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the reasons, grounds, or standards of this approval and disapproval, he does not find it pertinent to make a statement. It may be suggested that the "industrial" values are those which have an "alimentary or nutritive" character (pp. 90, 91) or which represent satisfaction of man's "natural" wants (p. 128), while the "pecuniary" serve only to "keep up appearances" (p. 399). But in the first place even alimentation is heterogeneous and not susceptible of accurate measurement. And if by "keeping up appearances" is meant the aesthetic side of life, still greater difficulties supervene. Under this interpretation the estimate (p. 399) that half our productive effort goes into this field is far too small; nine-tenths would be nearer the truth. But we doubt if Mr. Veblen would abolish all these gratifications, which make up the difference between human and brute life. He doubtless means to disapprove only of keeping up appearances in "improper" ways, which is to say, in ways of which he disapproves. If he has an objective test for distinguishing between valid and false aesthetic values (and equating the innumerable kinds) he does the world grievous wrong in withholding it from publication.

It goes without saying that there is a great deal in this distinction between real value and trumpery, but we wish to remark that it is a canon very difficult to apply—in a democracy! Other leading ideas in the book invite criticism, but space limits forbid. The essays are all interesting and intellectually stimulating and well worth making available in this permanent, convenient form. It is a good piece of book-making and all thoughtful students of social problems, whether or not admirers of Mr. Veblen, will find it a handy compendium.

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*An Introduction to the Industrial History of England.* By ABBOTT PAYSON USHER, PH.D., assistant professor of economics, Cornell University. Houghton Mifflin Co., 1920. \$2.50.

This book is best described as a series of critical essays on topics of industrial history, mainly English, arranged in chronological order. The author devotes a preliminary chapter to an exact definition of the terms of industrial organization—factory, craft, wage system, putting-out system, sweating system, and the like. The second and third chapters discuss in the light of his definitions the industrial organization of the ancient world and its development in the French medieval craft guilds.

This serves as his transition to English history proper. Here, in the period prior to 1750, are chapters on population movements, the manor, inclosures, the towns, the guilds, and the woolen industries. In the later age he treats the East India Company and the cotton industry, the development of the metal industry, the factory system, collective bargaining, public health, railways, monopolies, and social legislation.

Running through these various chapter essays one finds the thesis that the Socialist law of industrial evolution is inaccurate and misleading. Thus Professor Usher establishes the fact that slavery in the ancient world was partly, at least, a form of capitalist enterprise, and that throughout the Middle Ages there was a steady growth toward capitalism based on free labor. In a somewhat different connection his analysis of the Industrial Revolution is interesting, including the elements of change in the relation of industry and agriculture, readjustment in the textile trades due to the use of the cotton industry, and the increased importance of the metal industries. This is very different from ascribing it on the one hand solely to the new inventions, or on the other to the discovery of the factory system of production.

The book shows throughout the discriminatory use of the latest available results of research and much painstaking original work. Of especial interest are the maps of population density at five dates between 1086 and 1700, and the three maps of railway development, 1843 to 1885. The numerous illustrations intended to explain technical developments in industrial processes fulfil their mission. The care with which the textile industries are described in terms of their technical processes is especially refreshing after the vague generalizations that ordinarily do duty on that subject in industrial histories.

The book, however, in the view of the present reviewer, hardly attains the end proposed by the author—a textbook for college students beginning economic history. The controversial treatment, the careful qualification in discussion, as well as occasional heaviness in style, make the book unsuited for an undergraduate text. Chapters in it could well be assigned for outside reading. The author's modest hope that the critical references will be of use to graduate students will be realized. The book may well serve as a mental stimulus to graduates and advanced undergraduates. Moreover, the writers of undergraduate texts will glean material from its pages and thereby secure more profit than Professor Usher, it is to be feared, will gain from his work.

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