

merits, but it is always interesting to know who an author is, what are his antecedents, education, and fitness for the task he undertakes.

In the year 1883 two Canadians went up for examination at Her Majesty's Staff College, Sandhurst, the great school of the British army for engineering, mathematics, and scientific learning, and open to the whole of the army. Their names were Lieut. J. G. Ridout, then of the 100th (Canadian) Regiment, and Lieut. Charles W. Robinson, now Governor of the Mauritius, then of the Rifle Brigade, and son of the late Chief Justice Robinson. There were twenty-six officers up for examination. Lieut. Ridout came out at the head of the list, with 2,699 marks, more than 200 marks above the next man, whilst the man lowest on the list, who was rated, had only 1,081 marks. Lieut. Robinson was fourth with 2,425 marks. Ridout and Robinson were the only Canadians on the list, a very fair showing for "the colonies." It is, therefore, with somewhat unusual interest we take up the book Mr. Ridout has now given to the public.

As stated in the preface, the object of the author is to provide a treatise on the Patent Law of Canada from a Canadian standpoint, embodying therein all the reported cases in the different Provinces and in Canada from the earliest dates to the present time, some unreported Ontario cases and standard cases, as well as a large number of the latest English and American decisions of courts of last resort, not to be found in other text-books; to analyze the provisions of our Revised Patent Act as amended to date; to point out what are deemed errors and inconsistencies, as well as to suggest improvements, and to endeavour to supply a want long felt by Canadian lawyers, as well as by solicitors of patents in this and other countries.

As our Patent Act is largely framed on United States enactments, containing, however, matter original to this country, the author has sought to select only those English and United States cases which are applicable as precedents to the present state of our law, or which illustrate differences or which bear on points of interest most likely to arise in practice. The text of the Patent Act in the body of this work, as well as in Appendix III., where the various sections have been assembled, includes all amendments up to date; the Acts being noted at the end of each section. Besides the Patent Office Rules and Forms in