

many cases exercise powers both executive and judicial. The appendix contains a brief outline of the method of choosing presidential electors, the development of nominations and the counting of electoral votes.

While limitations necessitated by the size of the volume prevent detailed consideration of numerous important topics, the proportion in general is good and the method suggestive. It is, however, the legal organization and functions of the executive, rather than the actual working out of the system in practice that the authors have usually in mind. To one not familiar with American Administration in its every day working, the book may seem fragmentary and disconnected, a mass of information without fundamental unity. As one of a series, each of which supplements the others, aiming to describe "comprehensively the manner in which the Governmental agencies of the American State are organized and administered" this volume has considerable value.

RAYMOND G. GETTELL.

*The Province of New Jersey, 1664-1738.* By EDWIN P. TANNER, PH.D. (New York: Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Volume xxx. 1908. Pp. xvi, 712.)

The above work is a study of the political institutions of New Jersey during the period of executive union with New York. It is accurate and well written, and is a monument to the untiring patience and energy of its author, who has based his narrative on a close and exhaustive study of original sources.

Dr. Tanner followed the line of least resistance in his method of handling the material, for after several introductory chapters narrating the history of the colony from the grant to Berkeley and Cartaret (1664) to the transformation into a royal province (1702), he takes up separately its different institutions, i. e., the executive, legislature, judiciary, finance, militia, etc., and traces the growth and development of each one down to the final executive separation from New York in 1738. This causes a repetition of the same events, which are discussed time after time from a very slightly differing point of view. If the author had organized his material once and for all into a clear synthetic study of each event narrated, the seven hundred odd pages of the monograph could easily have been reduced by at least one-third, and the reader's time and attention have been correspondingly relieved.

To the student of political science, the main interest of the work will lie in the fact that this small primitive colony offers striking examples

of tendencies shown in all government of a more or less democratic character. Thus, the general assembly which represented the people more directly, from the beginning fought for and finally won the initial right to levy taxes and make appropriations. During the whole period from 1702-1738 it steadily increased in power at the expense of the governor and of the royal council—the upper legislative house. Again, Bagehot, Dicey, Wilson and others have pointed out the fact that today the most successful governor-general of a self-governing colony is the one who, following the great example set by the crown in England, endeavors to rule by influence and not by direct assertion of authority. This was strikingly shown 200 years ago by the experience of the royal governors of New Jersey, who were usually successful only in so far as they followed the former method in their administration of the colony. Says Dr. Tanner: "Taking the part played by the governor in the work of legislation as a whole, our study shows that the office was respected by the legislative bodies, and . . . when the post was held by men who sought the welfare of the province, they could obtain reasonable measures which did not run absolutely counter to colonial views. The extent of the directing influence possessed by the governor, on the other hand, depended upon his political skill and his ability in handling men" (p. 231). Of the seven governors discussed, Robert Hunter (1710-1719) was the most tactful and capable and also the most successful.

In spite of the criticism stated above, the work is a valuable and authoritative treatment of a period which has been described heretofore only by historians of "amateur" or "popular" ability. Dr. Tanner shows keen, accurate and scholarly judgment in his evaluation of historical evidence, and it is to be hoped that he will complete his task by a further work carrying the narrative at least to the outbreak of the Revolution.

WILLIAM STARR MYERS.

*A Sovereign People: A Study of Swiss Democracy* By HENRY DEMAREST LLOYD, edited by JOHN A. HOBSON. (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company. 1907. Pp. xvi, 273.)

The editor of this book undertook a difficult task. He was obliged to write a volume of commentary upon the life of a nation from notes taken by another hand. The memoranda were indeed very abundant, but the difficulty of entering into the spirit of the original observer was none the less great. Mr. Hobson has, however, succeeded so well that