

The emancipation of the slaves has been a death-blow to the large planter, and he is rapidly becoming only a memory. In his place a class of small farmers who till their own land with their own hands is pushing forward. The new system creates mediocre uniformity in the country districts, but fosters the growth of towns and cities where the small farmers can satisfy the numerous wants which are not met by the products of their farms. To the cities the future must look for its leaders. To Mr. Bruce's own mind this change is clearly ominous of coming disaster. He looks too exclusively at the position of the planter and too little at that of the mass of the population under him in contrasting the past with the present, to form a wholly unprejudiced view of the real meaning of this change.

In outward appearance and typography the work under review is admirable. It is furnished with an exhaustive bibliography, abundant notes and references, and a very complete index extending over sixty-six pages. In conclusion the reviewer may be allowed to express the hope that Mr. Bruce will continue the narrative as he at first intended down to the period of the Civil War.

HENRY R. SEAGER.

The Constitutional History and Constitutional Law of the Church of England. Translated from the German of FELIX MAKOWER. Pp. 555. Price, \$3.75. London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1895.

About one-third of the volume before us is taken up with a sketch of the constitutional development of the Church of England. This serves as an introduction to the study of its present constitution to which the rest of the book is given. The author, a barrister at Berlin, has done his work with German thoroughness. The notes take up as much space as the text, and at the end of the volume is an appendix of over seventy pages, which gives a great deal of original material, together with an invaluable conspectus of literature. The chief, but by no means the sole, value of this work is the assistance it renders in the use of material. The conspectus, which includes documents and chronicles, as well as modern works on ecclesiastical history and law, is not a mere list of authorities, but gives valuable information in regard to works and their authors. For nearly every statement contained in the text a reference, and very frequently a quotation from the author cited, is given in the notes. It is seldom that one finds such an extended literary apparatus.

The author seems moreover to have used his materials with care and judgment. His position as a foreigner has been at the same time an advantage and a disadvantage. His work is objective and free from

party spirit. No study of authorities, however, be it ever so painstaking, can give the insight into institutions which comes from experience of their actual working. The statute-book is a valuable source of information, but it does not tell the whole story. But if Mr. Makower had known the Church of England at first hand he might have been less diligent in his use of authorities, and in that case his book would have lacked the scholarly quality which is its chief merit.

RICHARD HUDSON.

University of Michigan.

Nuovi limiti e freni nelle istituzioni Politiche Americane. By FRANCESCO RACIOPPI. Pp. xii and 376. Price, \$1.00. Milan: Ulrico Hoepli.

The purpose of the author in writing this book is to show the relation between the original social and political conditions in the United States and the form of government incorporated in the first State and the federal constitutions, then to notice the changes made in our original conditions through the development of democracy in the first half of this century, and finally to call attention to the changes made necessary by this development in our governmental institutions, particularly to the new checks and balances which have been adopted in the last fifty years. These he finds in the minute provisions of the law of elections reaching their culmination in the Australian ballot acts, which have so generally been adopted as a result of the conviction that fraudulent practices were common under the election law as originally existing. The evil influences of the democracy of the first half of the century he also believes that we have attempted to neutralize by numerous constitutional limitations on the legislative power, both as to its content and the manner of its exercise, by the development of direct popular legislation and local option, and by the increase of the power of the executive and judiciary. In Mr. Racioppi's opinion these new checks and balances are answering the purpose of their adoption quite satisfactorily, and will tend to make American democracy a reasonably successful form of government.

It will be seen from this description of the book that it is very largely a treatise on constitutional limitations. Different from the ordinary American treatise on that subject, it takes more pains to collect these limitations as they are to be found in the written constitutions and the statutes, than to ascertain the meaning that has been assigned to them by judicial decision. But while it may fail on that account to convey to the reader the exact meaning of the various limitations which have been imposed on the legislature, which is the main thing that the practicing lawyer desires, it will give to the general student of American