

## THE BOOK PAGE

William De Morgan is nothing if not quizzical, as his stories Joseph Vance and Alice-for-Short abundantly evidence. In his latest book, **A Likely Story** (Henry Frowde, Toronto, 344 pages, \$1.25), the characteristic is also very much in evidence. It is an unvarnished study of Bohemian life, and a good-natured rallying of the students of physical phenomena. De Morgan has amazing realistic power, but in the case of *A Likely Story*, one wonders whether he himself thought it worth while. Nevertheless, there are some keen delineations of character, and here and there a little gem of description; but there are ugly things in life which it amuses few and benefits still fewer to uncover.

For 25c. may be obtained this capital little **Script and Print** (The Griffith & Rowland Press, Toronto), which is made up of fifty-four pages of practical directions on the preparation of manuscripts, the reading of proof, the making of the index, and such like requisites to getting people's thoughts correctly into type. The writer, Dr. Philip L. Jones, speaks out of many years of technical experience, and altogether shrewdly and wisely.

Two recent volumes of children's sermons are, **The Wonderful River: And Other Addresses to Young People**, by John A. Hamilton (268 pages, \$1.25) and **Sermons to Boys and Girls**, by Rev. John Eames, M.A. (158 pages, 50c. net). Mr. Hamilton puts each of his sermons into the form of a parable from life, drawing his lesson with great skill; while Mr. Eames bases

the lesson on the exposition of some scripture text. The children's preacher will find plenty of suggestion in both books (H. R. Allenson, London, U.C. Tract Society, Toronto).

Cassell and Company, Toronto, send **The New Garden of Canada**, by F. A. Talbot (304 pages, profusely illustrated, map and index, \$2.25 net). This is an excellent log-book of a journey made "By Pack-Horse and Canoe through Undeveloped British Columbia," as the title page has it. As an informing, entertaining and at times amusing book, this is a distinct contribution to Canadian literature on Canada. The author has eyes to see the beautiful and bountiful treasures of Mother Earth and to tell of them in clear, picturesque and virile language. The reported interviews with people along the line of his journey make delightful reading, while such chapters as "On the Skirts of a Bush Fire" and "Down the Treacherous Skeena" will surely supply model reading lessons for Canadian school-books at a time not far distant. If Mr. Talbot had digressed a little more as the dreamer or moralist and used his cubic measure rules a little less his book would have belonged to the shelf where you put Stevenson's "Inland Voyage" and "Travels with a Donkey". But as it is he has given us a very readable and valuable description of the wilds of British Columbia.

**The Lad Felix**, by Henry Milner (William Briggs, Toronto, 302 pages, illustrated, \$1.25) bears the subtitle, "A Tragedy of the Ne Temere". That the book will have a very large circulation there can be no

# Shorthand

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