

ing organization and liturgy, matters which properly belong in an encyclopedia of Christian antiquities, not in a history of Christianity. The final chapter, entitled *A Review of the Third Century*, is much better, but is all too brief and is taken up largely with such conventional topics as private confession, asceticism, and celibacy of the clergy. Though the old anti-Romish polemic has happily almost wholly disappeared from recent church histories, the traditional interests still continue to dominate them, and questions which were formerly bitterly debated between Catholics and Protestants, or between one and another Protestant sect still form the staple of discussion. This is particularly true in England, where perhaps the old differences have been longest in dying out, or where, at any rate, the historic spirit has been longest in outgrowing them.

It is to be greatly regretted that since the death of Edwin Hatch scarcely any work of importance has been done by English scholars in the field of early church history. Conventional, stereotyped, or apologetic treatments of the subject are about all that have appeared. Of freshness and originality, and particularly of large and constructive work, there has been little. Canon Bigg's book is no greater sinner than many another. It is simply one more mediocre book where there are already too many.

Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia. 1752-1755 and 1756-1758.
Edited by H. R. McIlwaine. Richmond, Virginia.

This volume, the second issued by the present State librarian, consists of the Journals of two General Assemblies, the first comprising pp. 1-332, and the second pp. 333-551. There were eight sessions of the first Assembly, and four of the second. The custom adopted in the preceding volumes of printing the names of the Burgesses has been somewhat changed, as they are now given for the whole term of the Assemblies, with notes showing changes during the terms, instead of, as heretofore, appearing before each session of the Assembly: hence we have but two lists, instead of twelve.

As is well known to those interested in this publication, the printing was begun with the volume for 1773-1776, and has proceeded backwards, so to say, so that it has now reached the sixth volume. This plan was presumably adopted from lack of the earlier journals, which it was intended to supply as the printing continued. The importance of the publication has been heretofore commented on, and, indeed, is understood of itself.

The first session of the Assembly of 1752-55 began on February 27, 1752, be-

ing the first session of an Assembly since 1749. Gov. Dinwiddie arrived in Virginia November 20, 1751. In his address to the Assembly he recommended first "that some way should be found to prevent delays in the courts of justice," and, secondly, "that good relations should be cultivated with the Indians in order that the French and Spaniards—particularly the former—might not be able to carry out their designs of settling in the interior." The fact that "the King in council had repealed ten acts passed by the preceding Assembly," prevented the fulfilment of the first recommendation, but the Assembly, on April 6, 1752, passed "An Act for encouraging Persons to settle on the Waters of the Mississippi." Such settlements had previously been made in Virginia (as of the Huguenots at Manikin Town, King William County, and of the Germans at Germannia, in Spotsylvania County), as a protection against inroads of the Indians. This kindly feeling, however, soon changed on account of the dispute over "the pistole fee." The Governor required the payment of a pistole (\$3.50) as a fee on the issue of a patent for land at the secretary's office. This led to a pamphlet by Richard Bland, "A Fragment on the Pistole Fee, Claimed by the Governor of Virginia," which has been edited by W. C. Ford. The claim angered the Burgesses, especially after their handsome present, and they inquired by what authority the Governor made this demand. He replied that the order was given "in accordance with the authority granted him in his instructions from the home government and with the advice of the Council," and that the matter was one with which the House of Burgesses could not constitutionally deal. This did not satisfy the Burgesses, but the House passed a resolution, "That whosoever shall hereafter pay a pistole as a fee to the Governor for the use of the seal to patents for lands shall be deemed a betrayer of the rights and privileges of the people," and they sent the Attorney-General, Peyton Randolph, to London to investigate the matter. The editor states that "in this dispute Dinwiddie was technically in the right," for the land was the King's land, and that the "fee was ill-advised, but not illegal." It, however, destroyed the amicable feeling between the Governor and the Burgesses, and affected the sum appropriated by the House of Burgesses after Washington's mission to the French commandant in regard to the disputed territory in the Ohio Valley.

The capitulation of Washington at Fort Mifflin on September 26, 1777, caused another session of the Assembly. The House passed a bill to raise £20,000 for the campaign, but attached a rider for the payment of Peyton Randolph's claim of £2,500 in the matter of the pistole

fee, to which the Governor would not agree, so the bill failed. The House eventually backed down and passed the bill.

The Assembly of 1756-58 first met on March 25, 1756. The Governor hoped for a change in the membership, and there was a change of about thirty-eight per cent. But "the old leaders were returned, and it may be doubted if the change in personnel was of any great advantage to the Governor in his efforts to control the House." It declined to send men to Crown Point on account of the danger at home; it passed a bill for the appointment of an agent in England, to which the Governor was opposed; and it offended him "by sending the sergeant-at-arms with his mace within the bar of the General Court, and compelling certain officials of that court who were members of the House to attend its meetings." It passed an act to raise £25,000 for the better protection of the inhabitants on the frontiers, and to erect a chain of forts. Among these one was to be immediately erected at Winchester, Fort Loudoun, the remains of which may still be seen there. Washington's letters set forth the alarming condition of affairs, and an act was passed to allow members who were officers of militia to repair at once to their respective posts. The Assembly did its best to meet the emergency.

The feeling between the Governor and the Burgesses was now more harmonious, and the Governor announced his intention of resigning on account of his health, which he did in January, 1758. Gov. Fauquier did not reach Virginia until June 7; in the meantime John Blair, president of the Council, was acting Governor.

There are still errors of proof in this volume, but the proofreading has improved.

Essays in Politics. By Andrew Macphail.
New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.
\$1.80 net.

British imperialists who base their hopes on preferential tariffs are vigorously attacked in this book of Mr. Macphail's. The Canadian writer, who is here a student of economic and political conditions, offers not a grain of encouragement for politicians of the Chamberlain school. Mr. Macphail sees only danger in the forging of tariff links for empire welding, and relies upon race loyalty to open up the way to political coherence in any future British federation.

In the best essays in this book, which relates chiefly to Canada, the main argument is against the economic theory of protection. Certain phases of Canadian loyalty are criticised, as well as the impatience of advice and rebuke from headquarters that has so often

made a decision in the Foreign Office at London, or an award in which long views were necessary, the occasion of colonial discontent. Mr. Macphail shows how Canadian statesmen have sometimes failed to understand how complicated an affair is that great world in which Britain has to decide questions that must be regarded, not in the feeble light of the court room, but in the lurid glare of war. In other words, so long as Canada and the other young nations remain members of the empire without fully sharing its responsibilities, they must submit, in their negotiations with other countries, to compromise which in whole or in part rejects their claims. The opposition of Lord Alverstone to his Canadian colleagues in the Alaska boundary award is justified now by some who strongly resented it at the time. Lack of appreciation of the length, breadth, and thickness of imperial interests has too often vitiated colonial opinion of British diplomatic difficulties.

It will surprise American readers, we think, to learn that in this book confession has at last been made that the British government got what they were not entitled to in the Maine boundary case and came out ahead in the Oregon difficulty. Nor will they fail to season their humor with sober reminiscence when they read of Lord Elgin's festive hoodwinking of the Senators at Washington into accepting the famous Reciprocity Treaty of 1854-1866: one of the cleverest strokes in the history of diplomacy. This was the treaty "floated through on champagne." Mr. Macphail reminds his countrymen that, so far as this continent is concerned, certain limitations were inexorably imposed upon British diplomatic effort by the surrender of Cornwallis, and that Canadians must learn the lesson of compromise by which widely dispersed empire is maintained. The same lesson, he avers, must be learned by the United States. The book is well calculated to offset aggressive publications that assume preferential tariffs as the indispensable basis of federation. As might have been expected, there is a chapter on current political questions in the United States; and in this, Mr. Macphail makes many just observations on our shortcomings, while sometimes going far afield in his conclusions. He says in one place, for instance:

That is why there is no public opinion in the United States and no political discussion in their newspapers—for the same reason that there was none in Turkey previous to July [1908].

We are not concerned to examine the reason or occasion for this statement, as its exaggeration is patent. Such a statement as this is quite sufficient to suggest the rashness of inference into which the writer of this book is some-

times betrayed. But, for all that, there is much in it that rings clear and true.

Notes.

"American Prose Masters"—essays by W. C. Brownell on Cooper, Hawthorne, Emerson, Lowell, Poe, and Henry James—is an important new publication soon to be issued by Chas. Scribner's Sons.

New evidence of the serious appeal of H. G. Wells, in England if not in our own country, is offered in the issue, through Unwin, of a volume by the Rev. Alexander H. Crawford, entitled: "The Religion of H. G. Wells, and Other Essays."

A translation by W. S. Hough and W. R. Boyce-Gibson of Prof. Rudolf Eucken's "Die Lebensanschauungen der Grossen Denker," rendered in English as "The Problem of Human Life as Viewed by the Great Thinkers," is offered by the same publisher. The winner of the Nobel prize studies in this volume, much read in Germany, not merely the philosophies of the past, but also the present situation. Eucken belongs to the more conservative wing of modern pragmatism.

Joseph Pennell is as well qualified to draw as is Mrs. Pennell to discuss the "French Cathedrals," and the volume which is the product of their collaboration, and which the Century Co. will publish, is likely to prove one of the most beautiful of "gift books." The 183 illustrations from drawings by Mr. Pennell are after originals in the Luxembourg Museum.

The successor of Gaston Paris at the Collège de France, Prof. Joseph Bédier, will deliver a course of five lectures on "The French Epic Legend," at the University of Chicago, beginning November 29.

Sturgis & Walton Company will issue this month the first volume of the Court Series of French Memoirs, translated from the manuscript of Cléry, valet to Louis XVI, under the title, "The Royal Family in the Temple Prison: The Journal of its Confinement."

For Lacy Collison-Morley's "Giuseppe Baretti" (Scribner), the late F. Marion Crawford wrote an introduction which gives added interest to an account of the subject's literary friendships and feuds in the days of Dr. Johnson, Garrick, and Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The Doves Press will issue in November "William Caxton," a paper read by George Parker Winship, librarian of the John Carter Brown Library, Providence, at a meeting of the Club of Odd Volumes in Boston, in February, 1908. The essay will be issued in small quarto, and printed in black and red. The three hundred copies to be issued will be bound in boards, paper sides, and vellum backs, at 10s.; or in morocco or sealskin at £2 10s. There will also be 15 copies on vellum.

On October 23 Houghton Mifflin Company will issue a volume, "American Foreign Policy," which seeks to analyze the present situation in world-politics. The author states the newly gained importance of America in international affairs, and makes his due proportion of suggestions for our

future course. A certain added interest may, perhaps, be found by some readers in the circumstance that the title page bears no trace of authorship other than the words, "By a Diplomatist."

Hermann Hagedorn, whose "Woman of Corinth" was published last year by Houghton Mifflin Co., will make his reappearance as a poet in "A Troop of the Guard, and Other Poems," to be issued through the same publishers. The title poem of the new volume was read at the Harvard Class Day of 1907, and it is safe to say that it has not been forgotten, even now, by those who attended the academic performances in Sanders Theatre. The new book contains besides "A Troop of the Guard" and other verses, the Lincoln Ode read last February at the Philadelphia Academy of Music, other odes, and a one-act-play, realistic in action, although poetic in form, and philosophic in temper: "Five in the Morning."

The proposed British expedition to conquer the South Pole is enthusiastically approved by the Royal Geographical Society. The opening article of the October number of its organ, the *Geographical Journal*, contains a letter from President Darwin to the leader, Capt. R. F. Scott, in which he promises "every help it is in our power to give." The aim of the expedition is twofold, to cover the remaining one hundred miles between Mr. Shackleton's farthest point and the Pole, and the further exploration of the Ross Sea area. The start will be made not later than August, 1910, in order to be at the base of operations in December. It is hoped that much light will be thrown on the nature and extent of the great ice barrier, and that the study of ice-physics will be promoted as the result of the purely geographical work. The officers and crew for the expedition have been selected and arrangements have been made for the purchase of the whaler *Terra Nova*. In this number there is also a summary of the narratives of Cook and Peary without criticism or expression of opinion, which is reserved "till fuller information is available."

Nature intended Samuel McChord Crothers for the ideal celebrant of Dr. Holmes's centenary, as any one may learn by reading the little volume published by Houghton Mifflin Co., under the title "Oliver Wendell Holmes: The Autocrat and His Fellow Boarders." If the chief advantage offered in these centenary celebrations is to provide one generation with the opportunity to speak its mind of another with a candor and an insight not always given to contemporaries (and this is the suggestion of the London *Times* reviewer, in praising Lewis W. Townsend's biography of "the little doctor"), there is an appropriateness in its being Dr. Crothers who uses the "candor and insight" in writing of the earlier New England humorist. The essayist mentions the fact that Holmes began to write in college, and wrote on till, in extreme age, "the pen dropped from his hand"—adding that his pages were "meant more especially for readers who have a personal interest in the writer," as the writer himself asseverated. And, like other persons who write much about themselves for publication, he had little to say in private—in his letters, for instance. Every reader of the "Autocrat" series has, undoubtedly, a certain inti-