

considerable space. The various subjects are written by the most eminent authorities—Radcliffe, Crocker, Jules, Hutchison, Allingham, and many others of equal standing. The book is fully up to the high standard set by the first volume. The set will undoubtedly prove a valuable addition to the libraries of many busy practitioners.

In the Van. By DR. PRICE-BROWN. McLeod & Allen, Publishers, Toronto.

This is a story of Canada and military life in the year 1813, and should be read with interest by every lover of the Dominion. Not only has the author caught the spirit of the early pioneer days, but he makes his portrayal vivid and fascinating to the reader, and the narrative speeds along, enlivened by incident and adventure, the interest being preserved until the very last word.

The book opens in a picturesque way with a description of the wedding of Lieutenant Harold Hanning and Helen Brandon in Westminster Abbey. The marriage is kept secret from the colonel of the regiment, Sir George Head, because, as the troops are on the eve of departing for Canada, his consent is sure to be withheld. Helen wins over the colonel to allow her to accompany her husband, and actually embarks on the warship *North King*. The voyage is long and terrible, but, finally, Halifax is reached. At a hall at the capital, Helen meets Maud Maxwell, who is inseparably riveted into the story, and they become friends immediately. The mid-winter journey from Halifax to Penetanguishene lies ahead, and, as soon as preparations are completed, the regiment starts on its perilous undertaking. Brief rests at Quebec and Montreal serve to give glimpses of the social life of those cities in the early days, and at last, after a severe overland march, the regiment reaches its destination. The building of the fort and the officers' quarters is graphically described, and the scenery of the Georgian Bay is depicted in all its primeval beauty.

It is, perhaps, natural that one of the most interesting figures in the book should be Dr. Beaumont. He is the physician of the regiment, and is an excellently drawn character. So, also, is the gallant Captain Morris. Both are aspirants for the hand of Maud Maxwell, and the reader is kept in suspense until the very end as to which is to be successful.

"In the Van" is a typically Canadian tale, and a pretty love story. Although there is not much attempt at plot, interest is by no means lacking. The book should receive more than passing attention at the hands of the reading Canadian public, and it deserves a prominent place on the list suitable for Yuletide purchasing.