

to be undervalued, due honor must be paid, but not to the exclusion of Dr. Haynes's name. Mr. Savage's ranking of the Boston Public Library building as second in magnificence, in this country, to that which shelters the Library of Congress will soon require correction when the New York palace of literature in Forty-second Street is completed. His reference to the Philadelphia Library's "branch at Ridgeway" is based on a misconception, Ridgeway being a personal, not a geographical designation, and the said branch being situated almost in the heart of the city. It looks a little strange to see our famous giver of library buildings referred to as "Dr." Carnegie. As supplementary matter to this useful compendium there are added a few pages of "brief notices of book-collectors and librarians," a list of "principal works consulted for this book," and an index. As a sort of *vade mecum* for busy librarians the little book is sure of a welcome.

*Library history in a nutshell.* In a small volume of duodecimo proportions, Mr. Ernest A. Savage, librarian of the Wallasey Public Libraries, has told "The Story of Libraries and Book-Collecting" (Dutton) for the "English Library Series." After prefatory apologies for daring to follow in the footsteps of Edward Edwards, whose "Memories of Libraries" is now out of print, expensive, and also not up-to-date, the author sketches rapidly and in bare outline the history of ancient libraries, of mediæval libraries and the preservation of the Greek and Latin classics, of early monastic libraries and the main stream of learning in the West, of the Renaissance and book-collecting, and of the principal libraries of modern times, arranged by countries. In so condensed a work there are necessarily many things omitted that one or another critical reader might wish to see included; and there are also, in so crowded a list of dates and events, occasional minor errors. For example, in his opening chapter Mr. Savage awards to Professor Hilprecht all the credit of discovering the Temple Library at Nippur, whereas Dr. John Henry Haynes, the director of the expedition, and a veteran in the field of Babylonian excavation, unearthed this Nippur collection after pushing his explorations to a depth of eighteen feet, when the half-dozen rooms containing the precious tablets were unexpectedly disclosed. To Professor Hilprecht, who was associated with him, and whose scholarly labors are not