

Brodnaxes, and a score of others represent the men whose word counted in their state for twenty-five years. Besides the many real pictures of these representative men and fine aristocrats whom it must have been a delight to meet and sit beside in the Episcopal church—the best club in the old commonwealth—we have glimpses of much of the life of the time, with here and there a touch of national politics, as when the redoubtable Roger Pryor proposed Ruffin for the presidency (II. 512) in 1856.

WILLIAM E. DODD.

The Era of the Civil War, 1848-1870. By ARTHUR CHARLES COLE, University of Illinois. [Centennial History of Illinois, vol. III.] (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission. 1919. Pp. 499. \$2.00.)

THIS volume maintains the high standard set for this worthy series on Illinois history. It offers to students and readers a history of varied aspects in the life of the state for the period named. It deals not only with politics, elections, and public men, but with agriculture, society, churches, schools, industry, banking, the press, religion, morality, and amusements. The volume covers the field of historical inquiry, presenting a reasonable and very interesting history of the life of the people of Illinois. The period is a notable one in American history, and the volume shows due regard for the outstanding features of that history, in which Illinois played a very important part. Themes like the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the origin of the Republican party, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the election of 1860, are well related to the common history of the country. The notable public men of Illinois in this period, men of national standing and importance like Lincoln, Douglas, Trumbull, Yates, Oglesby, Palmer, Herndon, Lovejoy, Wentworth, Koerner, McClernand, Logan, Grant, Medill, and others, are brought into view, with facts and estimates that enable one to measure their historic importance. For these reasons, as well as for its social and industrial aspects, the volume will be valued highly by all students of general American history.

The author notices first the passing of the frontier and the coming of the railroads. It is difficult for us to remember that in 1848 Chicago had not yet been connected to the east by rail, and that Illinois was still in the stage of the prairie mud road, the prairie schooner, the river steamboat, and the stage-coach. These conditions are vividly reflected from the correspondence, statutes, and newspaper sources of that day. The politics of Illinois in the decade before the war present great themes, in the struggles of Lincoln and Douglas, the Lecompton question, and the forces and influences in this typical western state which elevated Lincoln to the presidency. The author shows in an interesting way how, in the Lecompton struggle, the Illinois Republicans, while resenting the eastern support of Douglas voiced by Greeley, themselves sought to encourage Douglas just enough to promote the split in the Democratic party, to "make it wider, deeper, and hotter", as Herndon

put it, and how the Buchanan faction, in control of national patronage, began "to lop off the heads" of Douglas Democrats.

The services and life of Illinois in the decade of the Civil War and in the struggles over reconstruction are given due attention, involving the struggle against the "Copperheads", the peace movement and the anti-Lincoln sentiment of 1864. Those who are especially interested in the rapid changes of a growing society, in revolutionary changes in industry, in the growth of western population, and in the coming to an undeveloped agricultural region of immigrant laborers in the Know-nothing days, will find in this volume much enlightening information on local history that has much more than local interest. Labor, wages, land speculation and land reform; the women's-rights movement; the temperance movement (with Chicago a "universal grogshop" and one saloon to every forty of the people in Belleville); dress reform; the conflict between the German beer-garden and the Sabbath observance of the Puritan and the Presbyterian; the churches and their sectarian divisions; the condition and numbers of the negro population; political spoils and the spoilers; the character of the press; the teachers' organizations and the influence of literary societies; the parties and plays of the people; the growth of secret societies and the effective work of the renowned Jonathan Blanchard in opposition to them—all these topics and others find space for informing treatment.

The volume is strong in its account of the growth of education in the state and in its estimate of the influence of Illinois' seats of learning. The author indulges in but little eulogy and in no grandiloquent writing, but his style is direct and interesting and he sets forth significant related facts with the weight of historical authority and with full citations to his sources. The volume has a good index, an extensive bibliography, a series of political maps showing the distribution of party opinion at various elections and the foreign-born population in 1860, together with good portraits of Lincoln, Douglas, Yates, and Trumbull. A brief review can give but an inadequate idea of the amount of valuable matter in such a volume. If the coming volumes maintain the standard set by the two so far issued (vols. II. and III.), other states than Illinois will have reason to be grateful for this notable centennial enterprise.

JAMES A. WOODBURN.

Les États-Unis d'Amérique et le Conflit Européen, 4 Août 1914-6 Avril 1917. Par ACHILLE VIALATE, Professeur à l'École des Sciences Politiques. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1919. Pp. x, 313. 3.50 fr.)

Les États-Unis et la Guerre: de la Neutralité à la Croisade. Par ÉMILE HOVELAQUE, Inspecteur Général de l'Instruction Publique. (*Ibid.* 1919. Pp. 467. 10 fr.)

IN these days when the United States is assuming a most important rôle in international politics it is especially interesting to see ourselves