

VIII. POETRY.

Neighbors, A Book of Poems. By Wilfred Wilson Gibson. The Macmillan Company, 1920. \$1.50 net.

Another volume of verse from this "poet of the poor" is bound to find readers. He has made a real contribution to the advance of English poetry, seen mainly in his grim realism in dealing with the lot of the grimy millions. Like John Masefield, in this he is far from possessing the splendid lyrical gift of that poet. As William Lyon Phelps says: "He is a poet of the people and seems to have taken a vow that we shall not forget them." "Neighbors" takes its title from the first group of poems in the volume, describing in his own distinctive manner English country characters. Then follow war poems which more than fulfill the prophecies made when he published "Battle;" "Travels," a group of pictures of places and a section called "Home" (England), which includes a few poems from an early volume now out of print. The total effect of his work, some one has said, is an indictment. Only whom does he accuse? Is it the government? Is it society? Is it God?

GEO. B. EAGER.

Enslaved and Right Royal. By John Masefield. The Macmillan Company. 1920.

New volumes of poems by John Masefield, which have the ear-marks and show the distinguishing qualities of this poet's work. These Northumberland poets, Masefield and Gibson, have come to be recognized as speaking and having earned a right to speak not only for the inarticulate poor of England, but for suffering, smiling humanity everywhere. In their verses we see, as some one suggests, "art taking the short cut to life, sacrificing if need be every grace to gain reality—the typical goal and