

SHORT CUTS

Our Times. Volume I: The Turn of the Century. By Mark Sullivan. Charles Scribner's Sons.

Persons who had not yet begun to look about them by 1905 will find the materials of this work quaint or outlandish. Persons who stopped looking at about that time will weep that the days of 1900-04 are gone, alas! But persons who in 1900 were anywhere from ten to forty, say, and who nevertheless still notice that life has a way of going on without too much loss, will be pleased with every page that Mr. Sullivan has written. This volume is the first of four intended "to follow an average American through this quarter-century of his country's history, to recreate the flow of the days as he saw them, to picture events in terms of their influence on him, his daily life and ultimate destiny." Mr. Sullivan has gone to contemporary newspapers for his sources and has packed his pudding with delicious plums: news, gossip, pictures. There is also a good deal of enlightened analysis.

The Fugger News-Letters. Second Series. Edited by Victor von Klarwill. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Newspapers did not exist in 1568-1605, but the great Augsburg merchants, the Fuggers, received from their correspondents everywhere in Europe frequent reports on the events and rumors of the time. The present selection, confined to news-letters dealing with English affairs, gives tempting peeps behind many curtains.

The Art in Painting. By Albert C. Barnes. Harcourt, Brace & Co.

It is difficult to imagine a more informed, downright, and expert treatise than is here offered by an American business man, who is also a great collector. The book's most striking quality is the vigor with which it brushes aside irrel-

evance and sentimentality and goes straight to the point.

Rough Justice. By C. E. Montague. Doubleday, Page & Co.

An overrated, over-British novel, in which the dull characters turn out to be true heroes, after all. The style would be more valuable if it were more economical.

Catullus. Translated by F. A. Wright. E. P. Dutton & Co.

All of the poems are here rendered into English verse, along with part of the wit, a little of the grace, and almost none of the intensity, of the original.

1825-1925: A Century of Stupendous Progress. By Joseph McCabe. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Statistical evidence sensibly brought together to prove that we are not so badly off, compared with our great-grandfathers, as Dean Inge and Bertrand Russell would have us think. Science is properly given the credit.

Nize Baby. By Milt Gross. George H. Doran Company.

The author, with his ear to the dumb-waiter, reports the domestic conversation of a Jewish apartment-house. The dialect is excruciating.

The Savoy Operas. By W. S. Gilbert. Macmillan Company.

Printed, like the most independent classics, on thin paper, in clear type, and without notes, these thirteen librettos exhibit the English language at its lightest and brightest. It is one of the lamentable injustices of nature that Sullivan's music cannot be heard as easily as Gilbert's words can be read.

Mape: The World of Illusion. By André Maurois. D. Appleton & Co.

Thinner sap from the tree that gave us "Ariel."