

In Mr. Hoffman's group of smaller cities the whites were in 1880 nearly nineteen times as numerous as the blacks, and in the larger cities less than nine times. Both races in the smaller cities increased more than twice as fast as in the larger, so that when Mr. Hoffman's two sets of cities are combined, it turns out that the whites really increased faster than the negroes in all his cities considered together.

We have followed Mr. Hoffman's method of comparing in 1880 and in 1890 only those cities in which the negro population was considerable. Obviously, however, even if the result of such comparison had shown, as it did not show, that the negroes in those cities had increased more rapidly than the whites, his case would not have been proved. The question is not whether in particular cities which, by the very fact of their having a large negro population, are shown to be those which for one reason or another are especially attractive to the negroes, the latter have increased more rapidly than the whites, but whether they have so increased in all the cities of the country considered as an aggregate. In Mr. Hoffman's selected cities the negroes increased, according to his figures, 39.18 per cent. The population of all the cities of the country having in 1890 twenty thousand inhabitants or upwards was in that year 48.86 per cent. greater than it was in 1880.

The negro dwellers in the cities are becoming more and more numerous; so are the white; to move from the country to the city is nowadays a human not a race tendency. Unfortunately, the mortality among urban negroes is very great. Their poverty, the prejudice against them, and the conditions under which they are as a consequence compelled to live, explain some of the difference between their death-rate and that of the whites. Mr. Hoffman to the contrary notwithstanding, we are persuaded that the average negro inhabitant of the city is compelled to live under conditions less favorable to healthful existence than does the average white resident of the same place. Yet, after all allowance is made on this score, it remains true that the negro death-rate is alarmingly high, and that it is so high is owing in a large measure to the low standard of morality still so general among the race. Unfortunately, there is as yet very little statistical evidence that the moral standard of the race is rising. Perhaps it is too soon to look for much improvement in this respect. Thirty years may seem long to individuals; they are but a moment in the history of a race. It may be that the American negro is doomed to extinction. Mr. Hoffman, however, has not convinced us that any such result is in the slightest degree probable. Predictions as to the future movements of population are of very little value even when those who make them are absolutely unbiassed, and have reached their conclusions after an impartial, careful, and complete study of all the available data.

*Nathaniel Massie, a Pioneer of Ohio: A Sketch of his Life and Selections from his Correspondence.* By David Meade Massie. Cincinnati: The Robert Clarke Co. 1896. Portrait and Map. 8vo, pp. 285.

A DOUBLE interest attaches to this sketch of one of the pioneer settlers of Ohio. As a man, Massie did not differ greatly from many others who passed from Virginia into the Western territory, led by interest and by a certain restless-

ness of character. In his case the interest was strong. He was a surveyor by profession, and found good profit in surveying and locating the grants made to the soldiers of the Revolution. He was himself an owner of land in the Ohio region, and, by purchasing at low rates the soldiers' rights, acquired so large a holding that he became embarrassed, and died deeply involved in his ventures. As a surveyor he stood high; as a pioneer settler he shared in the dangers of frontier life, and thought nothing of killing an Indian in open battle or in cold blood. His descendant dwells upon the brutal exploits of the whites against the Indian, and, under a veil of romance, seeks to excuse and justify the massacre of the weaker race attempting, according to its lights, to retain possession of the country which had so long belonged to it. In connection with his land schemes Massie founded the first town in the Virginia Military District, now known as Manchester, and engaged in frontier trade, exchanging salt for furs, and shipping salt, flour, and pork to New Orleans.

In addition to the personal interest, this collection of letters has political value. The editor seems to insist that it was as a politician that Massie's highest claim to be honored rested, and that the admission of Ohio as a State was at once a triumph of Democracy and a full vindication of the State party of which Massie was a leader. Triumph over what? There was no tyranny or oppression to triumph over, and a Territorial government under the Ordinance of 1787 bore heavily upon no interests or individuals, save upon land speculations. That ordinance provided mechanically for the development of a Territory into a State, and gave the highest possible protection against tyranny by keeping out the curse of slavery. If Massie, and those who were associated with him, are to be judged by their efforts to raise Ohio into full statehood, the reasons given for their action should be weighed, and their methods tested, by sincerity and disinterestedness. Unfortunately, the letters of Massie are few in number and fragmentary, and it is from the letters of his associate and leader, Worthington, that the motives of the State party may be learned. The journals of Worthington are still in existence, and may soon be printed. Until that record is available, Massie's statements must be accepted as the best account of the methods of his party.

In 1798, the Territory, then under the governorship of St. Clair, became entitled to a representative general assembly. A so-called legislature had existed, and not infrequently obliged the Governor to give a formal acquiescence to its acts, which he did unwillingly and under protest. These acts went so far beyond the proper sphere of the powers of this legislature that, on a reaction, most of its laws were repealed, leaving, however, the ill feeling, excited by the somewhat querulous and monotonous complaints of St. Clair. The opposition to the Governor was strongest in the two counties of Ross and Adams, and from those counties came his ablest and bitterest assailants, Massie, Worthington, and Tiffin. Massie had already come into conflict with St. Clair in an attempt to remove the seat of the county court to his own town of Manchester, where he was the largest holder of land. The position of the Governor in this question was unassailable, and Massie's move had every appearance of a land speculation. Tiffin became the Speaker of the new House of Representatives, and Worthington was active as a member of the leading committees.

The desire for a wider field of action was already evident. The leaders, Massie and Worthington, went so far as to propose a petition to Congress praying that the representative of the Territory in that body might vote as well as debate—a privilege not permissible under the Ordinance, and which, if granted, would confer upon a nondescript Territory equal powers on national questions with the States. The Territorial Legislature sat from September to December, 1799, and no less than eleven of its acts were vetoed by the Governor. In something of a huff, Worthington expressed his dissatisfaction with the Government, and urged that the Territory be divided, as that would bring the Legislature to his settlement of Chillicothe.

St. Clair was not opposed to such a division, and indeed no opposition on his part could have prevailed to prevent Ohio from becoming a State in the proper time. But he had seen enough of Territorial politics to recognize that a few men held great influence, and were using that influence to further their own interests and ambitions. The proposed form of government might be democratic, but it would be an oligarchy in execution. The large landholders, disposing of land on credit, exercised an undue power over the votes of those indebted to them—an abuse against that freedom of elections intended by the Ordinance. With the memory of the Spanish intrigues in Kentucky present to his mind, St. Clair feared that there had not been developed among the settlers on the Ohio a sufficiently strong attachment to the Union. He further felt that the majority were Republicans, followers of Jeffersonian principles, to whom the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions would be very acceptable. Hence he thought the proposed division untimely and impolitic, as well as based upon private interest. Worthington went to Philadelphia, pursued by St. Clair's warnings against him as a "very designing" and not "entirely that candid man I once represented him." The Territory was divided, and at Chillicothe the Legislature met. At once began an agitation by other towns desirous of the honor, and especially the profit; an agitation promising little peace to the new province.

The opposition to the Governor was strengthened by the support of the notorious Symmes, who fancied that he had many grievances against St. Clair in connection with his land grant; and by a refusal of the Governor to accede to the formation of new counties by the Legislature. These elements commanded sufficient influence to delay, but not to defeat, the confirmation of St. Clair when again nominated to the executive. Worthington met with a defeat in the success of St. Clair, and in the removal to Cincinnati of the seat of government. But the comment of the Governor on the conduct of France was some compensation for this setback, and became a good weapon against him in the hands of those who saw in the election of Jefferson the full success of Republicanism. Petitions against St. Clair were circulated through the Territory, and again did Worthington go to Philadelphia to secure his removal under charges that now seem trivial, such as receiving small fees for marriage and ferry licenses. Certain acts of the Legislature, relating to the boundaries of the Territory and the laying out of counties, to which St. Clair had given his assent but had not originated, were subjects of complaint; but the greatest stress was laid upon the Federalism of the Governor, making him a fit subject to be burned in effigy. The

attack was so largely one of partisan politics that it is impossible to overlook the fact that Massie, Tiffin, and Worthington were deeply interested financially in their contest for statehood. In Worthington's case, personal reasons added to his dislike of the Governor, for he had been passed over in the militia appointments and had been brought to book for some land fees wrongfully assessed. To denounce the now aged St. Clair as a tyrant, and to plead Republican fervor, answered better than any serious charges of misgovernment that could have been found. Before success was assured, the parcelling out of offices began, and in the event the three leaders took the three highest offices—rewards of "disinterested partisanship."

In this early instance of a Territory passing to a State are to be found the same influences and conflicts of interests that have become familiar in more recent times. In a mining camp as well as in an agricultural settlement, sooner or later a few active and ambitious minds will see good reasons for becoming politically independent, so far as dependence upon a majority can confer that independence. The first suggestion and the basis of the agitation will be found more frequently in private interests than in public considerations, and the admission of the State into the Union is more or less tainted with jobbery of some description, private or political. In the case of Ohio the movement may have been justified by the results, but this does not free Massie and his associates from the charge of self-interest. Their denunciations of tyranny, Federalism, and monarchy were cloaks for land speculations, and the methods fell so little short of bribery and intimidation as readily to be confused with practices that nearly a century of electoral reform has not entirely suppressed.

The proof reading of this volume was carelessly done, and errors abound. The interest of the letters, however, makes up for many shortcomings.

*Travels in West Africa: Congo Français, Cameroons.* By Mary H. Kingsley. With illustrations. Macmillan Co. 1897. Pp. xvi, 743. 8vo.

"To go puddling about obscure districts in West Africa after raw fetish and fresh water fishes" is Miss Kingsley's characteristic way of stating the object of her travels. Her success can scarcely be doubted. Of "puddling" she certainly had her fill in swamps, lagoons, rivers, and forests perpetually dank with rain and mist. She has added materially to our knowledge of the religious conceptions of the natives of the West Coast by numerous facts gathered at first hand from savages still little influenced by civilization. Her natural-history collections contained several species new to science, the insects alone furnishing eight new species, "for two of which it has been necessary to establish new genera." She was a keen and interested observer, however, of other things than fetish and fishes, and records her impressions of the West Coast and its inhabitants with extraordinary vigor and faithfulness. Her views upon slavery, polygamy, the gin-trade, the best methods of treating the negro by the trader, the planter, and the missionary, are stated decidedly and fearlessly, although they often run counter to the opinions of philanthropists and the supporters of missions. It is evident from Miss Kingsley's narrative that she had in no ordinary degree the qualities essential to the successful African traveller—

endurance, courage, resource, sympathy for and tact in dealing with her black companions, and, above all, freedom from worry, and humor. With this last quality, invaluable in a land where disease lurks in every breath drawn by the white, her book fairly bubbles over from preface to appendix. Miss Kingsley's style is racy and unconventional, and she does not hesitate to use frequently the curious trade English of the West Coast, or to coin a word if neither language has one expressive enough for her. Altogether the book is unique, not only because it is more-like the familiar conversation of a bright woman than a set narrative, but also because of the region described, the object of the travels, and the traveller herself.

Miss Kingsley does not give a continuous account of her journeying in this, her second, visit to the West Coast, but selects the most novel or interesting incidents. Among these was a trip to the island of Fernando Po, made for the purpose of studying the fetish of the Bubis, its native inhabitants. Another was the ascent of the great Peak of the Cameroons, remarkable as a feat of endurance, but disappointing from the fact that, when the summit was reached, it was "only, alas! to find a hurricane raging and a fog in full possession, and not a ten yards' view to be had in any direction." In no part of her book are Miss Kingsley's descriptive powers shown to greater advantage than in these chapters. Two months of the summer of 1895 were devoted to a journey up the Ogowé River in the Congo Français in search of fishes. Her farthest point was a French mission station some two hundred miles from the mouth, reached by steamboat and canoe. A most pathetic picture is drawn of the loneliness of the wives of these missionaries, one of whom spoke of the relief a certain sand-bank gave her. "'A relief?' I said. 'Yes, do you not see that until it shows there is nothing but forest, forest, forest, and that still stretch of river? That bank is the only piece of clear ground I see in the year, and that only lasts a few weeks until the wet season comes, and then it goes, and there is nothing but forest, forest, forest, for another year.'" The return journey to the coast included a land march through the unexplored region between the Ogowé and a river flowing into the Gaboon. Miss Kingsley's sole companions were natives, mostly Fans, the most dreaded of all West African tribes, but "full of fire, temper, intelligence, and go," and accordingly her favorites. A part of the way was through a forest so dense that "all day long we never saw the sky once." At times the beauty of this wood from the climbing plants is beyond adequate description. "They form great veils and curtains between and over the trees, often hanging so straight and flat, in stretches of twenty to forty feet or so wide, and thirty to sixty or seventy feet high, that it seems incredible that no human hand has trained or clipped them into their perfect forms. Sometimes these curtains are decorated with large bell-shaped, bright-colored flowers, sometimes with delicate sprays of white blossoms." Occasionally she encounters a troop of gorillas, "the most horrible wild animal I have seen." One of these was in a native plantation, and, when disturbed by an inopportune sneeze, "they squattered across the open ground in the most inelegant style, dragging their long arms with the knuckles downward." But when the forest was reached they swung themselves through it "from bough to bough, in a way that convinced me that, given the necessity of getting about in tropical forests, man has made a mis-

take in getting his arms shortened. I have seen many wild animals in their native wilds, but never have I seen anything to equal gorillas going through bush; it is a graceful, powerful, superbly perfect hand-trapeze performance." Elephants, also, more than once crossed our traveller's path, and she describes in her characteristic way their intense aversion to the smell of the civet-cat, which greatly affects a certain shrub. "I once saw an elephant put his trunk against one of these scented bushes, have it up in a second, and fly off into the forest with an Oh, lor! burn-some-brown-paper! pocket-handkerchief-please expression all over him." More dangerous still than these or the more numerous hippos and crocodiles were the natives. In the first village to which the little party came, "it was touch-and-go for twenty of the longest minutes I have ever lived" whether they would be welcomed or be killed and eaten.

Of the scientific value of Miss Kingsley's chapters on fetish we do not profess to be competent to judge, but their interest, even to the lay reader, is great. She brings out clearly the distinction between the different spirits, and shows how the fear of misfortunes lies at the foundation of all the African's religious belief. The origin of teeth-filing, so prevalent in tropical Africa, she says, is to distinguish man from the animals. "You often hear a native of tribes that go in for filing or knocking out teeth say contemptuously of those who do not follow the custom, 'Those men have teeth all same for one with dog.'" She suggests that the terror with which twins are regarded is due to the same cause. Her estimates of the negro, scattered through the volume, but given more in detail in the valuable appendix on trade and labor, are more favorable than those of most writers. "The African is far from being the brutal fiend he is often painted—a creature that loves cruelty and blood for their own sake." Nor is he a drunkard. "I have no hesitation in saying that in the whole of West Africa, in one week, there is not one-quarter the amount of drunkenness you can see any Saturday night you choose in a couple of hours in the Vauxhall Road." The great inferiority of the African to the European, she believes, lies in the lack of the "mechanical idea," and she criticises severely the kind of instruction employed generally by missionaries. It tends, she says, "to develop his emotionalism, his sloth, and his vanity, and it has no tendency to develop those parts of his character which are in a rudimentary state and much want it; thereby throwing the whole character of the man out of gear." In other words, before he is taught to read and write, he should be taught how to work. Even with such instruction she has little expectation that the negro race will advance much beyond its present culture-level, certainly not in the line of European culture. Climate and "swampy country" are against it.

Some valuable hints are given to travellers in respect to the preservation of their health and to the treatment of fever, of which 85 per cent. of the West Coasters die or return home with their health permanently wrecked; and there are descriptive lists of the author's collection of reptiles and fishes, by Dr. A. Günther, and of the insects by W. F. Kirby, of the British Museum. The book is well illustrated, but, strange to say, has no map.

*Lectures on French Literature*, delivered in Melbourne. By Irma Dreyfus. Longmans, Green & Co. 1896.

THE author of this work forestalls a very