

Publications Received.

LES BOURGEOIS DE LA COMPAGNIE DU NORD-OUEST, récits de voyages, lettres et rapports inédits relatifs au Nord-Ouest Canadien, publiés avec une esquisse historique et des annotations par L. R. MASSON, Première Serie, Québec, de L'Imprimerie Générale. A. Coté et Cie., 1889.

We have received from the author this interesting publication, which appears in small quarto form with paper covers, somewhat similar in style to the "Collection de Documents" recently published by the Quebec Government.

The opening of the C. P. R. and the familiarity thus acquired with the territory which was formerly the jealously guarded preserve of the great fur trading companies, has lent a new interest to the lives of the old Nor'-Westers whose names are still familiar in our midst, perpetuated by their descendants.

Crossing the vast prairies in a comfortable railway carriage, it is still difficult to realize the courage and endurance needed by the *voyageurs* who made that journey on foot or in their bark canoes. The story of their adventures is one of the most thrilling and picturesque which our history affords. Added to the personal interest in the individual members of the company is the conflict between the two great competitors of the fur trade—the Hudson Bay and North-West Companies. Mr. Masson's narrative of the rise and fall of the North-West Company occupies about 150 pages, and is followed by over 400 pages of appendix, containing a mass of hitherto unpublished letters and other documents of great value. The large clear type adds much to the appearance of the book and greatly to the reader's comfort. We are glad to learn that this is the first series, and is to be followed by other similar volumes. The second volume is already announced and will probably contain Letters by George Keith, Samuel Wilcox, James McKenzie, Duncan Cameron, John Johnston of Sault Ste. Marie, Peter Grant and others, all relating more or less to the North-West and the Fur Trade.

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