

Book Notices.

A Treasury of Canadian Verse. With brief biographical notes. Selected and Edited by THEODORE H. RAND, D.C.L. Author of "At Minas Basin and Other Poems." London: J. M. Dent & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. xxiv-412. Price, \$1.25 net.

This book is invested with a melancholy interest from the sudden and tragic death of its distinguished editor almost immediately after seeing it through the press. It was his last labour of love for his country's literature. Its preparation doubtless taxed his strength and prepared the way for his sudden and lamented demise. Dr. Rand's own contributions to Canadian verse prove how loyal and loving was his patriotism.

"A Canadian by birth," he says, "education, and life-service, as were my father and his father, my mother and her mother, I may be pardoned the expression of a feeling of national pride that the materials are so abundant from which to prepare a representative volume, much of whose contents will not suffer by comparison with the verse of older countries. I trust that this anthology may serve as an open door through which the voices of Canadian singers may vibrate yet more widely on sympathetic ears, both at home and abroad."

An all too slender selection from his own poems reveals the crystal clearness and moral elevation of his thought, and its fine poetic expression. The following sonnet on "The Veiled Presence," gives a glimpse of his vision of the Divine in nature, which has deepened and heightened into the beatific vision of God's face:

"An ashen gray touched faint my night-dark room,

I flung my window wide to the whispering lawn—

Great God! I saw the mighty globe from gloom

Roll with its sleeping millions to the dawn.

No tremor spoke its motion swift and vast,

In hush it swept the awful curve adown,

The shadow that its rushing speed did cast

Concealed the Father's hand, the Kingly crown.

Into the deeps an age has passed since then,

Yet evermore for me, more humble grown,

The vision of His awesome presence veiled
Burns in the flying spheres, still all unknown,
In nature's mist-immantled seas unsailed,
And in the deeper shadowed hearts of men."

It will be to the people of Canada, as well as to those of all English-speaking lands, a pleasing surprise to know that so much verse of such high average has been produced in this new country. It is a demonstration that, amid its material prosperity, its higher and spiritual interests have not been neglected. We have here a choice anthology of three hundred and thirty poems from one hundred and thirty-four authors. Dr. Rand's poetic insight and fine taste is shown in the selection and editing of these poems. A compressed bibliography of Canadian verse adds to the interest of the volume. The book is very handsomely printed and bound, and at its moderate price, should have a very large sale.

This book is very carefully printed, but in Miss Parkinson's fine poem, "The Messenger Hours," on page 265, in third line, "shadow" should be "shadowy," and in stanza three, "whatever" should be "whether."

Israel's Messianic Hope. To the time of Jesus. A Study in the Historical Development of the Foreshadowings of the Christ in the Old Testament and beyond. By GEORGE STEPHEN GOODSPEED. New York: The Macmillan Company. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Company, Limited. Pp. x-315.

This book is intended, says the author, to help the intelligent reader of the English Bible to a better understanding of its essential elements. While it is not technically critical, yet it will afford to higher Bible-classes and scholarly ministers valuable help. While we cannot give unqualified acceptance to all the positions of Professor Goodspeed, his volume will yet be found exceedingly instructive in matter as it is devout and reverent in spirit.

"The Messianic Prophecy," the author says, "is not something tacked on, a kind of anomalous excrescence which is appended to the Old Testament religion, external to it, for the purpose of proving the divinity of Christ and the permanent