

phies, all of which are well worth reading. Mr. Molloy's sumptuous volumes are also worth reading, and even by those who are already more or less saturated with Reynolds biographical material. For Mr. Molloy's aim is evidently not so much to describe the great President of the Royal Academy as he was in life and character as to tell us something new about him in his relations to the remarkable circle of friends and contemporaries who surrounded him. In literature there were Dr. Johnson, Goldsmith, Fielding, Richardson, Sterne, Smollett, Sheridan, and Fanny Burney; in art, Hogarth, Gainsborough, Romney, Angelica Kauffmann, Richard Wilson, and Benjamin West. He also tells about many others than those in the domains of literature and art, about great statesmen and clergymen and diplomats and women of fashion and rank. Among all these Sir Joshua was, as his latest biographer well says, a central luminary. It is a satisfaction that Mr. Molloy has taken plenty of print and paper to describe to us this characteristic and inspiring figure of an interesting and influential age. (Sir Joshua and His Circle. By Fitzgerald Molloy. In 2 vols. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. \$6.50, net.)

Motoring in France

It is any author's good fortune to be able to find and describe places off the beaten tourist track. This quality was somewhat evident in Mr. Shoemaker's "Quaint Corners of Ancient Empires," and is also evident in his just-published volume on France. The latter book will be of more practical value than the former, because there is hardly a better way of taking a vacation than by going to France and walking or cycling or motoring over its splendid roads from Cherbourg or Havre through Normandy and Brittany and Touraine anyway, and then through any other possible province. Mr. Shoemaker began his trip at Monte Carlo, and saw, first of all, Provence; then he crossed to Pau and Biarritz and northwards into Central France and by way of Auvergne to Touraine, Brittany, Normandy, and Picardy. Thence Mr. Shoemaker went by the Côte-d'Or to the Vosges, and across the frontier to the Rhine and Black Forest, and through Switzerland to Aix-les-Bains, where the journey ended. It is all very well to take a motor, as Mr. Shoemaker did, and cover as much territory, and this is the increasingly common method of "doing" France nowadays; but the book will appeal even to the slower travelers who like to roam about the quaint old cities, such as Tarascon, Carcassonne, Clermont-Ferrand, Riom, Bourges, and Besançon. Mr. Shoemaker writes with sympathy, al-

though his pages might well have been more picturesque and luminous considering his subject matter. (Winged Wheels in France. By Michael Myers Shoemaker. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$2.50, net.)

Old English Fairy Tales Under the entrancing title of "Fairy-Gold," and with every attraction of drawings and colored prints, Mr. Rhys has retold many legends and fairy tales of the semi-mythical days in England. Most of these are unknown to all but special students of folk-lore, and they are here rendered with true romantic flavor. The book is one to please older readers, but none the less for that will be acceptable to children. The paper and typography are a joy to the eye. (Fairy-Gold: A Book of Old English Fairy Tales. Chosen by Ernest Rhys. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$2.50.)

The Panama Canal

President Roosevelt's recent trip to Panama has accentuated the interest in anything which may be published on the subject of the great Isthmian Canal, and the appearance of Dr. Johnson's book is therefore particularly timely. Its title recalls the dreams of the first Spanish conquerors. The book's province is to recount a complete history of the four centuries of canal agitation and attempts at canal creation up to the present day. In this we should have had the assistance of a large map in detail; the clearly printed small maps in color inserted with the text are useful, but inadequate. The text is interesting and readable, as might be expected from an observer who has long been a close student of Panama Canal affairs, having reported them for the London Times and the New York Tribune. Dr. Johnson's picture seems accurate, but as he apparently believes in a canal at any cost, some of his judgments may not appeal to ultra-conservative readers. A valuable appendix includes important documents, such as the treaty of 1846 between the United States and New Granada, the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty of 1850, the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty of 1901, the Isthmian Canal Law of 1902 (commonly known as the Spooner Bill), the Panaman Declaration of Independence of 1903, the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty of 1904, and the proclamation of the Governor of the Canal Zone issued in the same year. Then follows the text of several administrative orders under Mr. Taft, Secretary of War, to whom the book is dedicated, and finally we have an interesting table giving facts as to existing ship canals. As a whole, Dr. Johnson's volume seems the most exhaustive contribution yet made to the popular understanding of a

great subject. (Four Centuries of the Panama Canal. By Willis Fletcher Johnson, A.M., L.H.D. Henry Holt & Co., New York. \$3, net. Postage, 27c.)

The Prisoner at the Bar The author's experience as Assistant District Attorney in New York City gives him unusual knowledge of dealings with the criminal courts. On the other hand, his talent as an agreeable and entertaining writer has been amply proved by his short stories, and notably by those in the "McAlister" series. Here he tells the average citizen in a lively yet absolutely accurate way what his rights are, what the rights of the police are, what happens when a misdemeanor is committed, what are the real duties and actual performances of judge, jury, witnesses, district attorney, and grand jury. Nothing could be more amusing, and at the same time suggestive of the "law's delay" and the nuisance of red tape, than his narrative of the interminable efforts of a smug little bank president to have his cook convicted for stealing a silver teapot, and in trying to recover possession of the teapot from the grip of the law after the cook aforesaid had forfeited her bail and fled to Ireland, thus bringing to naught the good man's six months' efforts to be a good citizen, in the course of which he sacrifices his comfort, many half-days of his precious time, and finally his proposed trip to Europe. The book as a whole belongs to the same class as Mr. Francis Wellman's "The Art of Cross-Examination." And when we consider the recent literary work of Mr. Wellman, Mr. Train, and Mr. Trevor Hill in dealing with law and crime in an illuminating way, we have cause to congratulate the reading public on being able to find in such books sound information and acute reasoning, together with entertainment of a high order. (The Prisoner at the Bar. By Arthur Train. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$2, net.)

Real Soldiers of Fortune In this entertaining book Mr. Davis proves that his fiction has been founded upon facts. He describes the character and adventures of six men who chose astonishing careers—careers so romantic that one almost doubts that they belong to our day. "The days of old when knights were bold" have not yet died away. The spirit and dash with which these biographical sketches are written will certainly attract young readers, however their elders may tremble with apprehension of the effect, having known boys who were fired to play circus after a visit to that charming performance. (Real Soldiers of

Fortune. By Richard Harding Davis. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$1.50, net.)

A Single-Volume Shakespeare This "Cambridge Edition" of Shakespeare's works in one volume is, in the main, uniform with the excellent one-volume editions of the great English and American poets which have the collective title "The Cambridge Poets." The Outlook has repeatedly commended the physical form of these editions, and takes pleasure in bestowing the same commendation on the volume before us. It was a matter that required close attention to have the paper for this book of over twelve hundred pages sufficiently thin to make an easily handled volume and yet sufficiently opaque to allow the text to be read clearly and easily. The publishers have succeeded entirely in this task, and it should be added that the ink is notably black, the type distinct, the shape of the book convenient, and the binding in excellent taste for a library edition. The text has been edited from the early quartos and first folio by Professor William Allan Neilson, of Harvard, after an independent examination of those texts and of the work of previous editors. There are textual notes, a glossary, and interesting and critical introductions to the plays. In every way the volume is suited for the use of the general reader and for a place on his library shelf. (Complete Works of William Shakespeare. Cambridge Edition. Edited by William Allan Neilson. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York. \$3.)

Why Men Remain Bachelors These very personal little essays are amusingly frank, and clever in a journalistic way, but they have none of that delicacy of form—and spirit—which pleases the artistic sense. They deal with such subjects as "How Men Propose," "The Management of Husbands," "The Ethics of Flirtation," and they will interest the average young person for obvious reasons. (Why Men Remain Bachelors, and Other Luxuries. By Lilian Bell. John Lane & Co., New York. \$1.25, net.)

The Warriors A work published under this title years ago now appears in a new edition under a title more descriptive of its character. It is a plea for the virile element in Christianity, which has too often been denied an equal emphasis with the feminine. Its tone is in accord with its conception of the church as "militant." Energy is the salient feature of its literary style. Trumpet notes abound. The outlook is comprehensive, optimistic, and martial.