

### THE BOOK PAGE

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Matching's Easy at Ease; Matching's Easy at War; The Testament of Matching's Easy, are the titles, severally, of Books I., II. and III. of Mr. H. G. Wells' newest and already most famous story, **Mr. Britling Sees it Through** (The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, 443 pages, \$1.50). It is a story of the Great War. Matching's Easy is a typical English country neighborhood in Essex, only a step from "the centre of things" in London, but isolated from it by "two great barriers, the East End and Epping Forest." The neighborhood jogs along in an easy-going, casual sort of way, with its sports and week-end parties, and that whole delightfully informal and happy intercourse which only the secluded country place provides. Mr. Britling, philosopher, theorist and student of affairs, who is also a Times leader writer and country gentleman, is the central figure; and how he and all the circle of Matching's Easy were waked up by the sudden swoop of the War, makes up the tale. It is a story, not of the War in the field, but of how England thought and felt and did, when the War came; and especially of how Mr. Britling found himself, and found God, in the tragedies which the war brought upon his country and upon his home. The story leaves the War but well begun, but it depicts the Matching's Easy and the Britain which has so magnificently risen to the awful demands—of courage and self-sacrifice and labor which are now winning the War. No present day writer is more vivid and searching and convincing than Mr. H. G. Wells at his best; and he is at his very best in Mr. Britling Sees It Through. It is the story of the season.

Shortly before war broke out, Rupert Brooke, the young English poet who gave his life early in the War, had made a tour in Canada and the United States, going on to Samoa and other South Sea Islands. **Letters from America** describe this journey in a country so new and strange to the young poet, and covered so rapidly, that we cannot but feel he frequently skimmed only the surface. Yet if there are trenchant—and probably merited—criticisms of our cities, there is an appreciation of the wonder and distinctiveness of Canada's natural beauties seldom equaled. (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, \$1.35.)

The poem which gives the title to a little book of poems by an American woman, Helen Gray Cone, is called **A Chant of Love for England** (J. M. Dent & Sons, Toronto, 103 pages, 75c. net). It is supposed to be a reply to the virulent German Hymn of Hate, and voices in no uncertain tones the homage of the world to England's heroes and poets. The volume also contains a number of miscellaneous poems, songs and sonnets.

The reader of the sermons by Rev. Professor Law, D.D., Knox College, Toronto, gathered into a volume under the title of **The Grand Adventure** (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 219 pages, \$1.25), is charmed, from the outset, with the utter simplicity and clearness of the preacher's style and language,—

we say the "preacher's" rather than the "writer's" because these sermons now appear in print just as they were preached. As one reads on he finds himself in the grip of one whose vigor of thought never for a moment slackens, and who speaks with the confidence of the painstaking and thoroughgoing student. But the outstanding merit of Dr. Law's sermons is their unswerving fidelity to the fundamental verities of the gospel. He has no new gospel, but presents the old gospel in fresh and attractive forms. The volume bears the touching dedication: "To My SOLDIER SONS, ROBERT, RALPH AND RONALD AND THEIR COMRADES IN THE 19TH AND THE 187TH BATTALIONS, C.E.F."

**The Tutor's Story** (The Copp, Clark Co., Toronto, 371 pages, \$1.25) is an unfinished novel by the late Charles Kingsley, revised and completed, after a lapse of fifty years, by his daughter, best known under her pen name of Lucas Malet. The "tutor" is a lame Cambridge man, who narrates, in his own words, the career of the son of an English peer whose education was for a time under his care. The tale has for its earlier setting the life in Hover, a great English country house, from which it moves, in the course of events, to London and Cambridge. The narrator shows us how the young Lord Hartover comes through the perils peculiar to one of his wealth and station, until he takes his place, at last, as a worthy custodian of the traditions of a great family. And the reader cannot help seeing how much the wise and unselfish influence of the tutor himself had to do with this happy result. The characters of Braithwaite, the sturdy and uncompromising radical, and his daughter, Nellie, are exceedingly well drawn, as is that of Waroop, the "stud-groom" at Hover, who, next to the tutor, was truest friend of the young lord in the days of his reckless youth. The admirers of Charles Kingsley will recognize in this story which he began, but did not finish, the true Kingsley touch, so skillfully and sympathetically has the work of revision and completion been done.

Donald Pendleton, Jr., a young Harvard graduate, who knew nothing about earning money, and had been accustomed all his life to spend money as easily as it came to him; Frances Stuyvesant, a millionaire's daughter, whose dress allowance was \$10,000 a year; and Sally Winthrop, a stenographer earning ten dollars a week, are the chief characters in **The Wall Street Girl**, a charming little romance by Frederick Orin Bartlett: with illustrations by George Ellis Wolfe (William Briggs, Toronto, 334 pages, \$1.35). How Young Pendleton, left, by his father's peculiar will, with a Fifth Avenue house and nothing a year, goes to work in the same office with Sally Winthrop, being at the same time engaged to Frances, how the brave little stenographer helps him to make good, how his wealthy fiancée refuses to face life with him on his comparatively small income, and how Pendleton and Sally, at last, set up their home in the big house left by Pendleton Senior's will, makes an altogether pretty and wholesome story.

**Georgina of the Rainbow**, by Annie Fellows Johnston, is a thoroughly delightful Cape Cod story (George J. McLeod, Toronto, 348 pages, illustrated, \$1.25 net) for grown-ups and young folk alike. There