PREFACE

In the summer of 1887 an expedition was undertaken and successfully carried out by the Geological Survey Department of Canada, with a view to gathering some accurate knowledge of the littleknown tracts of country adjacent to the northern waterways of the Dominion.

The expedition was conducted speedily and quietly, attracting little attention at the time, as the inhabitants of the well-settled portions of Canada hardly realised what an enormous amount of work was accomplished, and what long distances were covered in a comparatively short space of time by methods of travel which seem primeval to the creature of modern civilisation.

The result of all this work has been the correct mapping of several of the main routes through