

how largely American development is by groups within the nation, and illustrates this by a brief account of the post-Revolutionary history of the political institutions of the state of New York and by a sketch of our local governments.

These innovations in arrangement, and the title of the book, "Growth of the American Nation," might lead the reader to expect more novelty of opinion than he will find. On the whole, the author follows the usual views. The cursory survey of the colonial period prevents him from giving a satisfactory explanation of the political institutions and social and economic forces of the sections along the Atlantic coast, and of the development of American society in the formative eighteenth century. He accepts the American view of the legality of the contentions of the Revolutionists, and believes that since 1789 there has been an American nation. The subject of the growth of the nation would have warranted a fuller account of the intrigues for the Mississippi in the confederation period; the formation of settlement in the Gulf states, and the interior in general; and the succession of Indian wars by which the nation won the West. Professor Judson devotes hardly more than a paragraph to the Indians. The movements of national growth involved in the administration of the public domain, the extension of railroads, the direction and characteristics of immigration, might have been more fully treated. One wonders how New England was "democratic," on page 36, and "aristocratic," on page 64. It is certainly of doubtful correctness to speak of Washington as a "thorough aristocrat," and of Monroe as an "eminently respectable mediocrity." Since aristocracy played so large a part in Hamilton's principles, it is misleading, for that reason if for no other, to say that the principles of the national democracy of 1815 were "Hamilton's principles." New York's land claim was not limited to territory north of the Ohio. The trouble with the Creeks and Cherokees, and the Panama Congress, in J. Q. Adams's presidency, deserve mention. Such slips, as well as the bad method of marginal citation of authorities, indicate haste in the preparation of the book. Nevertheless, Professor Judson has made a valuable and suggestive manual, which is a welcome find in the flood of elementary text-books in American history.

FREDERICK J. TURNER.

*The History of Canada.* By WILLIAM KINGSFORD, LL.D., F.R.S. (Canada). Vol. VIII., 1808-1815. (Toronto: Rowse and Hutchinson. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co. 1895. Pp. xviii, 601.)

HISTORICAL research has not greatly flourished in English-speaking Canada. The literary spirit is less strong there than in French Canada, and for a sufficient reason. French Canadians have the interests and ambitions of a distinct nationality. They are not French politically nor English intellectually. Their unique position and dramatic history have caused them to take a patriotic interest in themselves as a people which has

resulted in a very creditable literature. English-speaking Canada contains the only people on the American continent who have never known political revolution. They have always been British, and Britain's history is their history still. Their patriotic feeling is only half Canadian, and their national interest is distributed over the wide range of both English and Canadian history. Their own land thus receives from them a less exclusive attention than other American peoples give to theirs.

Parkman told the story of French Canada with a complacent belief in English superiority. A work in English that should cover the whole ground of Canadian history has been long needed, and Mr. Kingsford now supplies it. Nine volumes will complete his work. The first appeared in 1887. The present volume — the eighth — covers the period 1808–1815, and is devoted to the War of 1812 and its causes.

Mr. Kingsford's narrative is crowded with facts and figures and he makes no claim to be picturesque. Though he is a patriotic Canadian, he brings to his task a sceptical and discriminating spirit. The first of the four books of the present volume deals with the causes which led to the war, and, in a distinctly original and able manner, with the Napoleonic policy towards England in America. The Orders in Council and the Berlin Decree are treated of in relation to the discussions in the United States. Mr. Kingsford is severe upon Jefferson and Madison, but not more so than some of their countrymen have been, and shows that the war party proceeded upon the twofold assumption that England was about to be humbled by Napoleon, and that Canada was chafing under English rule and anxious to be delivered. The next book records the awakening on both points. The allies began their series of victories over Napoleon, and the Canadians showed an unexpected spirit of resistance. Relying upon Canadian disaffection, the United States directed the main attack upon the Niagara frontier. It was a mistake in every way. Not only had the region attacked been settled largely by expelled loyalists who cherished a deep hostility to the United States and would fight to the last for their homes, but even complete victory in Upper Canada would not have been decisive, for it would not have weakened Montreal and Quebec. These two points were the key to Canada. The French people, already under an alien race, would have resented the American attack less; and at these points the supplies for Upper Canada, which still imported even its cereals, could have been cut off. Mr. Kingsford speaks with some feeling of England's neglect of Canada at this time. Within a few weeks of the declaration of war, the English government was blind enough to order the 41st and 49th regiments to return home. Canada needed money to support a war brought upon her entirely by the action of England; yet, though England had plenty for her continental allies, she had none for Canada. Placemen from England got the best posts in the colony. The truth is that England was, in 1812, wholly absorbed in the contest nearer home. Free from that, in 1814, she sent 16,000 troops to Canada, and, had the war continued, the Duke of Wellington would have become their leader. There was gross

ignorance of Canada in England. The Horse Guards in 1814 officially described Montreal as in Upper Canada.

The year 1812 saw the Americans checked on land, and England, to her amazement, had been beaten upon the sea by her own children. Book XXIX. relates the incidents of the war in 1813. Mr. Kingsford devotes especial attention to statistics, and has been at great pains to determine the numbers engaged in the land and sea contests. The feeling of exasperation on both sides was intensifying. The British general Proctor left some prisoners insufficiently guarded, and forty of them were brutally massacred by his Indian allies. American officers were accused by the British of violating their parole, and some of them, including Winfield Scott, were plainly threatened with execution if they fell into British hands. The Americans burned the public buildings of York (Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada, and destroyed the pretty village of Newark (Niagara), leaving four hundred people homeless. The British retaliated. The American side of the Niagara frontier was devastated, and it was in continuation of this policy of reprisal for injuries in Canada that the public buildings at Washington were burned later.

Book XXX. brings the story of the war to a close, and is on the whole a record of disaster to the British army, owing largely to the incompetence of Prevost, the Governor-General of Canada. The destruction of property at Washington and the huge British losses at New Orleans make melancholy reading. "The events of the war have not been forgotten in England," says Mr. Kingsford, "for they have never been known there." They are certainly neither unknown nor forgotten on this side of the Atlantic. Mr. Kingsford complains of the partisan accounts of the war which American writers have given. He should discriminate. Second-rate writers in all countries are too blindly patriotic. Surely Mr. Adams and Mr. McMaster aim to be fair enough.

The work has four skeleton maps which are useful as a guide to the military operations. Mr. Kingsford has used the printed histories and in addition the manuscript collections in the Canadian Archives at Ottawa, to which he repeatedly acknowledges his indebtedness. Founded in 1872 under the present Archivist, Mr. Brymner, this collection has already become a model of arrangements and nearly complete in its transcripts of European manuscripts relating to the history of Upper and Lower Canada.

Mr. Kingsford is not a stylist, and his work though of great merit will not be popular. Some of his phrases are curiously redundant: "The national safety of the United States as a nation" (p. 40); "the unavoidable consequence would result in re-annexation to France" (p. 190); "the sacred soil of British ground" (p. 445). Sometimes he says the opposite of what he means to say: "Who will hesitate to say that the sentiment did *not* influence the diplomacy of Madison" (p. 135); "in no *brief* time it numbered five hundred men" (p. 221). His punctuation is singular, far too many commas being used. He has a theory as to the need of economy in using capitals, and we have "lord Liverpool," "sir George Prevost," "fort Erie,"

"île-aux-Noix," "Niagara falls." He will not yield to the people of the United States the title "American," and hence we have "United States" used incessantly throughout his book as an adjective. Mr. Kingsford may as well give up a hopeless contest. Words, once current, have a silent obstinacy that cannot be overcome.

There are numerous misprints, especially in connection with foreign words, and some small mistakes when European affairs are referred to. It was the Convention not the National Assembly which sat in France in 1794 (p. 5); Austerlitz was won not on November but on December 2; the Treaty of Pressburg was made not on January but on December 26; the Berlin Decree was issued not on November 25 but on November 21; Auerstadt should be Auerstädt (p. 23). The crew of the "Macedonian" is said on the same page to have been both 303 and 292 (p. 401). A period of thirty-nine years is called "upwards of a quarter of a century" (p. 429). One is puzzled to know how quotation by Sir G. C. Lewis can add importance to a passage from Scott (p. 25), and why notes referring to the Canadian Archives are sometimes within brackets and sometimes not.

GEORGE W. WRONG.

*John Sherman's Recollections of Forty Years in the House, Senate, and Cabinet.* An Autobiography. (Chicago, New York, London, Berlin: The Werner Company. 1895. Two vols., pp. xxxv, 1239.)

THESE volumes are no exception, in mechanical form, to those usually issued by "subscription" publishers. They are bulky and inconvenient for handling. The same printed matter, in clear but somewhat smaller type, might have been included in two volumes of moderate size which could be read without putting one's wrists to a strain. They are paged continuously, the second one beginning with page 603.

The title "Recollections" is somewhat misapplied. A large part of the space is given to extracts from speeches, which, though of permanent value, should have been assigned to separate volumes. Their inclusion here breaks the narrative and involves a repetition of the same facts and arguments, which sometimes wearies the reader and is calculated to obstruct the general use of the book.

The author and subject of the two volumes came of the best New England stock, — the Shermans of Connecticut, from a branch transplanted to Ohio at the beginning of this century when the American empire was crossing the Alleghanies. In public service, military and civil, the brothers, William Tecumseh and John, surpass any who have borne that honored name. There is nothing obscure or humble in their origin; their father was a lawyer and judge in Ohio as his father had been in Connecticut. Their mother was the daughter of a prosperous merchant of Norwalk, Conn., and was well taught in the seminary at Poughkeepsie, N.Y. They were two of eleven children, William being the sixth and John the eighth.