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true for some years in Chicago and in New York. There are even some encouraging symptoms in recent months in Dr. Nearing's own state of Pennsylvania.

FLORENCE KELLEY.

The History of Parliamentary Taxation in England. By SHEPARD ASHMAN MORGAN, M. A. Williams College Prize Essay, No. 2. (New York: Moffat, Park & Co., 1911. Pp. xvii, 317.)

In his essay on Parliamentary taxation in England Mr. Morgan has not had the opportunity of showing what he can do in the way of original historical research. The essay, which runs to barely 60,000 words, covers in the briefest possible manner the history of the laying of taxes by king, or by Parliament, from the earliest Saxon times to the reign of Charles II. It is obvious that centuries must be covered in the most cursory way, and the chief merit of the work can only be exhibited in Mr. Morgan's selection of the most vital facts. From this point of view the work is well done. Mr. Morgan traces the origin of representation in the House of Commons to the need of Edward I for money, and to his great discovery that a tax levied by consent and with the approval of those who had to pay it, was more profitable than a tax levied by the absolute power of the sovereign. He also shows how this germ of power of the Commons was preserved, and how it grew and extended; until the attempt of the Stuarts to take it from the House of Commons resulted in the overthrow of Charles I, and the reestablishment of the principle, after the interval of the Restoration and the reigns of Charles II and James II, on a statutory basis in the Bill of Rights of 1689. Mr. Morgan has been highly successful in bringing out the salient facts, of the history. He has wisely presented these facts with some fulness, in spite of the small space at his command and the vast period he had to cover; and he has thereby produced a readable little treatise which may well serve as an introduction to the study either of Parliamentary institutions or of taxation in its fuller meaning.