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By James Truslow Adams. Charles Scribner's Sons New York 61/8 x 9; 428 pp. \$3.50

This volume, which ends roughly with the year 1860, is the first of a prospective two-volume history of the United States. Coming from Mr. Adams, it leaves much to be desired. It is hardly better than a superior text-book. It is carelessly written, not very skillfully organized, and betrays hasty thinking. Mr. Adams devotes himself almost wholly to politics, and says far too little about the extensive literary and artistic culture which grew up in America during the period he discusses. The little he does say seems to be dragged in by the tail. He has also softened a great deal toward the Puritans since his excellent history of New England. He now has many nice things to relate about the learning and manners of the early New Englanders. But he grows violent about the Abolitionists, those "madmen bent on burning down the whole national structure." There are several interesting illustrations, and an excellent index.

THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865.

\$5

By Louis M. Hacker & Benjamin B. Kendrick.

F. S. Crofts & Company New York 5% x 9; 775 pp.

There is not much literary charm in this narrative. It is a sober, careful, somewhat plodding piece of work. But it shows a great deal of industry in the accumulation of its materials, and it will be useful to everyone needing to look up a name, a date or a document during the period it covers. The authors are critical of American capitalism, and describe its errors and failures at length, but on the whole they maintain a reasonable impartiality, and are not propagandists. They deal with the American share in the World War in an admirably fair and frank manner, and their judgments of public characters seem to be generally sound. The book has some good maps, and a few illustrations. There is a bibliography, followed by a sufficient index.



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