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NEWTON COUNTY, 1853-1911.

[By John Ade. Map. 314 pp. The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis. 1911.]

Mr. Ade is one of the oldest settlers of Newton county, assisted in its organization, and has occupied a prominent place in its annals. His son, George Ade, has won a national reputation by his writings, but the father turns to literature only after retirement from active life. As he modestly puts it, "Most of the subject matter offered herewith was prepared during 1910 and was written, partly because I had been requested by friends to do so, but principally because I wished to occupy my mind and fill in the time. I am supposed to be too old to engage in actual business, but having been accustomed to constant employment of some kind ever since I was twelve years of age, it naturally goes hard with me to sit around and do nothing." Local historians may well congratulate themselves on Mr. Ade's frame of mind, for his history is very interesting and very much worth while. Many facts and reminiscences are here brought to light which would otherwise have been lost.

The first chapters give a good account by way of personal experiences of early conditions, while the later ones contain much information in convenient form about the men and the institutions of the county. Lists of county officials, pastors of the churches, and towns and additions to them, make the work valuable for reference. Altogether Mr. Ade has done a good piece of work, and it is to be hoped that this history of Newton county will have a good circulation.

C. B. C.

RAFINESQUE, LIFE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

[By T. J. Fitzpatrick, M. S. Illustrated. 239 pp. The Historical Department of Iowa. 1911.]

Samuel Rafinesque is one of the most brilliant as well as most picturesque figures in American science. His peculiarities, and the conditions under which he worked, barely prevented him from being one of the great names in the scientific advancement of the world. He is of local interest in Indiana through his