Introduction to American history. By James Albert Woodburn, professor of American history and politics, Indiana university, and Thomas Francis Moran, professor of history and economics, Purdue university. (New York: Longmans, Green, and company, 1916. 308 p. $.72)

This volume is intended for the sixth grade, and with the other texts by the same authors supplies a complete course through the high school. It conforms to the recommendations of the committee of eight, being a history of western Asia and Europe from the earliest times through the period of early colonization. Particular emphasis is laid upon such elements as have affected American life most. The final chapters give an account of the European explorers in the new world. The general style suggests that considerable portions are based upon Meyer's General history. The anecdotal element is too pronounced in some chapters and on the whole occupies more space than the historical value of such material warrants. Moral teaching is evident throughout the book and the ethical value of events is kept strongly in the foreground.

The most serious omission is the absence of any account of the exploration and settlement of South America. Surely some account of the important Latin civilizations to the south of us is as important as the story of the herald who was appointed to see that the Athenians were not forgotten, or that of the alleged whipping of the waters of the Bosphorus.

The pedagogical machinery is moderate in amount and excellent in quality. The spelling and pronouncing lists and the suggestions for teaching in connection with each chapter will prove most useful. Tests made in an average school indicate that the vocabulary is within the comprehension of sixth grade pupils and that they find the style interesting.

O. M. Dickerson


This series by Messrs. Breasted and Huth comprises sixteen sheets of maps on ancient history to the barbaric invasion and twenty-three sheets covering medieval and modern history to the great war. Each sheet usually contains one or two large maps and one or two smaller insets. It is in the ancient history collection that a variation from older standards is most apparent and most gratifying. In addition to maps show-