

willing to face risk and effort and endure hardship in order to render service." This brief notice of a book which should be read in full by everyone who wishes to understand the American situation, is written while the United States is awaiting Germany's reply to its threat of the rupture of diplomatic relations; but whatever the outcome of that crisis may be by the time these lines are in print, Roosevelt's witness to the need of backing strong words by strong deeds is worth reading and pondering. Its keynote is "the valor of righteousness."

Possibly the slum dialect adds interest to Jasmine Stone van Dresser's story **Gibby of Clamshell Alley** (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 378 pages, 8 full-page illustrations, \$1.35). This is not quite certain; but it is certain that the story, however told, is worth reading. Gibby, a boy without parents, without a home, cast up from the sea, matches himself against the town bully, wits against strength, honesty against cunning—and wins out. The story is staged in a New England salt-water town and is "racy of the soil" to the last word. As a "real boy" Gibby has been compared to Huckleberry Finn. Time alone will show; but meanwhile his brave fight for a "place in the sun," as told by himself, is well worth reading.

**Samaritan Mary**, by Sumner Locke (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 340 pages, \$1.25 net), is the love story of Lancelot Pendren and Spring Rope. It begins with an automobile accident in which a car driven by Pendren smashes into a country cart in which Spring was riding. Both are badly hurt, and are taken

into the home of Mary Settler, whose name of "Samaritan Mary" had been given to her because everybody had got into the habit of looking to her for aid in all sorts of emergencies. Pendren falls in love with Spring before he knows that she belongs to the family whose claim on his father's property he was on his way to fight. The reader is held in suspense to the end as to how the complications of the situation thus created are unraveled and lead to a happy end, through the help of Samaritan Mary, whose shrewdness and ready wit, along with her kindness of heart, win and hold the reader from start to finish.

**Why France Lost Canada: And Other Essays and Poems**, by W. Frank Hatheway (William Briggs, Toronto, 210 pages, \$1.00), is a valuable contribution to our Canadian literature. The scenery, the history and the institutions of our own country have laid hold of the author's imagination, and he brings to his treatment of them a wholehearted enthusiasm and passionate loyalty.

**An Everyday Fairy**, by Laura Talmadge Haskell (American Sunday School Union, Philadelphia, 50c. net, postage extra), is a prettily told tale of a little American girl whose rich father was so busy with business, and whose rich mother was so busy with bridge and such like, as to leave the child practically an orphan in their own home, and who discovers who are her "neighbors." What little Faye did for a spoiled invalid brother and for the kind but business-absorbed father, in letting them, too, into the secret of living, makes good reading for a child of ten or twelve.

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