whig party, it does present very many letters from all the North Carolina Whigs of prominence. It is an interesting and important social group we have represented here for the first time in their best forms, those men to whom Fisher Ames's remark about "the rich, the wise, and the good" might apply—the Camerons, Hendersons, Haywoods, Grahams, and Mangums. If one wishes to learn what the most intelligent and the wealthiest North Carolinians thought about public matters, these letters are apt to supply the need.

And there are topics enough: the tariff agitation, the Crawford and Calhoun manoeuvres, and the election of Andrew Jackson. A number of the letters from senators and representatives in Congress give intimate accounts of events and conditions in Washington. But it is clear that the second volume of these *Papers* must be the more important one. The North Carolina Historical Commission, though late in the field, is using its resources to the best advantage.

WILLIAM E. DODD.

Western Influence on Political Parties to 1825: an Essay in Historical Interpretation. By Homer C. Hockett, Professor of American History in the Ohio State University. [Ohio State University Bulletin, vol. XXII., no. 3, Contributions in History and Political Science, no. 4.] (Columbus, the University, 1917, pp. 157, \$1.00.) The five chapters of this study by Professor Hockett are designed to prove that "in Europe political parties have divided in the main along lines of social stratification; in the United States the lines of cleavage have tended to be political" (p. 9), and that "both the Federalist and Republican parties based on conditions connected with the geographical development of the United States up to the beginning of the constitutional period were destroyed before 1825 in consequence of the changes incident to further geographical development". It is really a study in economic politics, elaborating a familiar thesis, reinforced with judicious citations from newspapers and documents, and demonstrating anew that the alignment of parties in the United States has been determined by economic conditions rather than by abstract principles or theories, from the political