

THE BOOK PAGE

Bawbee Jock, by Amy McLaren (McClelland and Goodchild, Toronto, 359 pages, \$1.25), takes its title from the contemptuous nickname fastened on its hero, a young Highland chief, because, in order to meet the demands of a scapegrace younger brother, and, at the same time, preserve his ancestral inheritance, he has to toil like a common laborer and live after a seemingly parsimonious fashion. How a society girl, whose heart has not been spoiled by flirtation and flattery, penetrates below the surface of things and discovers the real worth of the man, and how, after he has won her for his bride, the two live together in idyllic happiness in a simple home amongst the glens,—all this is told in a love story that is altogether charming, the more so because of its genuinely Highland background. The same publishers send us, **The Great Illusion**, by Norman Angell (335 pages, \$1.00 net). This is a reasoned attack upon militarism. It challenges the theory "that military and political power give a nation commercial and social advantages". It seeks to demonstrate the economic absurdity of war and of immense armaments. The fact that the book, after a few months, is in its sixth edition is conclusive testimony to the interest which it has awakened. The eighteenth edition of **The Hill**: A Romance of Friendship (same publishers, 319 pages, \$1.25) shows how strongly this school story, which "does for Harrow what Tom Brown's School days did for Rugby", has gripped the reading public.

In **The Secret Garden** (The Copp Clark Company, Toronto, 375 pages, \$1.25), Mrs. Frances Hodgson

Burnett has given us a new children's story which ranks easily with her *Little Lord Fauntleroy*. The scene of the story is laid in *Misselthwaite Manor*, the home on a Yorkshire Moor, to which Mary Lennox, "the most disagreeable looking child ever seen," is brought from India, after the death of her father and mother from cholera, to live with her uncle. The "secret garden" is one which has been kept shut up by the uncle ever since the death of his wife. But the little girl finds the key of the garden, and by work and play in it and romping on the wide moor, in the companionship of Dickon, a moor-bred lad who knows and loves every living out-of-doors thing, grows strong and beautiful in body and unselfish in spirit. But that is not all, for she brings into the fresh air life the peevish, invalid son of her uncle, and he becomes a vigorous, handsome boy. The climax of the story is reached when the father is brought home from Italy to see in the garden his son and niece, both the picture of health and happiness, and so the gladness that he had lost is replaced by a new joy. From the same publishers come: **The Hero of Heroes**: A Life of Christ for Young People, by Robert F. Horton, M.A., D.D., the well known Congregationalist preacher of London, England, in which the gospel story is told with a charm that will grip and hold the boys and girls (326 pages, eight full page illustrations in colors, \$1.25). **Tom Stapleton, The Boy Scout**, by Captain F. S. Brereton (287 pages, \$1.25), in which the Boy Scouts are enlisted in tracking down a criminal, a story of which boys will read every page with unflagging interest. **The Airship Boys in Finance** (295 pages, \$1.00), by H. L. Saylor, which gives a most entertain-

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