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The conclusion seems warranted by the teachings of history that the *Staatenbund* is destined to be superseded universally by other forms of political organization. As the authors have clearly shown, it has served a valuable purpose as a transitory stage of political development, but at present everywhere in Europe and America it has given way chiefly to the *Bundesstaat*, a higher and more perfect form. But the authors do not sympathize entirely with the view that the *Bundesstaat* is destined eventually to give way to the *Einheitsstaat*, although they readily concede that the latter form of organization has important advantages from the standpoint of external safety and internal stability. The tendency toward centralization in legislation and the reduction of the constituent members to the position of local governmental organizations, already strong in several of the more important states having the federal system of government, are evidence of a change in the direction of a higher form of organization. Certainly the old view of Montesquieu and Proudhon, that only the federal state, so called, is capable of reconciling the hostile principles of authority and freedom and of furnishing a good and permanent constitution, has lost much of its sanctity.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

J. W. GARNER.

Western Civilization, II. Mediæval and Modern Times. By W. CUNNINGHAM, Cambridge, at the University Press, 1900.—300 pp.

The task which Dr. Cunningham has undertaken in this little volume is to set forth in bare outline the chief forces and tendencies disclosed by an historical review of European civilization. It consists of three books, "Christendom," "Nationalities" and "The Expansion of Western Civilization." The first book is interesting for the emphasis it lays upon the survival of Roman tradition in mediæval Europe, and for the light it throws upon the essential unity of Christendom. Dr. Cunningham is not one of those who are inclined to interpret all historical phenomena in economic terms; consequently, one is not surprised to find that it is largely to unity of religion that the homogeneity of mediæval Europe is ascribed. Perhaps the most interesting chapter of this book is the one which treats of the "Christian Relations with Heathen and Moslem." It is sketchy, indeed, and lacks the fascination of the parallel part of Hunter's *British India*. It helps, however, to fix the thought that the trade relations with the East were not merely incidental, but formed an integral and important part of the economic life of mediæval Europe.

A large part of the book on "Nationalities" sounds somewhat commonplace, since it is a repetition of what we have already been told again and again by Dr. Cunningham and other writers. Still the chapter on the "Rise of Capital" is well worth reading. It would be hard to find a better presentation of the familiar idea that it was the rise of capital in the modern sense of the term that freed the serf and brought with it the possibility of economic freedom. The last book, dealing with comparatively recent tendencies, is perhaps the least satisfactory, viewed as a mere contribution to science; but it possesses a distinct interest, since it conveys a great scholar's opinions as to present-day policies. Dr. Cunningham is an "imperialist"; but it is not on narrow and selfish grounds that he favors the policy of subduing the lower races. Civilized nations should extend their power over the barbarous races, not primarily in order to exploit new territories for the benefits of civilized society, but to promote the amelioration of native races and to protect them from the "energy" of the pioneers of civilization. The general tone of this, as of all of Dr. Cunningham's works, is a healthy Anglo-Saxon optimism. "We may take what test we like . . . there has never been an age that could compare with the present."

ALVIN S. JOHNSON.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

A Treatise on the Power of Taxation, State and Federal, in the United States. — By FREDERICK N. JUDSON. St. Louis, The F. H. Thomas Law Book Co., 1903. — xxiii, 868 pp.

Mr. Judson's book is, as its title indicates, devoted to the power which the different governments in our American system have of levying taxes. It is by no means a treatise on the general law of taxation in the United States. Further, it is much more nearly complete as a treatise on the taxing powers of the federal government than as one on the taxing powers of the state governments. It cannot, therefore, no matter what its value is, be expected to take the place of the standard works of Burroughs, Cooley, and Desty.

At the same time there is unquestionably a place for it. While the very subjects with which it deals are treated in the works of the writers mentioned, these subjects were much in need of a more up-to-date treatment. The recent experiments made in taxation, by both the federal and state governments, have been many in number and interesting in character, and have made necessary a reconsideration of many of the legal and constitutional doctrines which had been enunciated by the supreme judicial authorities of both governments.