AMERICAN HUSBANDRY, A MUCH OVERLOOKED PUBLICATION.

LYMAN CARRIER.

This review is written to call attention to a 2-volume publication on American agriculture issued in London in 1775. The author does not give his name, but uses the pseudonym, “An American.” Unfortunately, this publication, American Husbandry, has been generally overlooked by bibliographers of English and American literature. Allibone (1) does not mention it, neither does Loudon (6) or McDonald (7), nor does it appear in the review of Colonial writings in the American Cyclopedia of Agriculture. Sabin (9) has an entry, “American Husbandry, see Arthur Young,” that may refer to these books or that may have meant a chapter by that title in Young’s “Annals of Agriculture,” as Sabin’s bibliography was never completed. Cushing (3) lists 38 different writers who used the pseudonym, “An American,” but does not mention American Husbandry and none of the authors given is at all likely to have written this work. The Farmers’ Magazine in 1801 refers to Bordley’s (2) book as “the first American work upon practical husbandry which has come into our hands.”


SCOPE OF THE WORK.

The author describes the soil, climate, and agricultural practices and products of the English colonies in America, beginning with Nova Scotia and Canada and following in geographical order with New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, Florida, and the West Indies. The agricultural possibilities of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys were empha-

1 Contribution from the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Received for publication March 18, 1919.

2 References are to “Literature cited,” page 211.