

cal course which lacks the practical element is, therefore, like the Christian without charity, "sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal". Nor is it less necessary for the working pastor to keep himself abreast of all that is fresh in this field. **Studies in Practical Theology**, by Allan Pollok, D.D., LL.D., Honorary Principal, Presbyterian College, Halifax (William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh, T. C. Allen & Co., Halifax, N.S., 332 pages, \$1.50), contains the cream of the writer's College Lectures on the subject. It takes a wide range, dealing with the minister and the minister's work from every point of view. The chapters on Church Rule, Public Worship, and the dispensation of the sacraments are noteworthy. Dr. Pollok's raciness and originality, and his fulness of information, are everywhere in evidence.

A ministry of thirty years must, of necessity, cover a wide range of topics, and when a volume of discourses is selected from it, of those which "have proved effective and useful, when preached", it is likely to be a book for edification. This can be truly said of **The Day-Spring and other Sermons**, by Rev. James Little, A.M., which has just appeared from the presses of Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh (312 pages, \$1.50 net). Three things are especially notable—the marks of a high literary culture, the helpful tone, and the strong evangelical note. Such titles as, *The Gospel, The Power of God, The Constraining Life of Christ, The Wells of Salvation, The Danger of Neglecting Salvation*, show how

close the author has kept to the central truths of the gospel. Mr. Little is remembered by many in Canada, where a portion of his ministry was passed, who will be glad to see this book from his hand.

In sharp contrast with the old-time popularity of the three volume novel, is the vogue to-day of the magazine and the short story. To those ambitious to succeed in this particular kind of writing, **The Short Story: Its Principles and Structure**, by Evelyn May Albright (The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, 260 pages, 90c. net), should prove a very efficient aid. It discusses in a most readable style such important points as, Gathering Material; The Title; Dialogue; Characterization; The Setting; and the Spirit of the Author. In an appendix will be found classified a list of Short Story Masterpieces, including, besides "stories usually recognized as great", a selection of the best from recent magazines.

The Forgotten Secret—So runs the title of a little book, by W. J. Dawson (Hodder and Stoughton, London, U. C. Tract Society, Toronto, 72 pages, 50c.). The author got the title from Sir Oliver Lodge. This famous man of science is far enough from holding many of the church's beliefs, but he knows very well the spring of the church's power. The "forgotten secret" of the church, he says, is prayer. And so Mr. Dawson writes about prayer. It need not be said that the author of, *The Evangelistic Note* has something of real value and interest to say, in his new book.

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