

be given to best advantage without liberal reference to this as well as to Mr. Williams' earlier volume. And no executive in search of understanding can afford to ignore them either.

ORDWAY TEAD

N. Y. SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
NEW YORK CITY

L'Irlande dans la Crise Universelle (1914-1920). By Y. M. GOBLET (Louis Tréguiz). Second Edition. Paris, Félix Alcan, 1921.—vi, 462 pp.

This book is an intensive, methodical and dispassionate survey of all the factors which have affected the interests and opinions of the Irish people since 1914; while the preliminary section (pp. 1-63) reviews the political developments during the preceding twenty-one years. The author traces the shifting policies of the British government, the slow but patient progress of the Nationalist Party, and the sinister activities of "*l'orangisme ulstérien*"—the "*dernier carré de la vieille garde tory en Grande-Bretagne aussi bien qu'en Irlande*" (p. 446). The Ulster decision to threaten physical resistance, dating from 1912, the destruction of the Nationalist Home Rule Bill in 1916, the ungenerous treatment by the British War Office of Irish participation in the European War, the conscription struggle, the calculated contempt and cruelty of the Castle policy after the rising of Easter, 1916, are set forth with the utmost objectivity and the most scrupulous analysis of the sources. Then the author surveys the Convention of 1917, the collapse of which he attributes to the menace of partition. Of this he says (p. 251): "The Asquith cabinet had admitted partition in the Amendment Bill of 1914; Mr. Lloyd George had sanctioned it in 1916; he had made it the essential article of his Plan of May 16, 1917, of which the Convention was only an alternative; and on February 25, 1918, he recommended that the Convention grant Ulster a right of veto equivalent to secession. . . . The Orange representatives, therefore, were risking nothing in participating in conversations they could interrupt at pleasure."

The controversial question of the origin of the "outrages" is handled well by M. Goblet. On the basis of such sources as are accessible to impartial students, he assembles evidence irrefutably demonstrating the provocation to resistance and the vindication of their liberty, which the Irish people suffered many months after the rising of 1916.

For the period subsequent to the General Election of December, 1918, the material is far more abundant, and the reader is better able to corroborate M. Goblet's exposition, because of the closer attention given by the press of the world to the various negotiations and the course of the war between England and the Irish people. M. Goblet's record of the activities of the American Commission on Irish Independence in Paris during the Peace Conference, it may be said in passing, is a better example of historical impartiality than the references to this matter in many recent books, some collaborative, and others biographical, purporting to review and justify the events of Versailles. Finally, the somber narrative of the "Liquidation of the Universal Crisis in Ireland" (1919-1921) is brought down to the early months of 1921.

Despite the author's restraint, it is not difficult to perceive the conclusion his studies have led him to formulate as to the outcome of the Irish struggle for independence. From January 21, 1919 (the date of the Appeal of the Irish National Assembly to the Nations of the World), "the British Administration no longer governs Ireland—it can do no more than prevent Ireland from governing herself. Whatever the cause of this situation, its existence is historically established. Henceforth, as a logical result, Ireland will present her case to the world as that of a nation upon which, contrary to its own wish as expressed by the exercise of the franchise, there is imposed the authority of a foreign power, contrary to the new Law of Nations" (p. 360).

C. E. MCGUIRE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

England in Transition, 1789-1832: A Study of Movements.

By WILLIAM LAW MATHIESON. New York, Longmans, Green and Company, 1920.—xiv, 285 pp.

This book deals with the social, spiritual and intellectual forces operative in England from the beginning of the French Revolution to the passage of the Reform Bill, certainly an interesting and suggestive period, but withal one very difficult to treat adequately. It is not clear why 1789 was selected as the starting point. 1769 would have seemed a more logical place to begin a study of political reform; if economic movements are considered, any year from 1770 to 1785 would have been preferable; if the influence of the French Revolution is to be stressed, the results were not visible until later.

English history teachers have long bewailed the fact that we have