

to all interested in early Western life. It is to be hoped a way may be found for publishing the hundreds of other sketches by Lesueur in the collection at Havre.

F. F. STEPHENS.

*Derelicts: an Account of Ships lost at Sea in General Commercial Traffic and a Brief History of Blockade Runners stranded along the North Carolina Coast, 1861-1865.* By James Sprunt. (Wilmington, the Author, 1920, pp. xv, 304.) Captain Sprunt's book is not well named. The first fifty pages relate to the general subject of derelicts, but are almost all quotations. Then follow one hundred pages on blockade-runners of the Civil War period, lost in the effort to come into Wilmington or go out thence, but in almost all cases burned, captured, or stranded, and not left derelict; but there are some thirty of these vessels, and their stories, recorded by one who knew all about them, and in some cases participated in their adventures, make very interesting reading, and something more than that, a really useful contribution to the knowledge of one important aspect of Civil War history. Then follow, filling the second half of the book, a series of "tales of the sea", of the same period and of the same general nature, which it was well to collect or record while so important and intelligent a participant in the doings of those days was still living.

*Cours d'Histoire du Canada.* Par Thomas Chapais, Professeur d'Histoire à l'Université Laval. Tome I., 1760-1791. (Quebec, J. P. Garneau, 1919, pp. ix, 350.) Those who have read the author's notable biographies of Talon and Montcalm will require no assurance that he is amply qualified, both by erudition and by temperament, to write a survey of early Canadian history. During recent years M. Chapais has been delivering at Laval University a course of lectures on the period intervening between the fall of Canada in 1760 and the enactment of the Constitutional Act in 1791. The present volume includes these lectures, "printed just as they were delivered, without modification in plan, or in substance, or in style".

The thirty-one years in question were replete with events of great interest. First came the era of military government and the departure of the *émigrés* for France. The extent and the nature of this exodus have long been matters of controversy. M. Chapais throws no new light upon it. Then followed the series of twists and turns which led to the passage of the Quebec Act in 1774. To these events the author gives particularly close attention. The invasion of Canada during the American Revolution receives a lengthy chapter, and the book closes with a study of Canadian affairs during the administrations of Haldimand and Dorchester.

The book is exactly what one would expect from its author. It is, on the whole, well-proportioned, accurate, and reasonably dispassionate.

More attention is devoted to matters directly affecting the Catholic Church than one would expect from a secular historian, but these lectures were delivered at Laval, where ultramontane sentiment still holds sway.

M. Chapais is so good an English scholar that he should have dipped further into the standard works on the American Revolution, particularly with reference to the events which led up to the invasion of his country in 1775-1776. His dependence upon Lecky for information in connection with this aspect of his discussion is too nearly complete, and there is an undue fondness for Bancroft, from whom he seems to have obtained in this, as in all his earlier writings, his clue to the main currents of American history during the Revolution and after.

All this, however, is incidental, and does not alter the fact that M. Chapais has managed to give us a clear and accurate survey of a difficult period. His industry in research discloses itself on page after page; his reflections are mature; he harbors no unreasoning animus against anything or anybody; and he writes with a firm and practised hand. The result is a well-seasoned book. Some readers will doubtless wish for a more unequivocal pronouncement on controverted matters than they can find in this volume; but M. Chapais is more of a historian and less of a propagandist than most writers of his race have been. It is to be hoped that he will carry out the plan of also publishing, in due course, his lectures on the later periods of Canadian history.

WILLIAM BENNETT MUNRO.

*Historia de la Independencia Americana.* Por Daniel Florencio O'Leary. *La Emancipación del Perú según la Correspondencia del General Héres con el Libertador, 1821-1830.* [Biblioteca Ayacucho bajo la Dirección de Don Rufino Blanco-Fombona.] (Madrid, Editorial-América, 1919, pp. 495, 8.50 pesetas.) Except for certain changes in the table of contents, this is a reprint of a portion of the fifth volume of the "Correspondencia de Hombres Notables con el Libertador" in the *Memorias del General O'Leary*, published by the government of Venezuela in 1880. More than half of the material is composed of letters of Héres to Bolívar, and the remainder, chiefly of communications with O'Leary, San Martín, Sucre, Santander, and other individuals prominent in the military or political life of the time. A few plans of campaign, proclamations, and other documents not of an epistolary nature are scattered through the text. Most of the letters are dated from Lima and elsewhere in Peru. The period covered in the correspondence with the Liberator ranges from 1821 to 1828, and in that with other persons, to 1829.

Tomás de Héres was a Venezuelan of good family whose affiliations at the outset of the struggle for emancipation from Spain lay with the cause of the mother-country. He enlisted accordingly in the royal forces, although his own personal sympathies inclined him in favor of