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work. Mr. Daniels urges that in the early English cotton industry the evidence, when reviewed, indicates that from such alleged dovetailing the great majority of those who lived in Manchester and its neighbourhood, and other crowded centres, must obviously be "ruled out," and he draws a pertinent distinction between small farmers, combining occupations, and cottagers entirely employed, except at harvest, in industrial work. The former were, he holds, only a limited class and the latter far outnumbered them.

In conclusion we would comment favourably in a sentence on his balanced view that the economic movement at the time examined, namely between 1795 and 1835, was, in its early stages, "more constructive than destructive," and that the dominant factor, subsequently introduced, in the formidable shape of the Napoleonic war, was disturbing and distorting, wasting production, embittering industrial relations and thwarting social developments.

L. L. PRICE

An Economic History of Rome to the End of the Republic. By TENNEY FRANK. (Baltimore: The John Hopkins Press. 1920.)

ONE attractive feature of this book is that the author pays special attention to such archæological evidence as bears upon his subject. Thus we have in Chapter I an account of the drainage system (the so-called *curiculi*) which bears witness to a highly intensive system of agriculture in parts of early Latium (pp. 5-9). The foreign trade of Etruria and Latium in the prehistoric period is illustrated by reference to grave-finds (pp. 16-17, 22-24). The fifth chapter explains what light is thrown by early Roman coinage on the relative values of the precious metals, and discusses the monetary policy of the Republic, which was apparently based on the two principles of using both bronze and silver coins as legal tender, and of varying the weight of *as* in accordance with the fluctuations in the silver-price of copper. The management of the State-mines in Spain is described from the evidence of the *Lex Metalli Vipascensis* (pp. 144-5). In the eleventh chapter we have an account of "Industry at the End of the Republic," which is based upon a study of Arretine pottery, the brick-trade, the glass-trade, the bronze-work of Capua, the waterpipe-makers of Rome, the gem-engravers of the Via Sacra. Chapter XII is

mainly devoted to the trades and industries of Pompeii. We do not gather that Professor Frank claims to have made new discoveries. But his exceedingly careful synopsis of the archaeological evidence will be most useful to economic historians who are not so completely versed as he in the technical literature of his subject. It is only natural to find that evidence of this kind, especially that dating from the earliest periods, leaves a considerable field for conjecture; and we do not feel altogether confident that Professor Frank is on firm ground when he begins to deduce the social conditions of primitive Latium from the evidence of the *curiculi*. But he has made it easy for his readers to distinguish between the facts and his inferences, and the latter certainly deserve respectful attention.

Professor Frank, however, by no means relies exclusively upon archæology. For the agriculture of the historical period, for the development of commerce and capital on the great scale, it is the literary sources upon which we must still rely in the main, though here and there the spade may turn up objects which bear witness to some kind of factory system, if that name can appropriately be applied to a mere organisation of hand-labour. Professor Frank uses his literary evidence with discretion—witness his excellent remarks on the reliability of the earlier Roman historians (p. 34). Now and then he gives us reason to suspect that he is more at home in classical than in economic studies. We find it difficult, for instance, to follow him in supposing that the client of early Latium made a living out of a garden-plot of two jugera (the *heredium*, which he oddly calls a copyhold), and his own footnote to the passage in question shows that he feels himself on uncertain ground (p. 11). He taxes the Plantagenets of fourteenth-century England with reducing “the so-called pound to a fourth of its size,” a remark which shows a strange ignorance of English numismatics (p. 75). Still we are in his debt for good materials vivaciously interpreted. Excellent, for example, are his sketches of the operations of Rabirius Postumus (pp. 227–8), about whom we should probably know much more if Cicero had been briefed by his opponents, and of the immortal Trimalchio (pp. 264–5), in whom Professor Frank sees the type of the speculative shipowners of Pateoli. We get good short accounts of the business of a Roman banker (pp. 231–2), of the Italiote commercial community at Delos (pp. 233–6). The fifteenth chapter is specially devoted to the labourer and his status. Professor Frank finds evidence of free craftsmen at Rome and Pompeii, but he points out that the shipwright gilds at Ostia seem to

have been composed of freedmen, and that the workmen mentioned in the inscriptions are, as a rule, either demonstrably or presumably of that status. He calls attention to the miserably low rates of wages which prevailed at Delos, in Roman Spain and in Roman Egypt. The *collegia* of the republican period, though no doubt important as social organisations and benefit societies, do not seem to have aimed at improving wages or conditions of labour, as they did occasionally in the late days of the Empire. The success of political strikes under the early republic might well have suggested a policy of wage-strikes; but it was hopeless for the free labourer to demand high wages in a community which commanded an inexhaustible supply of cheap slave-labour of every grade of skill.

H. C. DAVIS

Economics of the Silk Industry: a Study in Industrial Organisation.

By RATAN C. RAWLEY. (London: P. S. King. Pp. xv + 349.)

SOME apology is due to the author for this late notice of a book which appeared at the end of 1919. Even now, the notice can hardly be adequate, for lack of the very specialised knowledge necessary in the reviewer. The book is split up, somewhat arbitrarily one must admit, into Parts. Part I contains chapters on *Early History*, where much curious and fascinating information is collected, and on the *Recent History of the Kashmir Silk Industry*, which a Western reader can merely peruse and thank for. Part II has chapters on the geographical distribution of silk-production (not manufacture), and on the economic environment appropriate to successful production; this second chapter being mainly meteorological.

Part III is headed Production (the first two Parts have no headings), but deals with no process beyond that of reeling. It is mainly concerned with very technical, but most interesting, discussions of the economic factors affecting the rearing and cocoon-producing industries. Some economic points might have been more lightly handled. It was hardly necessary to state at length that "the first important factor that exercises a great influence on the wages of labour in the cocoon-producing industry is the cost of living" (p. 110). One chapter, on silk and the State, would provide some useful modern footnotes to Adam Smith's discussion of bounties: it also contains a full account