

Trails, Rails and War: The Life of General G. M. Dodge. By JACOB RANDOLPH PERKINS. (Pub. under the auspices of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1929. illus. pp. 371. \$5.00.)

Trails, Rails and War is a most fitting title to Perkins' narration of the life of General G. M. Dodge. "The whole career of Major-General Dodge is synchronous with railway expansion west of the Mississippi River, and is an integrant part of it. Beginning with his first independent survey across Iowa, in 1853, for the Mississippi and Missouri River Railroad and culminating, thirty-three years later, in a final active survey for the Mexican and Southern. . . Dodge's services were basic in railroad path finding and building throughout the West."

Dodge's railroad ability involved him in the Civil War, in the western Indian campaigns and in the Spanish American war. His efficiency and technical knowledge brought him the attention and friendship of the great national leaders. These prominent figures of his acquaintance, including Lincoln, Grant and Sherman, are shown in unusual relief and illuminating details of their military and political lives are brought to light.

The surveying and building of the Union Pacific was Dodge's most prominent achievement and the part he played in the rivalry of this company with other railroads contributes many details not to be found elsewhere in railroad history.

Perkins is meticulous in his inclusion of details. His treatment of subject matter is objective and almost severely impersonal throughout. He gives an authentic historical account rather than a flesh and blood portrayal of his hero. A comprehensive bibliography and an adequate index enhance this valuable work which supplies a chapter in U.S. history heretofore unwritten.

ELVA L. BATCHELLER.

Malcolm Campbell, Sheriff. By ROBERT B. DAVID. (Casper, Wyoming: Wyomingana, Inc., 1932. Pp. 361. \$3.25.)

Told in the first person these reminiscences of sixty years of pioneering in Wyoming, beginning in 1865, hold a deep interest for students of Western history. Apparently Sheriff Campbell, now a man well over ninety, must have dictated the book to Mr. David, though this is not definitely stated.

Of the greatest permanent value, probably, is his account of the Johnson County Raid of 1892. To him the conflict was not

between the large cattle men and the small settler, for their interests lay together against the cattle rustlers and outlaws. The events leading to the raid gave rise to the conviction held by responsible men that only two conclusions were possible, "it was clearly a case of wholesale extermination of outlawry, or the destruction of the cattle industry." Elaborate plans miscarried and resulted in open warfare, necessitating the intervention of Federal troops, but the object of restoring law and order was finally gained. Photographs, maps, telegrams and letters verify the lively narrative.

Tales of Indian life, Indian warfare, buffalo hunts, vigilantes, and frontier days are interspersed with accounts of freighting, sheep-herding, the Old Oregon Trail, and the building of the Union Pacific railway. Shootings and hangings centering around saloons in the early days help to explain the state of mind which culminated in the 18th amendment and the Volstead Act.

While the book is entertaining, it is not well organized, and there are many typographical errors. However, it gives the feeling of the old West, and should prove a valuable source book to future historians of Wyoming, and of the Oregon Trail.

HELEN JOHNS.

Route Across the Rocky Mountains. By OVERTON JOHNSON and WILLIAM H. WINTER. (Princeton: Princeton University Press 1932. Pp. 199. \$3.00)

The Past and Present of the Pike's Peak Gold Regions. By HENRY VILLARD. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1932. Pp. 186. \$2.50.)

The Emigrant's Guide to California. By JOSEPH E. WARE. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1932. Pp. 64. \$2.00.)

A Journal of the Santa Fe Expedition under Colonel Doniphan. By JACOB S. ROBINSON. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1932. Pp. 96. \$2.00.)

Students of Western history are indebted to publishers for two favorable trends in book production: the first is an increasing output of new Western books, the second is the republication of rare and inaccessible titles. The most ambitious program of recent years in this latter direction has been undertaken by Princeton University Press. The series is known as the *Narratives of the Trans-Mississippi Frontier*. The general editor is Mr. Carl L. Cannon, chief of the Acquisitions division of Yale University Library. Mr. Cannon is Chairman of the Book Buying Committee