

The first edition of *Historical Collections relating to Gwynedd* (Pennsylvania), by Howard M. Jenkins, was exhausted soon after its publication in 1884. Mr. Jenkins now issues a second edition (Philadelphia, The Author, pp. 456), with corrections and additions, especially in the genealogical sections. The general plan and the substance of the text remain unchanged, and the same modest title is preserved. Though a complete history of this old township of Welsh Quakers was not contemplated by the author, but rather a series of chapters on special subjects, chiefly relating to its early years, yet within the limits which the author proposes to himself he provides a model of accurate local investigation.

The Boston Athenæum has printed, in a well-executed volume of 566 pages, *A Catalogue of the Washington Collection in the Boston Athenæum*, compiled and annotated with great care and with much bibliographical learning, by Mr. Appleton P. C. Griffin. It is now nearly forty years since the plans for such a catalogue were laid. The collection itself came into the possession of the institution in 1848, having been obtained, indirectly, from heirs of the general. The inventory of General Washington's library indicates 884 volumes, not counting pamphlets. Of these the Athenæum has 341. The first, and most important, division of the present volume consists of a catalogue of these books. Each entry is accompanied with proper bibliographical information, and in most cases with extracts from letters of or to Washington, or from his account-books, which show the circumstances under which he acquired the volume. Many, if not most, of the volumes are presentation copies. Accordingly the letters just mentioned, found chiefly in the library of the Department of State, but also industriously sought and consulted elsewhere, are of considerable literary or historical interest. Some of them make certain the authorship of anonyma, as in the case of the *View of the New England Illuminati* and other pamphlets of Rev. John Cosens Ogden. Washington's replies, when they show nothing else, show his tact and discretion. Part II. presents a less elaborate catalogue of other books derived from Mount Vernon, chiefly the former property of Judge Bushrod Washington. Part III. is a catalogue of the Athenæum's collection of Washington's writings, which, beyond the ordinary bibliographical material, contains a useful list (in bibliographical, not in chronological order) of letters of Washington printed elsewhere than in the standard collections of his writings. Part IV. is a catalogue of the Athenæum's Washingtoniana. An appendix, by Mr. W. C. Lane, gives the inventory of the library of General Washington, expanding or explaining the titles there given in abbreviated form, and presenting in notes the subsequent history of each book, so far as possible, and an indication of the present location and ownership. Many students of American history beside the special students of Washington will find the volume useful and informing.

It being now more than a generation since the issue of the last extensive history of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the General

Conference of 1889 took steps toward the preparation of a new book on the subject. The result is a *History of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ*, by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Berger (Dayton, United Brethren Publishing House, pp. 682). The plan is comprehensive. The general history of the church and of its general conferences is followed by an account of the development and progress of institutions established to promote special departments of its work, such as publication, missionary activity and education; by a brief history of each local conference, and by historical and statistical tables. As is usually the case with American denominational histories, the earlier chapters of the narrative are the most interesting, though the writer has here obtained few materials beyond those used by Spayth. In tracing the history of Philip William Otterbein and Martin Boehm, and of the process by which the new organization, with its Arminian and revivalist spirit, was built up out of materials supplied by the German Reformed and Mennonite churches, Dr. Berger is led inevitably to present to some extent a picture of the religious and social condition of the better sort of German inhabitants of Pennsylvania and Maryland a hundred and twenty years ago. The rest of the book, though carefully prepared and well written, and animated by a liberal spirit in treating of controversies, lacks this element of personal interest. Like our denominational histories generally, it is a history of the clergy and of the organization rather than one which enables the reader to estimate the laity, to judge of their mental and moral condition and religious characteristics, and so to "place" the denomination as an ingredient and force in American life. But within its limits the book is a valuable record of a religious body now numbering some 240,000 communicants, mostly in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.