

politiques. Second édition. Paris: Librairie Plon, 1888. 12mo, pp. iv+ 345.

In this work of an astute political student we have reflections on the weaknesses of the United States system—especially on the difficulties that may arise from the absence of means of accord between the executive and the legislative authorities—and on the superiority of the principles that govern the operation of English parliamentary government and enable the crown and parliament to work in harmony.

The Ministry. By John W. Clampitt, in the *Cyclopædia of Political Science, Political Economy, and United States History*, Vol. II, pp. 855-857.

A short paper on the distinctions between the English and the United States cabinet.

The State; Elements of Historical and Practical History and Administration. By Woodrow Wilson, PH. D., LL. D., author of "Congressional Government." Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1889. 12mo, pp. xxxvi + 686.

This work is a useful contribution to the practical theory of comparative politics, and is cited here as giving a generally accurate sketch of the development of the cabinet and of ministerial responsibility in England, and of the government of the colonies. Some slight inaccuracies are noted, for instance, when the author says the governor-general's veto "is almost never used." No case of the direct exercise of the veto in Canada has occurred, though bills are reserved for the approval of the queen in council. He is also mistaken in saying that the officers of the English House of Commons (p. 324) are elected both in Canada and England. The clerk and sergeant-at-arms are appointed by the crown and not by the houses themselves. The speaker alone is elected by the commons, while in the upper chamber he holds his office under the great seal.

Government and Administration of the United States. By W. W. & W. F. Willoughby. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Hist. & Pol. Science, Nos. I and II, Ninth series. 1891. Baltimore: 8vo, pp. 143.

The section relating to the cabinet and executive departments of the United States is useful to all students of institutions, and especially to Canadians who wish to make comparisons between the English and Canadian methods of administration.

Kin beyond Sea. By the Right Honorable W. E. Gladstone, M. P. *North American Review* (New York) for September-October, 1878; also in first volume of "Gleanings of Past Years" (London), pp. 203-248.

This fanciful title gives no idea whatever of the scope of a paper deeply interesting to the students of constitutional science. Mr. Gladstone not only shows that English institutions are, in certain respects, more popular than those of England's "Kin beyond Sea," and "give more rapid effect than those of the Union to any formed opinion and resolved intention of the nation." The comments on the position of the cabinet in the English system are very instructive. It is "the three-fold hinge that connects together for action the British constitution of king or queen, lords, and commons." It is, perhaps, "the most curious formation in the political world of modern times, not for its dignity, but for its subtilty, its elasticity, and its many-sided diversity of power." It is "the entire complement of the entire [constitutional] system, which appears to want nothing but a thorough loyalty in the persons composing its several parts, with a reasonable intelligence, to insure its bearing, without fatal damage, the wear and tear of ages yet to come."

La Crise du Régime Parlementaire. Par A. D. Decelles. *Trans. of Roy. Soc. of Can.*, Sec. I, 1887.

The author, one of the librarians of the Canadian Parliament, in a desultory manner, reviews the governmental system of Canada and shows its superiority in certain essential respects to that of the United States.