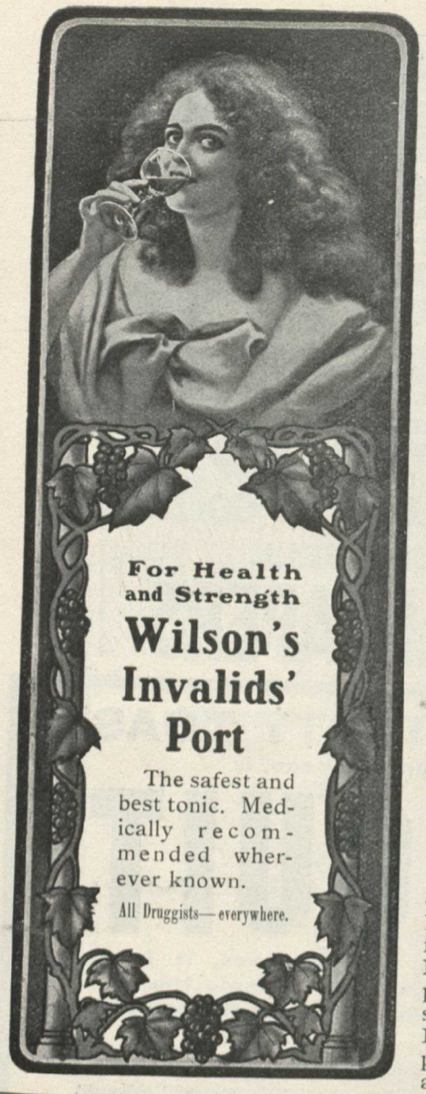

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IT is not every person who will care to read 685 pages on "Railway Problems" but there are many people who should have such a volume on their shelves. A book with this title, edited by William Z. Ripley, Professor of Economics in Harvard, is admirably arranged as a book of reference. It is composed almost entirely of matter reprinted from economic journals and leading reviews, the writers including Charles Francis Adams, Ida Tarbell, Henry Kirk White, Frank W. Taussig, S. J. McLean (of Toronto) and B. H. Meyer.

The three last chapters on railways in Great Britain, France and Germany are of especial interest to Canadian students of railway problems. "Economic Waste in Transportation," "The Long and Short Haul Clause," "Standard Oil Rebates," "The Theory of Railway Rates," etc., are other attractive headings. While the work is primarily intended as a college text-book, the business man will find it generally useful and attractive. (Boston : Ginn & Co., $2.70 net.)

* *

Mr. Joseph A. Chisholm, barrister, Halifax, has issued a new edition of Principal Grant's sketch of "Joseph Howe." This originally appeared in four numbers of "The Canadian Monthly" of 187[illegible] and was afterwards published in book form. This is the second edition and it contains Howe's Essay on the Organisation of the Empire, published in London in 1866, and a chronological list of Mr. Howe's works compiled by Mr. Chisholm.

Sabine thus describes Nova Scotia as it was in 1846 : "It was 'Joe Howe' by day and by night." The Yankee pedlar drove good bargains in Joe Howe clocks. In the coal mine, in the plaster quarry, on board the fishing pogy, the jigger and the pinkey, it was still 'Joe Howe.' Ships and babies were named 'Joe Howe.' The young men and maidens flirted and courted in 'Joe Howe' badges, and played and sang 'Joe Howe' glees. It was 'Joe Howe' everywhere." Principal Grant tells the story of this great statesman in brief form, but with a sincerity and brightness of phrasing which were characteristic of the late head of Queen's. No magazine articles ever written in this country equal Principal Grant's in brightness and comprehensiveness, and nothing he ever penned was superior to these four articles. Hence this volume has a double interest. It is a splendid life of Howe and it is a good specimen of Principal Grant's composition. (Halifax : A. & W. MacKinlay. Cloth, 110 p.p.)

* *

Mr. Theodore Roberts, whose elder brother, Professor C. G. D. Roberts, is one of our best-known Canadian poets, is at present residing in Fredericton, which his cousin, Bliss Carman, has called "that leafy Northern city." Mr. Roberts' latest contribution to fiction is "The Survivors," a three-part story of romantic adventure of which the first instalment appears in this week's issue of the Canadian Courier.

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