

Book Notices.

The Dutch and Quaker Colonies in America. By JOHN FISKE. Two volumes. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. xvi-29; xvi-400. Price, \$4.00.

We have had the pleasure of reviewing in these pages, we think, the whole of Professor Fiske's volumes on the colonization period in the history of North America. This is a subject in which Canadians are no less interested than the citizens of the United States. It is the history of our forefathers as well as of theirs. The descendants of the faithful and valiant men who peopled New England, New Netherlands, and Old Virginia, were also the Pilgrim fathers and founders of our commonweal.

Professor Fiske's histories are constructed on the scientific and inductive method. They are not framed to support a theory, but to record and interpret facts, and to trace results back to their causes. It is a remarkably picturesque period which Dr. Fiske has to describe, and he describes it in a picturesque manner. In lucid and luminous style he traces back to Holland and Britain the beginnings of the Dutch and Quaker immigration. He notes Dutch influence upon Britain, the rivalry of the two nations by sea and land, and their success in colonization.

The story of Henry Hudson, discoverer of the Canadian Mediterranean, is one of tragic interest. Well-nigh three hundred years ago, in his persistent and eager quest for a north-west passage to the coast of Asia, his crew mutinied and turned the veteran navigator, his son, and seven sick men, adrift in an open boat in James' Bay. This is the last that was known of the intrepid Englishman who gave his name to a great river, a great strait, a great sea, and a great territory covering well-nigh half of this continent. The legend of Norumbega, that mysterious city celebrated in prose and verse, is fully discussed and reduced to its residuum of fact. The romantic beginnings of the early history of Manhattan, the site of one of the greatest cities of the world, purchased from the Indians for about \$120, is minutely recorded. A happy augury was the early provision for the support of a parson and schoolmaster, "that thus the service of God and zeal for religion might not grow cold and be

neglected among them." The tale of Walter Van Twiller, Irving's "Walter, the Doubter," and of sturdily William Kieft, the King Log and King Stork of the Dutch colony, with the subsequent history of the Knickerbocker community, are duly recorded.

One of the most instructive episodes in history is that of William Penn's "Holy Experiment," in planting a Quaker colony on the shores of the Delaware. When the other colonies were harried by Indian raids the Quakers dwelt in peace and security. The growth of the great State of Pennsylvania, its thrift, prosperity and morality, are largely due to the probity and wisdom of William Penn.

A supplementary chapter describes the migration of Jews, Huguenots, Waldenses, Palatines, and other religious sects to the virgin soil of this new continent.

These volumes are indispensable for the study of the important period and interesting subjects which they treat. Their value is enhanced by a number of early maps, plans and diagrams.

Soldiering in Canada. Recollections and Experiences. By LIEUT.-COL. GEORGE T. DENISON. Late Commanding the Governor-General's Body Guard. Author of "Modern Cavalry," "A History of Cavalry," etc. Toronto: George N. Morang & Company (Limited). 8vo, pp. xi-364. Illustrated. Price, \$2.00.

By the issue of this volume Colonel Denison has added another to the many important services he has rendered his country. It is not a second-hand history, but the narration of a leading actor in the scenes described. Of the stirring incidents here recorded the writer may truthfully say *Magna pars fui*. Yet nothing could be further from egotism than the modest narrative of Colonel Denison. He gives high praise to his comrades-in-arms, to the regiment which he commanded, and to the Canadian Militia, but speaks of the important part played by himself in a very unassuming manner.

The Denison family have been intimately associated with the history of Canada for over a hundred years. His paternal grandfather was an ensign in the York Volunteers, in the War of 1812, and commanded a troop of cavalry in the Rebellion of 1837. His father and uncle