

ney would have ended well indeed, had he not ventured unguided into the uncharted waters of the last quarter of a century. These, however, he crossed at full speed, mistreating the Vargas Period (1930-1945), with all its magnitude, in only six and a half pages. On the other hand, these are the only pages in the *Marvelous Journey* where the reader does not feel Mr. Putnam has improved upon the superficial and inconclusive chapter on Brazilian literature he contributed to *Brazil* (a volume in the United Nations Series, University of California Press, 1948), written previous to his 1946 trip to Rio, where he was greeted as the best American translator of Brazilian literature.

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*Rio-Branco e as relações entre o Brasil e os Estados Unidos.* By ALUIZIO NAPOLEÃO. [Ministério das Relações Exteriores, Comissão preparatório Centenário do Barão do Rio-Branco, II, Monografias.] (Rio de Janeiro: Imprensa Nacional, 1947. Pp. 215. Paper.)

This paper-bound volume is one of a series intended to commemorate the public services of one of Brazil's greatest men, José Maria da Silva Paranhos, Baron of Rio Branco, and son of Viscount Rio Branco, author of the famous law of "free birth" (1871) marking a milestone in the Brazilian anti-slavery crusade. As the title indicates, it treats primarily the activities of the baron as they relate to the diplomatic relations between Brazil and the United States, during the era 1893-1912. But as even a cursory analysis will show, it wisely treats this rather restricted subject within the confines of a pattern covering both Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

The author's own outline and major topic headings suggest the nature of the volume's contents. Part one, covering seventy-seven of the total 215 pages, is titled "Evolution of an International Amity." Spanning the four centuries inaugurated by Christopher Columbus, the treatment had to be scrappy and disjointed; still the material is channelled in the direction of the ultimate goal. Part two (pp. 78-133) the author calls "The Baron of Rio-Branco in the United States." The contents of this section deal exclusively with the activities of the baron as head of the Brazilian Special Mission sent to the United States to present Brazil's case in the Missions boundary dispute with Argentina, which dispute had been submitted to the decision of the president of the United States after a long period of futile negotiations of a direct nature between the contest-

ants. Perhaps the author's greatest contribution is found in this section.

Part three, called "Itamaraty and the Brazilian Embassy at Washington," covers the era 1894-1912, the final ten years of which were marked by the brilliant performances of the baron while minister of foreign affairs. During the period several questions arose in diplomatic channels between Rio de Janeiro and Washington: the Acre boundary dispute, the Panamanian revolution of 1903, several minor matters related to commercial intercourse, Western Hemisphere topics presented to the Second Hague Conference, etc. These and several other issues that arose between the two great republics were settled with the minimum of rancor, thanks in considerable part to the intelligence and finesse of the distinguished baron and his co-worker, Joaquim Nabuco, for a time Brazilian Ambassador to the United States.

In assembling this volume the author has drawn upon the archives of both Brazil and the United States, in addition to the monographic and general treatises. Unfortunately, some of the general works cited are worse than trifling in nature; and the proofreading was done miserably. Yet, the book is a welcome piece of work.

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*Niles' Weekly Register: News Magazine of the Nineteenth Century.*

By NORVAL NEIL LUXON. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1947. Illustrations. Pp. viii, 337. \$5.00.)

This book tells the story of Niles's *Register* from its birth in 1811 to its demise in 1849, during which period it bore three different names and had as many different editors. It was unique among its contemporaries for its long life and large circulation, for its wide coverage of the news, its liberal sampling of editorial opinion in other journals, and its accuracy. These qualities have also made it a rich and convenient quarry for subsequent historians of these four decades of United States history.

Readers of this REVIEW will be particularly interested in Chapter 8, "Latin America," one of eight topical chapters in which Luxon describes the news items and editorials (original or borrowed) published by the *Register* during this period. These eight chapters are preceded by three chapters dealing with "The Periodical," "H. Niles, the Man and the Editor," and "Other Editors of the *Register*."