

\$s

BIOGRAPHY

GREAT CAPTAINS UNVEILED. By B. H. Liddell Hart.

Little, Brown & Company \$3.50 8¼ x 51/8; 274 pp. Boston

Captain Hart is successor to Colonel Repington as military critic of the London Daily Telegraph. He is plainly a man of vast and profound military knowledge, and possesses the power to make complex field movements intelligible and interesting. In this book he presents the lives of six celebrated soldiers: Jenghiz (the author's spelling) Khan and his great general Sabutai, Marshal Saxe, Gustavus Adolphus, Wallenstein and General Wolfe. The chapter on Wallenstein is perhaps the most interesting to the general reader, if only for that genius's supreme achievement of having married and buried an aged but very wealthy widow when he was only twenty-three. In the chapter on General Wolfe Captain Hart makes this interesting observation: "Today our army is in its average of ability as high as in Wolfe's day it was low, yet, and for this very reason, it would be inherently impossible for military genius to force its way to the front at an early age. . . . Is the inference that only a bad or an improvised army can produce a great general? Not only Wolfe, but Napoleon, Moore, Wellington, Lee and Stonewall Jackson support it in modern times."

THE SEVEN STRINGS OF THE LYRE. By Elizabeth W. Schermerhorn.

\$4

The Houghton Mifflin Company Boston 834 x 534; 327 pp.

This is a biography of George Sand; the seven strings of the title refer to the lady's seven chief lovers. Miss Schermerhorn has filled her book with much solid information, but it would have been much more readable than it is if she had employed a style a bit less velvety. It becomes rather tiresome after a while, for instance, to have the lady's numerous affairs referred to as poems.

GALLANT LADIES.

By Cameron Rogers. Harcourt, Brace & Company 8¾ x 51/8; 363 pp. New York \$3.50 This is a collection of brief biographical sketches of the following eleven picturesque ladies: Mata Hari, Mary Read, Anne Bonny, Lola Montez, Belle Starr, Elizabeth Chudleigh, La Maupin, Jeanne Valois, Adrienne Lecouvreur, Marie of Rohan, and Calamity Jane. Mr. Rogers has amassed a lot of interesting material, but his writing is not always as effective as it should be.

CLOWNING THROUGH LIFE. By Eddie Foy and Alvin Harlow.

> E. P. Dutton & Company 9¹/₈ x 6¹/₈; 331 pp. New York

Save for his colorful first-hand accounts of the Civil War draft riots in New York and the Chicago fire, there is not much in this autobiography of Eddie Foy (Edward Fitzgerald). He was born in New York in 1856, the son of poor Irish immigrants. In his youth he shined shoes and sold papers, and finally landed in vaudeville as a star clown. He has married four times, has eight children, and is still in vaudeville.

ROMANTIC RASCALS.

By Charles J. Finger. Robert M. McBride & Company \$3 9 x 6; 251 pp. New York In this collection of rogues and rufflers Mr. Finger has drawn Lugui Di Barthema, the man "with soul stich't to the starres''; "Count" Sr. Germain; "Count" Cagliostro, Jeanne De Valois, Cambiosa, Tichbornand most memorable of all, Ali Pasha of Albania. They make up a fascinating gallery, and Mr. Finger recounts their careers vividly and dramatically. The

book is beautifully printed and there are eight wood-

cuts by Paul Honoré. AUBREY BEARDSLEY.

By Haldane Macfall. Simon & Schuster 10 x 71/4; 270 pp. New York

\$6 Major Macfall, novelist, soldier and critic, who knew Beardsley throughout the Beardsley period, presents his own novel and friendly view of him. "It became a sort of cant among certain writers to try and whitewash Beardsley by acclaiming him a satirist," he declares. "He was none. A dying satirist does not try to recall his 'obscene drawings.' ' Rather he sees him as a born poseur led astray by the other poseurs of his day,-and a great genius. He admits his eroticism, but would explain it as due to tuberculosis. An entertaining and colorful book. It is beautifully printed and illustrated.

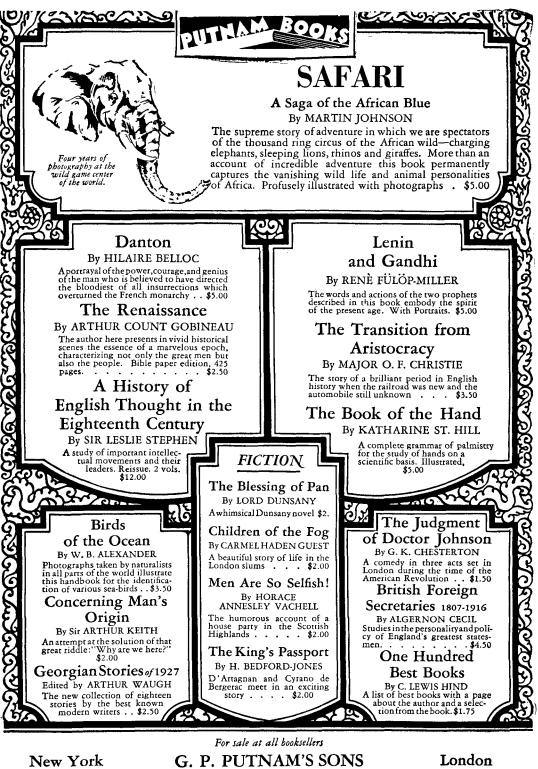
BOOKS AND BIDDERS. The Adventures of a Bibliophile.

By A. S. W. Rosenbach. Little, Brown & Company 834 x 534; 311 pp. Boston These essays, though often repetitious and loosely

written, have a certain gusto and anecdotal charm. Dr. Rosenbach has a very real enthusiasm for books, and his adventures as a book-buyer and collector are often entertaining. But there is rather too much of the atmosphere of the auction-room.

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THE AMERICAN MERCURY



New York

London

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