

Roberts; a curious experience in palmistry, by Florence M. Kingsley; a strange tale of dual existence, by Mrs. L. E. L. Hardenbrook; a yarn of the mining camps, by A. Stewart Clarke; a tragic musical story, by Mabel Wagnalls; a romantic picnic adventure, by Florence M. Kingsley; a dramatic incident of the Cuban struggle for freedom, by Mary C. Francis, and a story of laundry and love on a tin roof, by Mary L. Avery.

MADLINE POWER.—By Arthur W. Marchmont. Cloth, illus., 320 pp., 2s. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh. The tale turns upon the plots and schemes to separate the heroine from her lover. Her stepmother determines to marry the girl to her own son, and thus secure the family property. But Madeline is engaged to the son of a determined old man, who is at first also opposed to the engagement. The villain in the piece, her stepmother's son, stops at nothing. The lovers are parted, Madeline runs away from home, a body supposed to be hers is found drowned, and the plotters' triumph is interrupted by the girl's reappearance and union with her lover. The story is bright, amusing and a capital book for the present season.

MESSENGER 38.—By James Otis. Decorated cloth, illustrated; 241 pp., 75c. Werner Co., Akron, Ohio. A bright boy, without parents or friends, who obtains a situation in a messenger service, and becomes unexpectedly mixed up, while on duty, with a police search for criminals, forms the subject of this tale. It is exciting and full of incident, and being handsomely bound is well suited for gift purposes.

THE SKY PILOT; A TALE OF THE FOOTHILLS.—By Ralph Connor. Cloth; gilt top; \$1. The Westminster Co., Limited, Toronto. Those who have read "Black Rock" by this author, need no recommendation of this book, more than the statement that there is the same sturdy manliness in the characters, and the same life and interest in the story in the second book as there was in the first. The scene of "The Sky Pilot," is laid "in the shadow of the Rockies" where lie the foothills; the story is, as the author states in his preface, "of those people of the foothill country; of those men of adventurous spirit, who left homes of comfort, often of luxury, because of the stirring in them to be and to do something; and of those others who, outcast from their kind, sought to find in these valleys, remote and lonely, a spot where they could forget and be forgotten." The central figure is a young missionary who has volunteered for service among the ranchers of the foothills, with an enthusiastic and firm

purpose "to play the brother's part, and by sheer love of them, and by faith in them, win them to believe that life is priceless, and that it is good to be a man."

At his advent into the country, he meets with little sympathy, as the cowboys and settlers at his little station, Swan Creek, look upon his coming as a probable restraint on the freedom and wildness of their lives—a restraint which many of them have left their homes to escape. But, after several rebuffs and discomfitures, he wins first the respect, then the love of all, by his manly, yet tender, brotherly bearing and love for all. His strength is light, though, and the work heavy, so heavy that the breakdown comes before his church, which the cowboys help so much to build, is opened for service. The book is full of action and lifelike interest from cover to cover, but the last chapter, dealing with "the Pilot's" death and burial, is the strongest in the book, showing, as it does in realistic manner, the depth of sympathy in the big heart of the reckless men of the foothills. This is an admirable gift book.

THOMAS CAMPBELL.—By J. Cuthbert Hadden. Cloth, 158 pp.; 1s. 6d. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. This condensed biography of the Scotch poet forms one of the Famous Scots Series, and readers who are not taking the whole series will be glad to have this recent life of so notable a man as Campbell. The biographer has drawn upon all the sources of information respecting the poet's career, and presents a decidedly critical view of his literary ability.

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