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Famous Trials of History, by Rt. Honourable, The Earl of Birkenhead

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Famous Trials of History. By The Rt. Honourable, The Earl of Birkenhead. New York, George H. Doran Co., 1926. Pp. 319. Price \$4.00.

This book contains an untechnical account of twenty-three trials or series of trials, famous in English history or interesting because of the author's first-hand account of his participation in them. The first trial described is that of Mary Queen of Scots. The last is the account of four years of litigation ending in 1906, in the Ogden's Guinea Gold Cases, in which the author was engaged, resulting from a trade war between English and American cigarette companies. Other interesting trials include those of Captain Kidd, of Warren Hastings, and of Deacon Brodie. One chapter deals with the plot to murder Mr. Lloyd George, another with the Marconi scandal, and another with one phase of the famous Crippen murder case. Geographically, the settings include many scenes at sea, and in London, Jamaica, Southern Rhodesia, Liverpool and Canada. The author's style is clear and direct; like that of a personal narrative. A lawyer reading the book will find himself wishing often for further information in regard to technical details and points of law, but the author's preface shows his object is amusement and entertainment. How well he succeeds is indicated by the difficulty with which one lays down the book before finishing the reading of all of it.

JAMES J. ROBINSON.