

THE BOOK PAGE

The Secret of the Stream, by John Brown Maclean, B. D., (H. R. Allenson, London; T. C. Allen, & Co., Halifax, 187 pages, \$1.00,) is an interesting addition to a somewhat slowly increasing list of Canadian books in religion. The title is suggested by Browning's,

"Ask the rush if it suspects
Whence and how the stream which floats
It had a rise, and where and how
Falls or flows on still."

And the whole discussion of *The Riddle of Life*, which is the theme of the twelve chapters, has the sympathetic touch, and the keen, but delicate, insight of one who has read his poets well, and life, also. The heart of the book is shown in a sentence or two from the closing chapter, "Apotheosis":—"Our hope is based on His promise who cannot lie, and we know that we shall arrive. It is the likeness of Christ that we seek; and we shall see Him as He is. . . Our apotheosis must come by the way of obedience, not of disobedience; by the way of holiness, not of guilty knowledge. The Divine Ideal of Holiness is no longer our despair—it has been realized by Christ. The goal He reached is the goal of our endeavor: and one day we shall reach this goal; in Christ we shall rise to God."

"But a painful from the sea", compared with the immense floating mass of available material, is the designation Mr. Marmaduke Pickthall gives to Mr. J. E. Hanauer's bulky, and highly instructive and entertaining volume, of which he is the editor—**Folk-lore of**

the Holy Land (Duckworth & Co., London, 326 pages, \$2.50.) The Oriental is a talker rather than a reader or writer; and in a soil as old as that of Palestine, there comes to be an amazing crop of legend, story and anecdote, concerned with topics and people from Father Adam's day to our own. Moreover, Moslem and Christian and Jew, each have their own tales to tell. Mr. Hanauer divides his extensive collection into legends concerning the creation and divers saints and miracles; legends and anecdotes possibly founded on fact; and stories and anecdotes illustrating social ideas, superstitions, etc.; these in turn being catalogued under interesting headings. There is not a dull line in the whole book, and all who want to know the inscrutable Oriental and his ways, just a little better, would do well to read this selection of Folk-lore.

The minister of a wealthy and fashionable congregation, who surrenders his position and its comfortable income to devote his life to work for the outcasts in the slums of a great city; and a young business man, who counts nothing too base or cruel, if it will help him on towards the goal of worldly success,—these are the two main figures that stand out boldly contrasted, in *Thou Fool*, by J. J. Bell, the author of *Jess and Co.*, *Wee Macgregor*, etc. (The Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, 408 pages, \$1.25.) About one or other of these two, the other characters of the story circle. The interest in the story is strongly held by sufficient variety in scene and dialogue, and the outcome emphasizes the folly of those who make worldly success their god.



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