

plete history of British Columbia. The author has seized upon the romantic and picturesque in the story; the days of discovery and exploration; the adventurous and romantic life of the fur-trader in his posts and with the brigades as they sweep along the swift-flowing rivers towards the place of the "regale." He has succeeded in making the men whose names are written large in the record stand out as real living men; Cook and Vancouver, Mackenzie, Fraser, and Thompson are not names to the boy—for whom the book is primarily written; they are co-adventurers with whom it is pleasure to meet and overcome difficulties and dangers. Passing from the days of the fur-traders the author jumps over the arid region of political discussion and international dispute known as the Oregon question and alights on another period of adventure: the great gold excitements of the Fraser River and of Cariboo and the colorful life upon the Cariboo road. What is still left of romance he gathers up in the chapters upon the cities of Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster. The political changes and legislation are given some ten pages. The object is to make the reader feel the lure of the days of adventure—"th days of old, the days of gold"—to make the actors live and move, and have their being once more; and by an account, thrilling in its plainness, of the dangers they faced and overcame in the exploration and development to arouse deep and abiding interest in the story of the land. In this he has succeeded. The charming simplicity—with the exception of the first chapter—adds to the inherent attraction of the incidents recounted. The description of the brigades and the fort life are particularly well done; they have an atmosphere as real as that of Ballantyne. The book is wonderfully free of errors. A careful examination discloses none of any moment. It is tastefully and discriminately illustrated.

F. W. HOWAY.

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*The Cowboy and His Interpreters.* By DOUGLAS BRANCH. (New York: D. Appleton & Company, 1926. Pp. 278. \$2.50.)

Douglas Branch in his book "The Cowboy and His Interpreters" presents to his readers the life of a cowboy as it actually existed. His work has been preceded by two quite well known books, Emerson Hough's "Story of the Cowboy," and Philip Ashton Rollins' "Cowboy." All three authors have attempted to make the American public see that the cowboy is something besides the type portrayed in the latest "thriller"; that the herding,

roundup and branding of cattle was a social necessity within itself.

The author lived in Texas where he was able to observe and obtain first hand information about Texan cattle, the drives made north to sell them, ranch life, and the migration to the Northwest of cattle men. It was in Texas that the cowboy first came into prominence. The idea and need for such an occupation was obtained from the Mexicans as they pushed into the United States beyond the Rio Grande.

The book is primarily descriptive, but Douglas Branch has given a narrative tone to it by including interesting excerpts from other books which illustrate cowboy songs and conversations. He has a three and a half page bibliography at the end of the book which includes both magazine and book references. With his numerous allusions near the close of the book to other works dealing with the same subject and his criticism of such, it is evident that he has read much and concerns himself with the cowboy from a new point of view.

ZOA E. CONNOLLY.

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*The Old Forts of Winnipeg, 1738-1927.* By CHARLES N. BELL. (Winnipeg: Dawson Richardson Publications, 1927. Pp. 39.)

This paper, which is No. 3, in the new series of Transactions of The Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, deals with the trading posts built, or said to have been built, at or near the confluence of the Red River and the Assiniboine. Dr. Bell names them with dates as follows: the mythical Fort Maurepas, 1737; Fort Rouge, 1738; Legardeur de St. Pierre's post; Bruce and Boyer's post, 1780; a traditional post of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1780; Alexander Henry's post, 1804; Fort Gibraltar, 1807-16; Fort Douglas, 1812; Fidler's Fort (Hudson's Bay Company), 1818; the first Fort Garry, 1822-35; and the second Fort Garry, 1835-82; eleven forts in all, actual and legendary. In his address before the Royal Society of Canada in 1885, Dr. George Bryce mentioned only five. This shows how deeply Dr. Bell has gone into the subject; every page bears evidence of careful study and much research. He accounts plausibly for the name "Maurepas" on the map of 1737 at this confluence, saying that it is an example of taking as done what has only been promised. He strongly urges that it was not La Vérendrye, but M. de Lamarque, the representative of La Vérendrye's creditors, who built Fort Rouge. As he shows at the same time that the intention of build-