

(with emphasis on the lack of evidence which has invalidated many so-called "scientific" attempts to prove his inferiority to whites,) and his status in Latin America and Europe. There is a descriptive bibliography and a complete index.

BLACK AMERICA by *Scott Nearing* (VANGUARD PRESS. \$3.00)

THE lot of the Negro in the United States is described by Mr. Nearing, with statistical, economic and historical material. The reader is taken from the beginnings of slave dealing, promoted in the Seventeenth Century to supply the labor needed in the Colonies, to the present day. He is shown through the author's eyes, the frustrated attempts of the Negro to acquire land in the South, the squalor and inadequate living conditions to which an absurdly low wage dooms him, the eternal segregation which is only a symptom of the oppression that keeps the Negro from white-collar jobs and the professions.

Organizations to promote the welfare of the race and its own press are doing much to complete the process of true emancipation. Negroes prominent in science, business, letters and the arts are helping, indirectly and directly, the black man to his place in the sun.

Biography

PEOPLE by *Edgar Wallace* (DOUBLEDAY, DORAN. \$2.00)

A PERSONAL history of the most famous English mystery writer of the day. More than a mere description of events, it is a romantic tale of people and places, ambitions and misadventures. His early experiences of travel and adventures as a reporter and war correspondent are reflected in his mystery yarns, and it is small wonder that he has been able to find enough themes for his ever fertile pen.

Miscellaneous

THE FALL OF HOSEIN THE HOLY edited by *Eustace Conway* (RUDGE. \$3.00)

A DELIGHTFUL Oriental version of temptation in the wilderness, written by an unknown author,

forms the title-piece for this little volume. The style of the legend, with its amusing ending, is pleasing. Four essays by Mr. Conway follow; one, on "Old Letters", contains much of interest about the property rights of letters and manuscripts. The essay's claim to publication, as Mr. Conway states in a Foreword, arises from his commendable desire to rescue the story, found in his father's library, from oblivion. The story alone is worthy of the setting which, needless to say, William Edwin Rudge has given it.

BANDITS AND THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC by *C. B. Glasscock* (STOKES. \$2.50)

IN its course through California the Southern Pacific had taken land from the homesteaders. Failing to get relief from the Government in Washington some of the settlers banded together, fiercely resisting the onward progress of the Iron Horse. This book concerns itself largely with the depredations of the two most famous bandits—John Sontag and his partner Chris Evans. Both sides are dealt with fairly in this impartial and graphic narrative.

THE ELIZABETHAN JIG by *Charles Read Baskervill* (UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. \$5.00)

By the middle of the Sixteenth Century popular dance-songs called "jigs" were common in England; by the 'nineties a specialized stage jig was rapidly developing; usually as an afterpiece to serious plays. It probably took its name from the dance which commonly accompanied it. The folk jig was commonly a satirical libel or a rustic or pastoral love-lyric or dialogue; the stage jig became a farce, reflecting "the realistic—the coarse, odd and comic—aspects of life, with a touch of burlesque". It was the pet of the pit before Elizabeth's death; it invaded the Continent with such success that more actual examples now exist in foreign languages than in English. In it Elizabethan license apparently touched a peak. By 1616 it had become prohibited in London; revived thereafter, it was not the same thing. So much of the original material is lost that to study it the indirect approach was necessary; a terrific task. Nothing daunted, Mr. Baskervill has plunged in, and, in 600 pages, has filled a lacuna in English folk-song and dramatic history.

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