

están las grandes compañías petroleras y monopolistas en contra del progreso de la América Latina y la poderosa organización de los Caballeros Católicos. Es de temer que en estos países de la América se reproduzca pronto y sanguinariamente la tragedia española y muchos están también esperando que el gobierno americano, engañado de nuevo, adopte una actitud de falsa neutralidad benévola para el despotismo clerical y plutocrático, lo mismo que ocurrió cuando la república española. Si esto ocurre, los Estados Unidos caerían en el más profundo desprestigio y todas las propagandas de democracia y de libertad caerán por el suelo. . . .

El protestantismo ha producido grandes bienes en la América Latina desde hace siglos y debe continuar su historia. Lo temible es que los protestantes imperialistas creen que es para ellos muy conveniente una alianza entre el clero católico, en gran parte español y jesuita, y sus intereses particulares y políticos del momento. . . .

Anyone who has lived any length of time in Hispanic America will gladly agree with Mr. White that something is wrong with the relations of the two continents, but I am convinced that he has picked the wrong scapegoat. A hurdle race invariably has more than one obstacle. Much fault might be found with our diplomacy, with the attitude of American tourists, and with the business practices of American commercialists, whose feeling of superiority frequently wounds the pride of our neighbors. Many of the journalistic books written in the United States about our southern neighbors might well be left unprinted so that they would not arouse the ire of the people they satirize.

Mr. White's book should have a wide circulation among Protestants, and especially among the missionaries and those who direct their activities. There is nothing so effective for curing one's faults as seeing himself in another's mirror, and I believe that the average American and the average Protestant is willing to see and rectify his shortcomings, if they are shown him in a helpful spirit.

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*The St. Johns: A Parade of Diversities.* By BRANCH CABELL and A. J. HANNA. [Rivers of America Series.] (New York: Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., 1943. Pp. xii, 324. \$2.50.)

The house of Farrar and Rinehart during the past few years has won preëminence with a quasi-historical series of volumes, each of which deals with the development of a region which embraces a particular river of America. Choosing their subjects with evident care, and fortunate in authors who have generally made the most of their opportunities, the publishers have already issued twenty-five volumes which have won favorable comment throughout the nation.

The latest volume, on the St. Johns River in Florida, is the first to appear, as the announcement states, "under the dual authorship of a professor of history and a great stylist," a unity which, the publishers' affirm, "has produced a book of singular charm with no sacrifice of accuracy. History is here, and the stirring of important events, but it is above all a story of people."

Whether there has been "no sacrifice of accuracy" or otherwise, will be discussed below, but there is no doubt that the authors have produced a definitely engaging and, albeit, annoying volume. The style and swing of the narrative are definitely attractive; the topical content and the treatment thereof are enticing; but the authors take a strong position on almost every subject and, while the style makes most of the points rapier thrusts rather than bludgeon blows, the plethora of sardonic sarcasm and the number of smart comments, particularly when treating of some of the great pioneer heroes of Spain, France, and England, soon irritate the reader into a distinctly anti-pathetic attitude.

This reviewer does not feel qualified to pass upon the historicity of the French and Spanish period; but he freely acknowledges his keen enjoyment of Branch Cabell's charming portrayals of Latin life on the St. Johns throughout the first nine chapters of this book. There is no doubt about the accuracy of the authors' delicately-aimed darts at Frenchmen, Spaniards, and Englishmen alike in their peculiar practices which, to the perplexed native Indians, were supposed to typify Christianity.

But it is with the tenth chapter that the reviewer regretfully parts company with the authors. Their manner of introducing the story of James Oglethorpe in Georgia and on the St. Johns, ascribing the general's entire Georgia program to his visit to Robert Castell in prison, is assuredly novel, praiseworthy, and beyond factual criticism. But when they say, on pages 78-79, that Oglethorpe forsook the cause of the Moravians in Bohemia for that of prison reform, they err; when they colorfully portray him as becoming hoarse from his "daily demands" in Parliament for aid to the Moravians, they err; when they ascribe to Oglethorpe alone the idea of a colony in America, they err; and when they term him "governor of Georgia," they err. One looks in vain in this volume for references to Sir John Percival, later Earl of Egmont, the Trustees, the S. P. C. K. or the S. P. G., the various pious bequests such as that of the haberdasher named King, or those of Dr. George Berkeley, of the Rev. Thomas Bray, Thomas Coram, Abel Tassin D'Allone, James Vernon or Dr. Samuel Hales. Nothing is said of the colonial policies and responsibilities of Wal-

pole or Pelham or Newcastle; nothing is said of Oglethorpe's broad humanity which, in spite of the aversion thereto of the Trustees, welcomed Jews as well as Gentiles to the colony; nothing is said of the colonists' affection and regard for the only Trustee ever to set foot in the colony.

All is ridicule, irony, smart sayings which pass for wit; in short, it is "fine writing" which, if this chapter be a criterion, would compel the most kindly critic to condemn the book as history, no matter how entertaining and readable the style may prove to be.

The remainder of part one in this work is taken up with the history of the St. Johns region as part of the British colony of East Florida, where Denys Rolle, under the aegis of Governor James Grant, established his home for fallen women as the initial step in developing an "ideal society"; with William Bartram's impractical but idyllic botanical pilgrimage of 1766, calculated to make him forget his first cousin, Mary Bartram, a "cure" which yielded his famous volume of *Travels*; with the position of Florida during the American Revolution; and with the course of events which made Spanish Florida British and then, by 1822, part of the United States.

Here, too, one may read of such varied characters as the outlaw, Dan McGirth; the suave Scottish merchant, William Panton; the plundering ex-Naval officer, John McQueen, now turned "wrecker" of the Florida coast; and the independent "Patriot," John Houstoun McIntosh, who seems to have been Thomas Jefferson's Sam Houston, Moses Austin, Stephen Austin, and Sanford Dole, all in one, in British East Florida throughout the years before the United States acquired it.

After 1820 the narrative becomes more episodic and colorful in the neat social implications scattered throughout the chapters. Thus we read of Zephaniah Kingsley, who, qualified in President Monroe's opinion as one of the "most fit and discreet persons in the Territory" to be a member of the Council to govern Florida, scandalized young Ralph Waldo Emerson with his harem of Negro wives, presided over by one reputed to be a former princess of Madagascar, to all of which ladies he was steadfastly loyal.

Here, too, one reads of "the lawless and ungovernable" of Georgia (not Oglethorpe's, but that of the republic) who promptly crossed the border, in the author's pungent phrase, to "aid in adjusting Florida to the least lovely principles of democracy." Here, too, is expressed grave doubt of the value of the incursions of the clergy to the natives of the St. Johns country.

And then came the rediscovery of the St. Johns by the new mili-

tary governor of Florida, Andrew Jackson, for whom the infant settlement on its shores was named. The first Florida boom began, in spite of Jackson's early return to Tennessee, and by 1835 a weekly schedule for the steamer *Florida* had been arranged between the St. Johns and Savannah.

The St. Johns, during the ensuing decades, became an object of interest to aliens for it saw John James Audubon, following in the footsteps of Bartram; it welcomed Lady Amelia Murray, maid of honor to Queen Victoria, in her highly critical wanderings along its course; and, in the War Between the States, its shores provided a stage for the military exploits of Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, late of Boston and Harvard, and his First South Carolina Volunteers, "then the one regiment in the entire United States Army composed of Negroes."

But the other chief glory of the St. Johns during the war era lay in the Confederate blockade runners that darted forth from its protective shores and then darted back again in comparative safety, runners of which unquestionably the most illustrious was the international yachting champion, the *America*.

The post-war period is confined to six chapters, such as "As to Frederick in Patmos," wherein, in the guise of describing the Floridian adventures of ex-Captain Frederick Beecher Stowe, U. S. A., the authors adduce a devastating critique of Harriet Beecher Stowe and her *magnum opus*; the development of the St. Johns region as a more or less fashionable health resort and the terminus of a steamboat line; the rise of the orange grove to the status of big business; the slightly less than fabulous career of Napoleon B. Broward, culminating in the governorship of Florida, 1905-1909, and election to the United States Senate; and a vivid, pulsating description of the change that overtook the old St. Johns region of Jacob Brock and General Henry S. Sanford, when Henry M. Flagler and Henry B. Plant, tycoons of modernity, developed southern Florida to the resultant destruction of all in that old St. Johns valley.

The history culminates in the flaming account of the return to Jacksonville of Cora Taylor Crane, once the wife of Stephen Crane, author of *The Red Badge of Courage*. In one sense this chapter serves suitably as a sad and typical commentary on the departed glories of Jacksonville and the Valley of the St. Johns, but to this reviewer its spirit proves sadly out of place.

The volume ends with "An Epilogue: In the Form of an Altercation" between the two authors, wherein the finer feelings and, if one may so put it, the professional standards of the historian conflict

with the journalistic tendencies toward sensationalism of the literary stylist. This reviewer regrets that he must so totally concur with Mr. Hanna's views: "Moreover I do not approve of the flippant liberties which have been taken in the Stowe chapter. . . . I was about to state, also, my firm objection to ending the book with Cora Crane's story, which impresses me as being alike tragic and farcical. I find, in fact, this abhorrent chapter to be a recital of quite trashy stuff, the sole purpose of which can be to reveal a most sordid episode."

But the real purpose of the epilogue is to include such references as add to the present glory of the St. Johns, such as Rollins College; the Gertrude Rollins Wilson bird sanctuary; the Yerkes Anthropoid Experimental Laboratory, jointly conducted by Harvard and Yale; the sojourn at Solano Grove of that great and almost forgotten English composer, Frederick Delius; and the nationally-famed musical careers of two of America's greatest Negroes, James Weldon Johnson and his younger brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, both natives of Jacksonville.

Five pages of acknowledgments and ten pages of extensive, though uncritical, bibliography, together with an adequate index, complete the volume, which mechanically proves worthy of its publishers. An excellently drawn map by the illustrator, Doris Lee, serves as a frontispiece, and the only major illustration is a group drawing on pages 142-143, which resembles the final curtain call of an historical pageant. The distinctive design and charm of the chapter headpieces make one regret the more the absence of further illustrations.

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*Memoir of Walter Reed: The Yellow Fever Episode.* By ALBERT E. TRUBY with a foreword by JEFFERSON RANDOLPH KEAN. (New York: Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper and Brothers, 1943. Pp. xiii, 239. Illustrated. \$3.50.)

In this small volume, the author, a retired general of the Army Medical Corps, gives the public a scholarly and interesting account of the successful fight of Dr. Walter Reed and his associates against yellow fever in Cuba. The emphasis is not on biography or on the disease, but on the methods and techniques used to prove conclusively that the mosquito and the mosquito alone was the carrier of yellow fever.

The account starts with the examination of Dr. Truby for a com-