

from which appear in this volume. We admire most of all Mr. Campbell's poems of nature, which are of great beauty and rare subtlety of thought and grace of expression. His poems cannot be well judged by dislocated quotation, nevertheless it is the only way that our space permits of illustrating his genius.

His poem "The Vanguard," a salutation to the twentieth century, rings like an ancient saga, whose form it assumes.

"Out of the grey light,
Into the daylight,
We are his buttlemen
Riding along;
Century-laden,
To some dim aidenn,
Hope in our vanguard,
Courage, our song.

"Check up the curb, there!
Firm in the stirrup, there!
Steady! men, steady!
Riding along!"

"Unabsolved" is a strong dramatic monologue, being the confession of a man who went with one of the expeditions to search for Sir John Franklin's party and who, being ahead, saw signs of them, but through cowardice, was afraid to tell. His guilt of constructive murder haunted him all his life.

Our poet here catches the old ballad lilt in "Glen Eila," a touching story of the Scottish border. We quote as showing his facility of rhyme and the majestic cadence of his lines the initial stanza of his "Ode to Thunder Cape," the huge basaltic cliff which guards the entrance to Thunder Bay, Lake Superior.

"Storm-beaten cliff, thou mighty cape of thunder;
Rock-Titan of the north, whose feet the waves beat under;
Cloud-reared, mist-veiled, to all the world a wonder,
Shut out in thy wild solitude asunder,
O Thunder Cape, thou mighty Cape of Storms."

The elegaic and memorial verses have a dignity and majesty appropriate to the grave theme. That on the death of Queen Victoria is especially fine. A noble tribute is paid to the young Canadian, whose statue was recently unveiled at Ottawa, for his heroism in trying to save the life of Miss Blair. Our poet has drunk deeply of the Pierian spring and gives some fine classic poems, as "Pan the Fallen," and "Phaethon." He strikes again

the Arthurian lyre and reproduces some striking tales of Lancelot, Mordred and other characters of the Arthurian cycle. His Biblical poems are very strongly written. The noble theme of the wrestling of Jacob with the angel, the subject of one of Charles Wesley's grandest hymns, is treated in "Peniel," whose first stanza we quote:

"In a place in the mountains of Edom,
And a waste of the midnight shore,
When the evil winds of the desolate hills
Beat with an iron roar;
With the pitiless black of the desert behind,
And the wrath of a brother before."

The poems on Cain and on Lazarus are striking. In the latter the saved soul in heaven cannot rest in Abraham's bosom while Dives suffers in torment. "The Were-Wolves" is a grim recital of Scandinavian legend:

"They hasten, still they hasten,
From the even to the dawn:
And their tired eyes gleam and glisten
Under the north skies white and wan.
Each panther in the darkness
Is a demon-haunted soul,
The shadowy, phantom were-wolves
Who circle round the Pole."

"The Vengeance of Saki," a mad Indian "snake woman," who, with half a thousand horses, stampedes the objects of her hate, has a grim strength. "The Last Ride," with its haunting poignancy, reminds us of the weird genius of Poe.

That difficult thing, the sonnet, with its rigid limitations and demand for highest poetic skill is well represented in a fasciculus of verse.

Mr. Campbell is Canadian to the very core. The section of poems called "Sagas of Vaster Britain" rings with enthusiasm. One of these poems had the honor of being set to music and sung at the coronation bazaar as a greeting to the Queen as she entered. Another magnifies the deeds of the Scot in many lands. In "The Lazarus of Empire," Mr. Campbell misinterprets the sentiment of the homeland for Canada:

"But lowest and last, with his areas vast,
And horizon so servile and tame,
Sits the poor beggar Colonial
Who feeds on the crumbs of her fame."

But this was written before the Boer war, when Britain "found herself" and found her children, too. "Show the Way, England," is a spirited reply to "Show the Way, Canada," an English poem: