

with its great rival the "North West Company" in 1821 fired the old organization with new vitality and imbued it with the spirit for which it is so popularly known. This is the thesis which Robert E. Pinkerton advances in his *Hudson's Bay Company*. The more romantic interpretation of the Company's history, that it was from the beginning a powerful, effective monopoly built upon the vision of its farsighted members and maintained by their energy and loyalty is a legend of the Company and has been guarded as carefully as the original journals and documents reposing in the vaults of Hudson's Bay House in London.

In his endeavor to be unbiased Mr. Pinkerton becomes the champion of such hero explorers as Radisson, Kelsey and Hearne and of the North West Company. He has discovered no new facts but gives a new interpretation to those now known. A new perspective, a realignment of values, an attempt to draw the picture to scale differentiates this work from its predecessors.

The informal bibliography which forms the concluding chapter expresses Mr. Pinkerton's opinion of the principal accounts he has consulted. Historians whose interpretation he has endeavored to correct will decry the omission in the text of exact citations to authorities. The lay reader would find the inclusion of a map useful. Nevertheless the book is carefully written, is entertaining and at the same time convincing.

ELVA L. BATCHELLER

Cheadle's Journal of a Trip Across Canada, 1862-1863. By DR. WALTER BUTLER CHEADLE, with introduction and notes by A. G. Doughty and Gustave Lanctot. (Ottawa: Graphic Publishers Limited, 1931. Pp. 311. \$2.50.)

One of the most striking and vivid books of travel through western Canada bears the title of *The Northwest Passage by Land*. This volume appearing as the joint work of Viscount Milton and Dr. Cheadle has gone through nine editions dating from 1865 to 1900. In spite of the two names upon the title page, it has been known that the work was primarily that of the younger man, Dr. W. B. Cheadle.

A comparison of *The Northwest Passage* with the *Journal*, now for the first time printed, shows that the former work was based directly upon the day by day record kept by Dr. Cheadle. Comparison shows also that the *Journal* contains essential matter omitted from the earlier publication, including much material relating to

British Columbia and the entire account of the trip from Victoria to San Francisco, New York and Liverpool.

The contrast between *Cheadle* and *Milton and Cheadle* may be shown by referring to Professor E. S. Meany's article on the naming of Mount Robson to be found in this *Quarterly*, Volume 19, pages 20-30. On page 22 of the article is reproduced Milton and Cheadle's eloquent tribute to this mountain, said to be the first printed allusion to it. On page 28 is quoted from the then unpublished Cheadle journal, the Doctor's single-sentence allusion to the peak. That sentence is found on page 177 of the now printed *Journal* where occurs a long account of a "grand quarrel" between the two travelers. All details of that quarrel and the subsequent "set to" were eliminated from the Milton and Cheadle refinement. One learns that Lord Milton also kept a diary and it would be interesting indeed to have his version of the events so faithfully portrayed by his fellow companion.

The original Cheadle journal is in possession of Mr. W. W. Cheadle, of Torquay, England, eldest son of the explorer, while a copy exists in the Public Archives of the Dominion of Canada. It is a matter for surprise that publication of the original narrative has been so long delayed. Now that it is available in printed form no lover of Western history should be without it. As a record of the first trans-Canadian tourist it has high documentary value. Few overland narratives can match it either in the account of hardships experienced or in the wealth of accurate description of a new and unexplored country.

CHARLES W. SMITH

We Are Alaskans. By MARY LEE DAVIS. (Boston: W. A. Wilde Company, 1931. \$3.50.)

This is an Alaskan "sketch book," dubbed by its author her "grab-samples of the people." By virtue of her "sourdough standing" and by means of conversational, newspaper and other reminiscent, verbatim quotations, she portrays some of the outstanding characteristics of her Alaskan friends, featuring: Muk-pi, the Eskimo, "Madam Butterfly;" Janet Aitken, the venturesome stamper, with Nora, her lucky partner; W. F. Thompson, erst-while and long-lamented editor; "Grandma" Callahan of the Tinneh, part Russian, part Aleut; Fanny Quigley, the intrepid pioneer and home-builder; The Thlingit, unique and satisfying, with the simpler diction, so in keeping with its "Kay-Tlyndt" subject, Tillie Paul Tamaree.