Slavery in Cuba, 1511-1868. By Hubert H. S. Aimes. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.

Excepting certain spots in equatorial Africa and some of the real estate of the King of the Belgians, the question of slavery is not the burning issue that perturbed our hardy ancestors during threequarters of the last century. Organized slavery exists now only in history, but it has made interesting history, and the Cuban chapter contributed by Dr. Aimes in this volume is excellent reading. Like most men who can read Spanish archives in the original, the author's views of Spanish methods are a trifle more lenient than those of the man in the street. But there are always two sides to a story, and on page 33, where he says: "It has often been asserted that the license enjoyed during the English occupation was the cause of the awakening and economic development of Cuba. The claim can be accepted as one instance of Anglo-Saxon self-glorification," his use of the word "license," instead of the more suitable word "liberty," is not altogether assuring evidence of that strict impartiality which should distinguish the true historian. Also when he states that the plans for betterment had been "conceived long before in the minds of both French and Spanish rulers," this in no way lessens the fact that the English promptly did the thing, and if they had not it might have continued getting "conceived" by a long succession of rulers. On the whole, it can be heartily said that Dr. Aimes has gathered, compiled and dressed into acceptable form an exhaustive chapter of institutional his-He has also done it under a system that makes reference easy and verification available. It is not altogether certain, however, that the accountancy method of the appendices deserves place

as a pattern for close imitation when dealing with a human article. They are compact and convincing as an invoice, and, like an invoice, they give the price in cash and credit, for class and age by cargo, selection, or picked lot, also the official total import of muleque, mulecon, creole and ladino from 1511 to 1865, the gross total over all being 527,828. The index is particularly well arranged, copious and accessible. The bibliography gives upward of 250 references, which are classified under subheading and their degree of subject importance noted in margin.