

THIS YEAR GIVE BOOKS

SEA DOGS
OF TODAY

by Alan J. Villiers



THE REAL STORY OF THE SEA TODAY, ITS SHIPS, AND THE men who sail them. "The stamp of nautical accuracy is on every page he writes. Reading this book one gets a picture of modern ocean traffic in its stark reality."—Lincoln Colcord, *N. Y. Herald Tribune*. "Sea captains insist that Villiers is the most authentic writer about sail... the book kept me awake one night."—Lewis Gannett.

Mr. Villiers' famous trilogy of the sea, *By Way Of Cape Horn*, *Falmouth For Orders*, *Vanished Fleets*, boxed, with large print of the *Grace Harwar*, autographed by author, \$10.00. Limited to 100 sets.

ANCIENT
AMERICANS

by Emily C. Davis

co-author of *Magic Spades; The Romance of Archaeology*Profusely Illustrated
\$3.50

AZTECS, INCAS, MOUND BUILDERS, CLIFF DWELLERS, Mayans and many others live again on these exciting pages. Here is the first book to tell the whole romantic story of prehistoric North and South America. "Miss Davis has the happy ability to pack her book with facts without losing the leaven of easy readability."

—*Science News Letter*.

INHERITANCE

by John Drinkwater

Illustrated
\$3.00

A FAMOUS AUTHOR RECONSTRUCTS THE everyday life of English "Mine Hosts," publicans, coachmen and coachmasters of the 18th Century and gives us a vivid and charming picture of Old England. "Superb biographical reading."—William Soskin, *N. Y. Evening Post*. "Easily heads the list in point of significance and distinction."—*Sunday Times*.

HUDSON'S BAY
COMPANY

by Robert E. Pinkerton

The author, famous for his novels of the North Country, has written the first popular account in twenty-five years of "The Company of Gentlemen Adventurers" trading into Hudson's Bay. "This absorbing history of America's oldest commercial institution is eminently readable."—*N. Y. Sun*.

Illustrated. \$3.50

THE WISDOM OF
WU MING FU

edited by Stanwood Cobb

Quaint philosophy, flavored with oriental humour. \$1.25

THE FATAL
RIVER

The Life and Death of La Salle

by Frances Gaither

Highly readable biography, crowded with colorful characters and exciting deeds. "The rounded story of the man, his time, his deeds, his environment."—*N. Y. Herald Tribune*.

Illustrated. \$3.00

COLLECTED
POEMS OF
ROBERT FROST

Pulitzer Prize Poems: 1930

A definitive edition of a great American poet, containing six heretofore unpublished poems. \$5.00

HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY

One Park Avenue New York City

Books for Yuletide Giving

Representative Tales

GOLDEN TALES OF NEW ENGLAND.

By MAY LAMBERTON BECKER. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. 1931. \$2.50.

Reviewed by RACHEL FIELD

IT was a character in one of Sarah Orne Jewett's stories who once bemoaned the growing sameness about her. "These days," she said, "young folks is all copy-cats, 'fraid to death they won't be all just alike; as for the old folks, they pray for the advantage o' bein' a little different." It seems to me that the authors represented in Mrs. Becker's collection of New England tales all shared this feeling. They were eager to preserve that New England which will never return, but which impressed itself so indelibly upon the American life and literature of a past century. As in her earlier collection of "Golden Tales of the Old South," Mrs. Becker has culled her material from widely different sources to recreate a period and its people—even its very aspect and climate. Here are sly thrusts of humor; curious customs and manners, and the spicy turns of phrase that one hears so rarely now even in remote villages and lonely places.

These seventeen stories are as varied in style and the characters they portray as the jagged cliffs of the Maine coast are from the Berkshire Hills and the sand dunes of the Cape. Yet when one has read them all there is a sense of relationship between them. Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Thanksgiving at Oldtown" makes admirable company for Dorothy Canfield's "Old Man Warner," and Louisa M. Alcott's "Transcendental Wildoats."

In a group of this sort one is always tempted to wonder why the editor did not choose such and such a story instead of the one included. Here, the choice, if not always the most representative of the author, has always been on a high artistic level and the tales have not suffered, as is so often the case, by removal from their background. It was good to come upon such old favorites as Sarah Orne Jewett's "The Guest of Mrs. Timms"; Thoreau's "Wellfleet Oysterman"; Hawthorne's "Old Esther Dudley," and Rose Terry Cooke's "Town Mouse and Country Mouse," and to find that they had not grown creaking or out-dated in the fifteen or more years since we had first read them. Others, to be sure, stood the test successfully, but for the purpose of the volume that matters less than that the spirit of a period should be there. Mrs. Becker's own brief comments on the different authors and their contributions are shrewd and informal,—not the least important part of a well-planned and representative collection.

Tubes of Sunlight

COVERED BRIDGES IN AMERICA. By ROSALIE WELLS. New York: William Edward Rudge. 1931. \$10.

Reviewed by FRANKLIN ABBOTT

MOST collectors, whether of books on heraldry, or cigar store Indians (Muirhead Bone belongs to the latter group) are secure in their confidence that once found, the item can be carried home in a parcel—if a book—or if it be a wooden Indian, can be lashed to the running-board of the car; and a triumphant and immediate return from the chase is guaranteed.

Miss Rosalie Wells can have no such comfortable assurance, her quarry being covered bridges, and her search takes her far—through some twenty-five states, to be exact.

Her book is a well-edited compilation of photographs with sufficient comment on each to satisfy normal curiosity on the part of the purchaser. It is unfortunate, however, that the photographs are not more uniform in quality—ranging as they do from really worth-while work to some rather mediocre negatives.

It would be interesting to be able to say that the bridges chosen for illustration are sufficiently architectural in design and feeling to enable an amateur on architecture, for instance, to intelligently

speculate as to the state—North or South, East or West—in which any one example originates, without referring to the title. This, however, is not the case. For instance, the photograph of the Buffalo Forge Bridge, in Virginia could without remark be substituted for that of the bridge over the Connecticut River near Columbia, New Hampshire, while the very beautiful and well photographed example which spans the Boquet River in Essex County, New York, could likewise be confused with the bridge over the St. Joseph River, Michigan.

Had the compiler-author seen fit to include one or two examples of continental bridges—(there are some inspiring examples in Switzerland)—an interesting comparison might have been suggested. It is comforting, however, to lovers of the picturesque to know that there are still extant in this country so many examples of what one enthusiastic "collector" aptly termed "speckled tubes of sunlight."

Chicago the Great

CHICAGO: A PORTRAIT. By HENRY JUSTIN SMITH. New York: The Century Company. 1931. \$5.

Reviewed by REBECCA LOWRIE

CHICAGO in 1931 sits for its portrait, a modern portrait. Now and then Mr. Smith pulls a daguerreotype out of his reticule to make the contrast between the old town and the new city more emphatic. For an immigrant to Chicago, as is this reviewer, the daguerreotype holds as much interest as does the Protean profile of the present-day city.

One hears, on coming to Chicago, of a locality called Streeterville, but one hears also of the "Gold Coast," "The Loop," "The Yards," of "Towertown," and innumerable other sections. Streeterville, however, remained a spot, bounded by unfamiliar streets, until Mr. Smith gave it a personality—and such a personality!—in his chapter on George Wellington Street-er, one time the Barnum of the Michigan woods; one time captain of a lake steamer, and perpetual and litigious squatter on one of the Lake Front's most valuable sites.

Chiefly, however, Mr. Smith's book is a study, as current as a news-reel, of this Middle Western metropolis which changes with amazing rapidity before one's bewildered eyes. "Let there be land" say the City Fathers, and there is land, and since Chicago has no mountains from which earth and powdered earth can come, its waterside plain is the product simply of men and machines. Underneath the astonishing loveliness of Grant Park "have been hurled immense quantities of earth brought up in excavating for new buildings, and tons upon tons of the grim mixture of old iron, rusty springs, mud, broken furniture, tin cans, boxes, more mud, mattresses . . . the great city, as rapid in decomposition as it is in creation has simply discharged its waste matter into its front yard," . . . and towers bloom thereon.

Reading Mr. Smith's book is a little like being shown the town by an old and appreciative resident who cherishes the past but lives in the present and in the future. He knows what has happened in the old brown-stone houses; he is not above anecdote; he looks lovingly back at the restrained skyscrapers of the 1900's and out of his window at the clean, lean lines of the contemporary *Tribune* Tower, the Palmolive building, or "333."

Of Chicago's civic blemish—crime—Mr. Smith says little, though he does not refuse to recognize it. "That blemish," he says, "magnified and widely discussed by critics, is like a cyst on a face; a growth which the owner, when sitting for his picture, is too honest to hide. But when all the lineaments are seen that spot becomes relatively trivial." So when one studies this portrait one is struck by Mr. Smith's belief in his city.

E. H. Suydam has given the book illustrations of imagination, truth, and beauty.

For Christmas!

EVELYN
SCOTT'S

masterpiece

A
Calendar
of Sin

2 Vols., \$5.00

Could more be said in praise of a novel?

MARK VAN DOREN (*N. Y. Herald Tribune*): "The experience of reading *A Calendar of Sin* is one of the fullest experiences which modern American fiction so far can give."

N. Y. SUN: "Her style, always distinguished, is here at its highest development."

GRANVILLE HICKS: (*New Republic*): "One of the few recent books of which we have reason to be proud."

N. Y. TIMES: "It brings us a new and fruitful concept of the historical novel."

THE NATION: "Evelyn Scott emerges as perhaps our most important woman novelist. A great subject . . . the failure of American love . . . no one else has had the courage or knowledge to attempt in fiction. It must be read."

JONATHAN CAPE & HARRISON SMITH

Come With Me to India!

by Patricia Kendall

The whole story of India. A complete, understanding, colorful, and authoritative picture of Indian life and history from the splendid past of the Moguls to the turbulent present of Gandhi.

\$3.50

Discretions

by Frances, Countess of Warwick

Intimate glimpses of famous personages and great events of the last fifty years by the confidante of Edward VII who "has known everyone who was anyone."

\$3.00

Decatur

by Irvin Anthony

A lusty, sea-swept biography of the romantic figure who drove the Barbary corsairs from the seas and conquered the pride of the British navy.

\$3.50

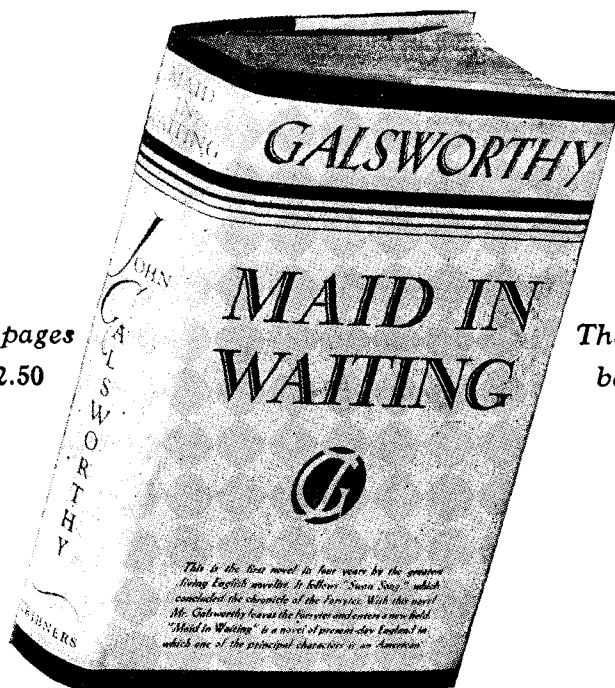


Good Books for Christmas

"Makes ordinary fiction seem thin and tepid."

—Howard V. O'Brien in the Chicago News

362 pages
\$2.50



The national
best seller

"Galsworthy at his inimitable best."

—Sidney Williams, in the Philadelphia Inquirer

Big-Enough

by Will James

author of "Lone Cowboy," etc.

The entirely engrossing yarn of a cowboy and cowhorse born on the same day, who grew up until they "was big enough for most anything." "A splendid novel . . . his best since 'Smoky.'"

Philadelphia Ledger.

With 70 drawings by the author \$2.50

An ideal gift book for all ages

The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come

Illustrated in color by

N. C. Wyeth

The stirring scenes of John Fox, Jr.'s famous story of the Kentucky mountains in Civil War days are brilliantly depicted in Mr. Wyeth's numerous paintings.

\$3.50

America Hispana

by Waldo Frank

author of "The Re-discovery of America"



"Tells the reader more of the depths of Spanish America than a dozen guide books. Mr. Frank is at his best in his warm, passionate pictures of the sub-equatorial world."

—New York Herald Tribune. \$3.50

My United States

by Frederic J. Stimson

author of "The Western Way"

A glowing pen-picture of great men and events from pre-Civil War days to the present, including a thrilling account of war time intrigue in Argentina.

\$3.50



La Salle

by Leo V. Jacks

The dramatic story of a "man of destiny" whose explorations compose one of the most thrilling stories in American history.

\$3.00



New Sporting Books

The Melton Mowbray of John Ferneley (1782-1860)

by Major Guy Paget, D. L.

The story of a greatly admired British sporting artist and the gallant doings of the sporting fraternity that gathered around Melton Mowbray.

With more than 100 illustrations in color and half-tone \$10.00

The Bobwhite Quail Its Habits, Preservation and Increase

by Herbert L. Stoddard

"Unquestionably the most exhaustive work on quail ever published. The book is prepared in a manner that should make it highly interesting to bird lovers, as well as of maximum value to sportsmen."

—The American Field.

With 4 color-plates by E. R. Kalmbach and 64 half-tone illustrations from photographs, etc. \$6.00

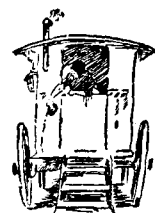
For Younger Readers

Mrs. Tickler's Caravan

written and illustrated by Cecil Aldin

The hilarious tale of a magic handkerchief. Both narrative and illustrations—lots of them—are a pure joy.

\$2.00



at all bookstores

The Temple of the Warriors

by Earl H. Morris

The adventure of exploring and restoring a masterpiece of native American architecture in the ruined Maya City of Chichen Itza, Yucatan. "For all who enjoy treasure trove here is meat and drink."

—HARRY HANSEN.

Profusely illustrated from photographs \$5.00



Enterprise

The Story of the Defense of the America's Cup in 1930

by Harold S. Vanderbilt

"No yachstman's library will be complete without this book . . . an invaluable chapter in the book of America's Cup history. Lavishly illustrated with fine photographs."

—New York Herald Tribune.

\$7.50

Gardens of Colony and State

Compiled and edited by ALICE G. B. LOCKWOOD, Chairman, Special Publications Committee, The Garden Club of America

This comprehensive survey of old gardens, still extant or vanished, is sponsored by the Garden Club of America, and contains the product of years of research and investigation. Its appeal is immediate to every reader who is interested in American gardens for their own sake or for their history and tradition. Lavishly illustrated with reproductions of old drawings, maps, and plans, and with photographs.

\$25.00

Oriental Rugs and Carpets

by Arthur Urbane Dilley

"One of the most comprehensive surveys of a fascinating subject. His style is as colorful as the magnificent array of rugs which illustrate his valuable work."—Boston Transcript.

With 16 full-page illustrations in color and 64 pages of half-tone illustrations, listing over two hundred specimens. \$15.00

History of Palestine and Syria

by A. T. Olmstead

author of "History of Assyria," etc.

An exhaustive, scholarly, and—for the general reader—continuously interesting account of life in the Biblical lands from the dawn of time to the Macedonian conquest.

Profusely illustrated. \$7.50

at all bookstores

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, - NEW YORK

For Younger Readers

The Story of Siegfried

by James Baldwin

Illustrated in color by PETER HURD

A new and lavishly illustrated edition of a famous hero-tale. Scribner \$2.50 Series of Illustrated Classics for Younger Readers. \$2.50

The Wolf's-head and the Queen

by John-Martin

Illustrated in color and line by NELSON GROFE

An adventurous tale of the days when knights were bold by an author known to thousands of younger readers. \$2.50

The Boy Scouts' Book of Good Turn Stories

Compiled by

Franklin K. Mathiews, Chief Scout Librarian

Fourteen stories by famous authors of heroism and sacrifice. "The stories are all excellent and will appeal to older boys regardless of their scout affiliations."

—Chicago Tribune. \$2.50

Sun Up

Stories of the Cow Camps

by Will James

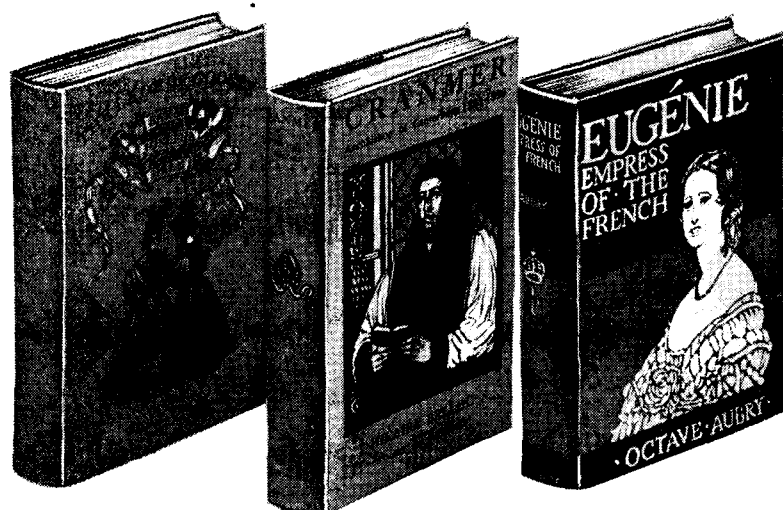
Seventeen rollicking yarns of cowboys at work and play, illustrated by some of Will James's most lively drawings. \$2.50



at all bookstores

LIPPINCOTT'S

Christmas Books



CRANMER:

Archbishop of Canterbury, 1533-1556

By Hilaire Belloc

He bore the death by fire after seven recantations had availed him nothing. Dupe, flatterer, and literary genius—his hand wrote the Book of Common Prayer, and wrought the cleavage of England from United Christendom. By the author of "Wolsey" and "Richelieu." 16 illustrations. \$5.00

EUGÉNIE:

Empress of the French

By Octave Aubry

She enchanted the stolid Tuileries and outwitted politicians—only at the last to suffer exile, the loss of her son, and to watch the extinction of the Bonaparte dynasty. A definitive biography based on private correspondence. 16 illustrations. \$3.50

THE LADY OF GODEY'S:

Sarah Josepha Hale

By Ruth E. Finley

She teased and argued a Victorian America into bringing about numberless reforms for women. As our first "Lady Editor" she mirrored an age of strange prejudices and resolute emancipations. With 9 reproductions in color and 24 in black and white from old prints. \$3.50



THE FRENCH BOY

By Paul Vaillant-Couturier
Translated by Ida Trent

Not quite a novel and not quite memoirs—but the author's own story of what it meant to him to be born in France. 18 illustrations by the author. \$2.50

THE LADY OF BEAUTY:

Agnes Sorel

By Jehanne d'Orléans

Translated by Maida C. Darnton
First to be called the favorite of a king—with a kiss she completed the work of Jeanne d'Arc. One of the great love stories of history. 18 illustrations. \$3.00

BACK TO MONTPARNASSE

By Sisley Huddleston

Cosmopolitan celebrities and literati of the Broadway of Paris. Anecdotes, legends and gossip of brilliant personages. Profusely illustrated. \$3.50

CHARLESTON: Historic and Romantic

By Harriette K. Leiding

Colonial and Civil War days pass in stirring review as a lovely city retains her indolence and pride. 80 illustrations. \$3.50

MEXICAN MAZE

By Carlton Beals

Glowing leaves from a notebook of fifteen years of war and peace in Mexico, land of heat and sun, revolution and oil. 75 illustrations by Diego Rivera. \$3.00

THE DEB'S DICTIONARY

By Oliver Herford

Herford defines *Ambidextrous* as "Not letting your right hand know who is holding your left hand." A giddy alphabet of absurdities with 75 of Herford's inimitable drawings. \$1.50

Washington Sq. LIPPINCOTT Philadelphia

An Adventure in home-building!

An Early American Home

and the fun we had building it

By CLAUDE H. MILLER



How a typical New England home of 200 years ago was recreated in New Jersey—together with humorous comments on good and bad taste in furniture.

"Amusing as well as practical: it is crammed with information for those who want to build an 'old' house." *Phila. Public Ledger.*

60 illustrations

\$3.50

from CROWELL'S List of Good Books

THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, NEW YORK

The New Books

The books listed by title only in the classified list below are noted here as received.

Art

UNDERSTANDING MODERN ART. By MORRIS DAVIDSON. Coward-McCann. 1931. \$4 net.

If modern art be still misunderstood, it is not for lack of interpreters. The latest is Mr. Davidson. His approach is historical. Wishing to show the continuity of esthetic evolution, he devotes nearly three quarters of his text to painting before Cézanne. The point of view is that of a tempered radicalism, and many of the individual estimates are perceptive. But the work has been undertaken much too light-heartedly and with superficial study. It is news to learn that Giotto's "Death of St. Francis," certainly painted after Giotto's fiftieth year, was "painted long before the full attainment of his powers." Again Manet's mistress-model who posed for Olympia would be amazed to find herself described as "a well-known sophisticated society woman." It is also surprising to learn that Renoir restored the female nude to honor as a Salon subject, and also that "none of the inflated nudes of Rubens is as convincingly real as are Renoir's."

On the main issue, not much more than sequence is shown. Precisely the point is whether Modernism is continuous with the art of the museums or new and emergent. It would be hard to find an answer in Mr. Davidson's text. It is difficult also to reconcile his final eulogy of the Modernist School with his quite gingerly attitude towards many of its most conspicuous practitioners. However, he may be praising the expressionist esthetic as such, with his reservations for its concrete productions.

In general the book is pretty light weight, but worth reading for occasional felicities of interpretation. There is little grasp of the great theme as a whole.

Belles Lettres

DON'T OPEN UNTIL CHRISTMAS. By CHRISTOPHER MORLEY. Doubleday, Doran. 1931. \$1.

This little story or essay, call it whatever you please, which has appeared in a collected volume under the title "Slow Gin," is the penetrating and charming study of the results of Santa Claus's Christmas gin, which made the world's characteristic motions run slowly as in a retarded movie. It was very beautiful and rather terrible, and Santa Claus failed entirely in attempting to explain to his wife why the best Christmas present was not to think at all.

Biography

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. By M. R. WERNER. Cape & Smith. 1931. \$2.50.

The story which the American Mr. Werner tells in this little book is the "autobiography" of a young Russian emigré pianist, Victor Seroff, whom, apparently, the former met during a recent visit in Paris.

Seroff was born in 1902 in Batoum, on the Black Sea, and his youth, until the Revolution, was spent in that Asiatic edge of Russia. He lived through the nightmare days of the early part of the Revolution in Batoum, then, for a time, in the macabre chaos of Constantinople when it was packed with Russian refugees of every variety, milling about like cattle aimlessly herded by Allied authorities of one sort or another. After that, came Vienna, and a Bohemian existence in Paris with emigrés of his own nationality, expatriate Americans, and the human flotsam of Montparnasse. The story closes with a glimpse of the young musician watching the smoke pour from the chimney of the crematorium in which the pitiful and once beautiful body of his acquaintance, Isadora Duncan, is being consumed.

For the author of "Barnum" and "Brigham Young," the "autobiography" is, naturally, a *tour de force*, which he accomplishes with simplicity and an interesting air of verisimilitude. As for Mr. Seroff, he gives us a worm's eye view, so to say, of life in one of the most outlandish fringes of a Europe and a period which were more or less mad. We say "worm's eye," for, after all, there were other sorts of people and other sorts of life, even in

Constantinople, in 1920, just as there are "normal" people in Paris. How important this record, which stops in the subject's twenties, while he still seems to be struggling to find footing, may be, is a matter of opinion. It does, at any rate, give vividly and with seeming accuracy, what fate brought to at least one youngster, pitchforked, while still a schoolboy, into a crazy and crumbling world.

Fiction

THE LOVING SPIRIT. By DAPHNE DU MAURIER. Doubleday, Doran. 1931. \$2.50.

It is very easy to tell half-truths about this first novel by the grand-daughter of the author of "Trilby" and "Peter Ibbetson," but very difficult to come upon the whole truth. The book is in the romantic tradition, with psychic affinities that endure through generations, with previsions of the future and strange peerings into the past; but it is, too, a modern novel in its realistic presentation of its material, in its objective attitude toward its own subjectivism, and in its psychological analysis. The story is told with all the detail of the nineteenth century manner, and yet it catches something of the swiftness of the more recent narrative style. It is a book that is interesting in itself and intriguing in its potentialities as a first novel.

Janet Coombe is the first to possess the loving spirit. She is made for the sea, for adventure, for the life of a man. Yet she must stay on shore and bear six children. The urgent, frustrated life of this sex-bound, land-bound woman makes up the first and most successful part of the book. Her spirit is shared by only one of her children, a son, but in him it turns inward to bitterness narrowing ultimately into insanity. In the next generation Christopher bears the banner but only feebly, a misfit urged always towards a life to which he is unequal. In his daughter, Jennifer, the loving spirit comes into free bloom again. Time has moved on, and the limitations which held Janet enthralled are breaking down. Perhaps the spirit will need no more to be subterranean and sinister.

Ships and the sea and the little ship-building village on the Cornish coast play a part in the story equal to that of the characters. Miss du Maurier wrote her book in a Cornwall seaport, and there are, through its pages, the tang of salt air, the movements of ships on the sea, and the threat or beneficence of storms and seasons.

Travel

PORTUGAL FOR TWO. By LAWTON MACKALL. Dodd, Mead. 1931. \$3.50.

The only trouble with this book is that it is too clever. The account of Portugal is singularly fresh, and in spite of the lightness of style is crowded with information and very good description. It is a study of Portugal by a traveller who took pains to know a good deal sympathetically about his Portuguese before he visited them, and no one of civilized taste is likely to read his book without wanting to follow quickly the two who went. There is a bibliography, and about 100 pictures, some of them excellent—with just a few too many wisecracks.

Brief Mention

This Was England, by Alan Bott (Doubleday, Doran: \$3.50), is an unusually delightful collection of pictures, drawn from illustrated magazines through the Victorian period, with a ribbon of historical text run through the pictures. Of all the books of history recollected through pictures that have been published in the last year or two, this seems to be the most interesting. Richard Hughes, author of that very original book, *The Innocent Voyage*, also called *High Wind in Jamaica*, has brought together in an *Omnibus* (Harper: \$3) sixteen stories, thirty-one poems, and three plays, including all his important work outside of the above-mentioned novel. Havelock Ellis writes an introduction for the *Life in Nature* of James Hinton (Dial: \$3), nineteenth century author

(Continued on page 379)