

sion of the human heart. "Night Burial in the Forest" has a sombre strength that is almost uncanny and in "The Half Breed Girl" there is heard again the note of native magic that removes this poetry from the conventional mediocrity of most modern verse. The illustrations by Mr. A. H. Howard, R.C.A., are in artistic harmony with the forest life so strongly yet subtly revealed. Especially suggestive is the gloom of pines and bracken in the heading to the poem describing the burial of the murdered man. There is no modern Canadian production with more of promise for native literature and art than this small green-bound book. There is nothing imitative in the forest songs which, like the harp of Erin, have a wild sweetness all their own. Mr. Scott went into the northern wilderness, away to the regions where the Albany and the Abitibi flow, to represent the Government in final treaty with the Indians. But the outcome of the mission is poetry not politics and "Via Borealis" has proved a path of wild roses and red willow, with the white-throat sparrow's bright note for cheer. The booklet is appropriately dedicated to Mr. Pelham Edgar who has been the author's companion in several of his northern pilgrimages. (Toronto: Wm. Tyrrell and Company.)

"Makers of Canada" is the title given to a series of biographies which have been appearing for the last three years in "edition de luxe" form. The volumes really present a history of the Dominion, in its most attractive aspect and are essential in a library whose owner professes to be acquainted with his country's development. The editors, Prof. Pelham Edgar and Mr. Duncan Campbell Scott, have spared no expense and care in the preparation of these biographies which have been written by prominent Canadians whose historical and literary equipment fitted them for the task. Morang and Company, the publishers of this admirable series, are issuing a cheap edition which will place the work within financial reach of all classes. In paper, type and binding these books are the "last word" in the publishers' art, and will be appreciated by all who rejoice in a good book worthily bound. The craze for seaside library books and paper covers is a thing of the past and we are slowly learning the lesson which Ruskin taught in "King's Treasuries." To read a book from the public library may be better than not to read it at all. But to get any permanent good from it, we must hold it as a real possession. "Makers of Canada" ought to find its way to many a Canadian book-case this Christmas.

The definitive edition of Bliss Carman's poetry has been recently published by the Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, and affords much satisfaction to those who have had to rely on several slender volumes, representative of this New Brunswick poet's work. A critic in the London "Times" recently dealt rather severely with the poets of America but, in referring to Bliss Carman he said: "But with all his lamentable extravagance * * * he has that quality of which we have noted the lack in most of his predecessors, a youthful gait and bravery, due perhaps, to his Canadian birth."

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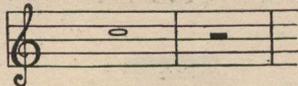
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