

souled New England girl, and the divinity-student waiter at the summer hotel. She loves her shy suitor for himself, not because he is to be a missionary. "You would do all this," he says, "be all this, for me, a wretched and erring creature of the dust, and yet not do it for—God."

The girl's nature is ennobled and purified by trial and sorrow before she reaps an aftermath of chastened joy. The story has the subdued atmosphere of the Indian Summer, not the vivid colouring of the mid-year. But one feels, to change the figure, that there are depths of feeling that this plummet does not sound. The well is deep and the writer has not where-with to draw.

The New England character-sketching is very clever. The foibles of the newly-rich, the wrong done by unthinking selfishness, the charm of simple goodness are all set forth with a master's skill.

The Life of John Read. By BLANCHE J. READ. Toronto: Salvation Army Printing and Publishing House. Pp. 181.

The story of a good man's life is better than volumes of didactic teaching: one is teaching by example, the other by precept. John Read was a faithful soldier of Jesus Christ in the Salvation Army. When a youth he experienced an old-fashioned conversion at an army meeting, and soon after entered its service. The very persecutions endured developed his sturdy strength of character. His life-story gives a good inside view of army life and service from Newfoundland to the extreme far North-West. Failing health led to his return for a time to his native land, where, far from home and those whom he loved best, he passed away from labour to reward. His life-story is told with loving tenderness, and cannot fail to be an inspiration to increased devotion in the service of our common Master and Lord.

The Christian Life. A Study. By BORDEN P. BOWNE. Cincinnati: Curts & Jennings. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 152. Price, 50 cents.

"We all feel," says Professor Bowne, "that in religion, of all matters, we should be supremely real and sincere; and yet, owing to an ambiguous and misleading terminology and the illusions thence resulting, an uncomfortable air of artificiality and unreality often seems to pervade the subject." It is to clear up the ambiguities and uncertainties of conventional thought and language that he

has written this book. As the product of one of the clearest thinkers and strongest writers of American Methodism, it has a special value to all persons who are not satisfied with their religious experience.

King Robert the Bruce. By A. F. MURISON. Famous Scots Series. Edinburgh and London: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. Toronto: William Briggs. 12mo, pp. 159. Price, 50 cents.

One of the most romantic figures in Scottish history is the hero of Bannockburn. After well-nigh seven hundred years the record of his deeds of "derring-do" stirs the heart of the patriotic Scot throughout the world. It strangely illustrates the spirit of the times that his father left charge that his bones might not be buried till they were borne in triumph from Berwick bounds to the utmost highlands. King Robert himself ordered that his heart should be embalmed and sent to Palestine to be buried in Jerusalem. According to tradition the good knight Douglas, charging against the Moors in Spain, hurled the precious casket containing the king's heart "a stone-cast and well more" into the ranks of the enemy, exclaiming,

"Now pass thou forth before
As thou wast wont in field to be,
And I shall follow, or else dee";

and then fought his way to it and recovered it, "taking it up with great daintie." It was brought back and buried in Melrose Abbey.

Mr. Murison recounts the tale with ardent sympathy, and concludes: "Be his motives what they may, the practical outcome was the decisive establishment of the independence of the realm of Scotland, and he remains for ever the greatest of the line of Scottish kings."

Ten to One, and Other Papers. By the REV. J. A. CLAPPERTON, M.A. London: Charles H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 128.

This is a quaint little volume in the Helps Heavenward series. It contains twenty-eight experiences in the higher Christian life from the biographies of Bible saints, ancient and modern, Protestant and Catholic. It is interesting to note that with all their outer differences the religion of Christ in its essence is the same in all true-hearted believers in every communion and of every age.