

as a poet of fine discrimination and exquisite fancy. There is a poem for each of the twelve months. Rhyme has been avoided, but there is rhythm and veritable poetry. We quote the poem on April:

Bobolink and thrush,
Aerial pilgrims,
Chant in the orchard
Plainsong of spring.

Is there in the South
Altar more beautiful
Than apple branches
Twined in reredos
Of lilac and maroon?

And now the river
Bursting forth its cerements of ice
Reverberates
Gospel of resurrection.

Here, here
In April
Are the stairs of Heaven.

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THE WORLD OF WONDERFUL REALITY

By E. TEMPLE THURSTON. Toronto:
The Copp, Clark Company.

THE author of "The City of Beautiful Nonsense" it at once suggested by the title of this present book, which has been described as the "Peter Pan" of youth.

John Grey, poet, idealist and struggling young author, is deeply in love with Jill Dealty. Jill loves him too, but—John is terribly poor, and Jill, well-brought-up daughter of a once wealthy family, knows that her parents are dependent upon her marrying money in the person of Mr. Skipwith, a kindly, vulgar old soul, her father's friend. Won by John's tenderness and the intensity of his love, Jill promises to marry him, but she is haunted by the thought of her duty to her family. John pleads for love and freedom with golden words and all youth's passion. With inimitable skill, Mr. Thurston traces the battle in the girl's soul, showing how materialism and idealism fought for supremacy, while events shaped them-

selves for the inevitable climax. Throughout the book, like a golden thread, runs the voice of John speaking for that "wonderful reality" of life which youth glimpses so clearly and which most of us have lost or forgotten until a story like this brings it all back again.

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THE SEA BRIDE

By BEN AMES WILLIAMS. Toronto:
The Macmillan Company of Canada.

MANY readers will remember Mr. Williams's excellent sea story, "All the Brothers were Valiant". This book is in the same class, a story of the sea, having to do with the stirring events that took place on a whaling voyage. Captain Noll is a hard-hearted, unprincipled tyrant. He rules his crew no less than his wife with a cruel hand. Ultimately, however, comes Brander, a sailor picked up by the ship on an island. Honest and fearless, he saves the situation and works out a solution which is as satisfactory to Faith, the captain's bride, as it is to the reader.

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THE BLACK DROP

By ALICE BROWN. Toronto: The
Macmillan Company of Canada.

AS there is a black sheep in many families, so there is in many persons a drop of black blood. In a family all of whose members are cultivated, kindly, and loyal, there is one, perhaps the strongest personality in ability and force, who is unprincipled, ambitious for money and station, and a dangerous enemy of society. It is he who precipitates the problem of this novel. His nefarious scheming gives rise to a series of dramatic incidents, which lead inevitably to a climax involving a brother, a father and mother, a wife and grandfather. It is a moving climax; and Miss Brown, who is known for her appealing situations, has seldom equalled this one in intensity and absorbing interest.