

THE BOOK PAGE

The hero of Ralph Connor's latest story, **Corporal Cameron** (The Westminster Company, Toronto, 454 pages, \$1.25),—a high-spirited young Highlander, appears as the Scottish half-back in a great international football match against Wales, in which he loses the game for Scotland because he had slacked in his training and was not fit for the fierce test of the last quarter. But though Cameron was reckless and unreliable, he was no "quitter," as some of the team, sore with disappointment at their defeat, did not stop at calling him. He made good in the bigger game of life, not, indeed, in his native country, but in the new land of Canada across the seas. The story of his adventures, in Montreal, in Ontario and in the great West is told in the style which has won for the author widespread fame. Ralph Connor knows equally well the middle East of Canada, where he was born and reared, and the West, where he has won his renown, and this new book abounds in lifelike touches, while the career of the chief figure holds the reader's interest to the end.

A Roman Catholic archbishop was heard by the proprietor of a bookstore talking to a parish priest. He said, "Here is a work I like. It is by J. R. Miller. I do not know who he is, but it is a good book and I advise you to read it." The J. R. Miller was the great Philadelphia Presbyterian Sunday School editor, and the writer of some sixty devotional books, with circulations running into the millions, the story of whose work has been given by his associate, Rev. John T. Faris, under the title, **The Life of Dr. J. R. Miller** (George H. Doran Company, New York, Upper Canada Tract Society, Toronto, 246 pages, with portraits, \$1.00). Thousands of Sunday School workers in this country and all over the world will be glad to have this story of the man who for thirty-two years controlled the Westminster Series of Lesson Helps, and who made Forward and its companion Sunday School papers models of their kind. A most interesting part of the book is the account of Dr. Miller's service as a very young man with the Christian Commission, which did so much by way of guidance, comfort and help to the soldiers in camp and hospital during the American Civil War of the sixties. The same qualities that he exhibited in this work continued with him in the busy years that followed as editor—an extraordinary capacity for toil (he built up three separate congregations as their pastor whilst all the time not neglecting one jot of his editorial labors), his intense sympathy with distress and suffering and his fine administrative ability. His creed was simple: "Jesus and I are friends." How he lived it out in work and word, to the infinite blessing of numberless lives in all lands, is sympathetically brought out by Mr. Faris, who allows a large part of the story to be told by Dr. Miller's own letters and by extracts from his published writings.

There is real genius in the title of Professor J. E. McFadyen's latest book, **A Cry for Justice** (T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, 151 pages, 60c.). For when we go to the sub-title, *A Study in Amos*, it is as if a window had been thrown open through which a whole

flood of light pours upon the mission and methods of Israel's earliest prophet. In every chapter—and the chapter headings are as apt as the main title—we hear the ringing demand of Jehovah's spokesman for righteousness and his unsparing denunciation of the wickedness so deeply rooted in the life of Israel. Readers of Professor McFadyen's first page will not part with him till they have reached the last sentence, and then they will read Amos with a new insight into the prophet's message. The volume is one of The Short Course Series, edited by Rev. John Adams, B.D., which is meant to encourage expository preaching, and it is difficult to picture the preacher who can rise from the reading of *A Cry for Justice* without tingling to the finger tips with the desire to attempt, be it in never so rude a fashion, what Professor McFadyen has done so consummately. An appendix contains a carefully selected list of books for study.

Amy Le Feuvre's new book, **The Four Gates** (Cassell and Company, Toronto, 344 pages; frontispiece in color; price \$1.25), takes its name from the thought given to four girls in a little English village by an older woman to whom they were all much attached: That the City we all hope to enter one day has: "On the East three gates; on the North three gates; on the South three gates; and on the West three gates;" and each one of us may enter that city through a different gate. She who chose the East would meet in life sharp and cutting winds; another would go through sunshine in at the South; the West would be marked by sudden storms; and the North would be austere and cold." Following out this idea, Miss Le Feuvre shows us her four girl heroines passing from girlhood to womanhood, and all four at last attaining happiness, though by widely varying ways. There are four love stories interwoven, and many attractive bits of village life pictured. Miss Le Feuvre is at her best in describing children, and little Fay, the tiny girl who had traveled all over the world with her wandering father, but who still held firmly to a belief in fairies and other wonders, will be felt by many to be the most attractive character in the book.

Mr. C. C. Trumbull, the editor of the widely known and much valued Sunday School Times, lets us into a secret chamber of his life in his **Messages for the Morning Watch** (Fleming H. Revell Company, Toronto, 192 pages, \$1.00 net). Mr. Trumbull's habit is to spend some time every morning "before entering on the day's work or even breaking one's fast, alone with God in prayer and in devotional reading of His Word." It was in this precious morning hour that most of the messages of the book came into being. The writer passes on to others the treasures he has found. And they are indeed treasures. Simple, direct, discerning, practical, tender—a close application of the divine Word to the needs of daily life. The enrichment to which Mr. Trumbull testifies as accruing to him in his studies and meditations he here shares with fellow workers and kindred spirits. The Messages are from the Book of Genesis, from which the Sabbath School Lessons of the first half of 1913 are taken.