

terest in the drama and in his knowledge of mankind, Shakespeare carries off the palm, we have got to the end of the list of prizewinners from the ancient Greeks and Romans in literature. In Epic poetry Homer is still supreme and unapproachable; the second place belongs to Virgil. In lyric poetry Pindar heads the list. In history, Thucydides, with "his magnificent light and terrible shade" stands out beyond all comparison. Demosthenes is the acknowledged chief of orators and Plato and Aristotle will be revered and studied, when all the Philosophers who have since flourished, will have sunk beneath the tide of advancing speculation.

J. CLARENCE HEMEON, '98.

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### A New Book.

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MESSRS EDITORS:—

Your request of yesterday, that I give a brief expression to my estimate of Dr. Rand's new book, entitled, "At Minas Basin and Other Poems," affords me scanty time to do justice either to the Athenæum or the Poems. It will however, be a source of much gratification to the friends of Acadia University that one of her own Alumni has made such an important contribution to Canadian literature, especially to Canadian song.

To some it may be a surprise that this first collection of his poems has matured in the autumn of their author's life. To those however, who have known Dr. Rand intimately; and have marked his fine imagination, his delicate taste, and the responsiveness of his spirit to the beauty and suggestiveness of nature, the appearance of this collection and its high merit will be no cause of wonder. Doubtless such a book would have appeared much earlier, had not his busy official career denied the necessary leisure and repose.

The book contains forty-three sonnets and thirty-eight other poems. The sonnets, taken as a whole, will doubtless be awarded high rank, for not one of them is inferior. They are marked by charming rhythm, chaste expression, pleasing variety, deep insight into nature, and a great wealth of suggestion. "Love's Immanence" discloses a deep reverence for God and nature; "To Emeline" is tender and delicate. It is a sweet, softly whispered note of two souls in harmony.

In reading the "Veiled Presence" one becomes conscious of the close fellowship between the poet's soul and the Invisible One. "The Rain Cloud," "The Cumulus Cloud," and