

THE BOOK PAGE

Like the author's previous story, Duncan Polite, the scene of **The Silver Maple**, by Marian Keith (The Westminster Company, Toronto, 357 pages, \$1.25), is laid in the township of Oro, on the shores of the beautiful Lake Simcoe, and among the early settlers. The story of the hero, "Scotty MacDonald," a lad with a Highland mother and an English father, carries us from Oro to the Nile and back again, with plenty of stirring incident between, and we leave him at the commencement of his much longed-for college course, with the prospect by and by, of settling down with Isabel, the captain's daughter. The feud between the Highlanders and the Irish, and the love affair, with its happy ending at long last, of 'Weaver Jimmie' and 'Kirsty John,' furnish various humorous situations, worked out with great skill. There is pathos, too; for the author has got down into the hearts of the people. **The Silver Maple** is a thoroughly human, healthy book, and will greatly enhance the reputation of the writer, who is an out and out Canadian, loving and understanding the country and its people.

With an introduction from Henry Van Dyke, comes another book by Dr. Wilfred T. Grenfell—**Off the Rocks: Stories of the Deep Sea Fisher Folk of Labrador**, 203 pages, 10 illustrations, (William Briggs, Toronto, price \$1.00.) It was the mission boat that saved the Firefly, a dandy, dilapidated fishing schooner that yet meant bread or starvation to her owners,—from being dashed to pieces on the cruel

Labrador rocks. And it is the missionaries, working through their own hospitals at sea and ashore, and common sense business help, and mainly religious teachings, who are saving the fisher folk of the Labrador from much terrible bodily suffering, and from the rocks of sin. Says Dr. Van Dyke in the preface: "You who know a man when you see him, and like him best when he does things; you who feel that religion is just as real as Nature, just as real as humanity, and that brave adventures may be achieved in the name of Christ,—this book is for you."

Religion as an art is the theme of **The Philosophy of Religion**, by Henry W. Clark (Fleming H. Revell Company, Toronto and New York, 243 pages, \$1.25 net). Every art is creative. When the painter, the sculptor, or the musician, has accomplished his work, something has been made. The thought of the artist has been wrought into the picture, the statue, the oratorio. So in religion there are forces which produce a new character. The soul processes leading up to this result, are traced in this volume, with a fresh and skilful touch. The author succeeds in setting old facts, such as Conversion and Faith in a new and striking light. Of special value are the chapters on The Fatherhood of God, and The Passion for God. The book is eminently one to quicken thought and stimulate the desire for higher spiritual attainments.

Among the many manuals provided for communicants' classes, **The Lord's Supper**, by George C. Pidgeon, D.D. (Presbyterian Sabbath School Publi-

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