LEGEND OF A LAKE

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Legend of a Lake by John Alleyne Macnab

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JOHN ALLEYNE MACNAB

LEGEND OF A LAKE

Trieste



"AND STREAMS RAN FROM IT DOWN THE ROCK-RIBBED HILLS."

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LEGEND OF A LAKE

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BY

JOHN ALLEYNE MACNAB

Author of "SONG OF THE PASSAIC."

WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES

ILLUSTRATED BY

EDGAR MAYHEW BACON

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¹⁰ Chaos, confused mass, unbounded space, He breathed His voice o'er thee, and thou wast made ; And when He spake the waters oozod forth, And o'er thy surface spread their linpid streams, As though to weep their birth away in tears."

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There is a legend,¹ * told in Indian tongue, That dates far back to pre-bistoric days; Tradition hands it down from old to young, In tribal language with unfeigning ways. But many search from plain to mountain crest, And follow trails that lead o'er hill and dale, To find the waters of a lake,² and test The truth or fiction of a wondrous tale. While others delve amid forgotten lines, To seek new light from legendary signs.

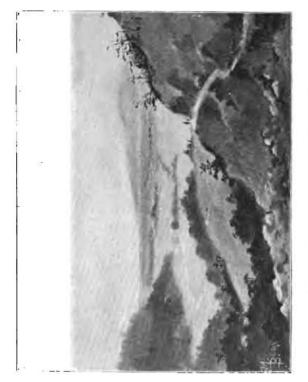
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* See Explanatory Notes.

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",BUT MANY SEARCH FROM PLAIN TO MOUNTAIN CREST."

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II.

The earth, 'tis said, was level,' and the land Was here and there divided by the sea; And first-born men, in strange nomadic band, Roved to and fro with sense of liberty. Great forests grew and furnished game for food; The seas were filled with many kinds of fish; And though that people were of simple mood, And plain and frugal in their every wish, Yet, smoldering along their walks of life, The fires of hate were kindling into strife.*