



"O brave poets ! Keep back nothing, nor mix falsehood with the whole ; look up God-ward ; speak the truth in worthy song from earnest soul ; hold in high poetic duty truest truth, the fairest beauty."—Mrs. Browning.

The late Theodore H. Rand, M.A., D. C. L., was born in 1835, at Cornwallis, N. S. He should be, however, one of the most cosmopolitan of our poets, since he has spent periods of his life in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario, respectively. He has always identified himself closely with educational work, and in early life held, for some years, the position of Superintendent of Education in the Maritime Provinces. In 1883 he accepted the Chair of Education and History in Acadia College, but resigned in 1885 to become instructor in Apologetics and Didactics in McMaster Hall, Toronto, now McMaster University. Since that time his life has been closely connected with this University, to whose Chair of Education and English History he was called in 1895.

While in Nova Scotia Mr. Rand founded a "Journal of Education." He has also contributed much to other periodicals, and his poems have been collected into two volumes, "At Minas Basin and Other Poems," and "Song Waves," which are regarded as a decided acquisition to Canadian literature. He has written little in the lighter vein. He looks upon life seriously, yet with a calmness born of that optimism which has given him the name "The Browning of Canada." He loves nature in every form. The flowers, the birds, the trees; the dragon-fly skimming over the pool, the loon laughing on the lonely lake; clouds, sea-breezes; the ocean waves creeping up the shore; storms; rocks; all things, peaceful or sublime, appeal to him. To each he writes his sonnet and from each he learns a lesson, the lesson that God Himself is revealed in all His works.

The following poem, chosen from "At Minas Basin and Other Poems," is especially appropriate at this season, in which, upon any warm spring day, one may expect to find the brave little hepatica peeping forth from the first bare "inglenook" of the woodland:

" Hail, first of the spring.
 Pearly, sky-tinted thing
 Touched with pencil of Him
 Who rollest the year !
 Lo, thy aureole rim
 No painter may limn—
 Vision thou hast, and no fear !

Fair child of the light,
What fixes thy sight ?
Wide-open thy roll
From the seal of the clod,
And thy heaven-writ scroll
Glow, beautiful soul,
With the shining of God !

"Thou look'st into heaven
 As surely as Stephen,
 So steadfast thy will is !
 And from earth's ingle-nook
 Seest Christ of the Lilies
 And daffadowndillies,
 And catchest His look.

" And a portion is mine,
 Rapt gazer divine,
 From thy countenance given—
 Angel bliss in thy face !
 I've looked into heaven
 As surely as Stephen
 From out of my place ! "

been planned that the teachers' college should be specially available and useful to teachers already in the service of the Protestant schools of the Province of Quebec, and others who may seek training to become specially qualified teachers in the Province. It is believed that the movement will mark a new era in the educational progress of Quebec.

If it be true that "poetry is the child of nature, which, regulated and made beautiful by art, preserveth the most harmonious of all compositions," and, again, that, "By harmony our souls are swayed," then to be ignorant of the poetry of one's native land, is to be ignorant of its most pleasing, if not the most potent form of literature. In "Treasury of Canadian Verse," (Wm. Briggs, Toronto), compiled by Theodore H. Rand, is to be found, perhaps, the best collection of Canadian poetry issued in convenient form. As stated by Mr. Rand in his preface, the verse in this volume "does not treat solely nor chiefly of Canadian themes." It covers a broad range of history, philosophy and sentiment. At the same time one is glad to see among the poems a generous sprinkling of Canadian subjects and references, and to know that the home charm that clings about the hepatica and blood-root, the gleam of firefly and dip of paddle, the querulous lamentations of the whip-poor-will in the wood, and the flute-tones of the little white-throat reiterating his "I love dear Canada, Canada, Canada," is everywhere present in this book of Canadian verse. Charles G. D. Roberts, Bliss Carman, Duncan Campbell Scott, George Frederick Scott, Goldwin Smith, Gilbert Parker, A. Lampman, W. H. Drummond, Nicholas Flood Davin, Charles Mair, Grant Allen and Pauline Johnson are a few of the best-known writers from whose works selections have been made. One hundred and thirty-five writers in all are, however, represented. The significance of this will appear when it is said that there is not one stanza of doggerel in the volume. We commend it to our readers.

powers to assert an influence in Korea, but the real cause was a struggle between the irreconcilable conservatism of the Chinese and the progressive ideals of Japan. The struggle ended in a complete victory for Japan. All the world turned in admiration of the Japanese army and navy, the organization and equipment being a complete revelation to all the nations.

Japan had no sooner commenced to sing her songs of victory than the European powers appeared on the scene, and she had to give up her hard-won laurels. Russia demanded an ice-free port in the Pacific, and the right to carry her Siberian railway across Chinese territory to Vladivostok. This railway gave Russia a grasp on Manchuria. Russia also re-fortified Port Arthur. In December she sent her fleet to winter there, and in March she demanded a lease of the Port and a right to build a line of railway connecting Port Arthur with her Siberian trunk line in Northern Manchuria. Germany was given a ninety-nine years' lease of the Bay of Kiachow. France demanded a rectification of frontier in the Mekong Valley, and Great Britain obtained a lease of Wei-hai-wei. Thus to Japan the struggle had been practically a barren war.

Then came the Boxer Rebellion. The Chinese Government in Manchuria, overconfident of success, wantonly declared war against Russia. This was followed by a "reign of terror" for the Chinese, one of the incidents in which was the massacre by the Cossacks of five thousand Chinese, men, women and children, who were ruthlessly flung into the Amur. Russia took full advantage of this upheaval, and virtually annexed the whole of Manchuria.

Russia continued advancing and extending her influence. Japan became restive under such conditions and submitted to Russia the following proposals: First, that Russia and Japan should mutually respect the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea. Secondly, Russia would respect the special interests of Japan in Korea. Thirdly, Japan would bind herself not to infringe on the commercial rights and amenities which, by virtue of existing treaties, Russia possesses in Korea. Russia would enter into the same engagement with regard to commercial rights and amenities of Japan in China.

In reply to these proposals, the Russian Government, in its note of December 11th, "refused to discuss the Manchurian question with Japan." That question, according to Russia, could only be discussed between herself and China. With regard to Corea, Russia consented to recognize the special interests of Japan, but in one part of the country only. A neutral zone must be created, beginning at the Manchurian and Corean frontier, and extending to the east as far as Wang-ping-yang, and to the west as far as Ping-yang. These conclusions being unsatisfactory to Japan, she broke off diplomatic relations with Russia on February 6th, and war began on the 7th of February, 1904.

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It has been announced that the public education scheme which is to be carried out in the Province of Quebec under the direction of Professor Robertson and Sir William Macdonald, will entail an expenditure of \$2,000,000, all of which will be supplied by Sir William. In addition to the agricultural college and experimental and demonstration farm at St. Anne de Bellevue, on the Ottawa River near Montreal, there will be on the same site a Teachers' College, for the purpose of training men and women to be thoroughly qualified as teachers in advanced rural schools. The Normal school, at present in the city, will be transferred to St. Anne. It has

So many students going up for examination next July are asking for the cause of the present war between Russia and Japan, that I venture to write a little history to help them. The "Farmer's Advocate" is read by the cream of this Western country.

To understand the cause of the present war between Russia and Japan, we must go back to the war between China and Japan in 1894. The apparent cause of this latter war was the rival claims of these