Notable Trials Series.

The Trial of the Seddons. (1912.) Ecated by FILSON YOUNG. Dedicated to Sir EDWARD MARSHALL HALL, K.C.

The trial of Mr. and Mrs. Seddon in 1912 for the murder of Miss Barrow, their wealthy lodger, forms an important commentary on the value and effect of purely eircumstantial evidence. The wife was acquitted; the husband was found guilty, and was duly executed. The victim died from the effects of arsenic, but possession of that poison was not brought home to the prisoners, nor was there any evidence of administration. Seddon was probably convicted as the result of his appearance in the witness box, and the case is an instructive illustration of the working of the Criminal Evidence Act. The full text of the trial is given, including the speeches of the Attorney-General (Sir Rufus Isaacs) for the Prosecution and of Mr. Marshall Hall for the Defence, and in the introduction the main features of the case are focussed in a way which shows that criminology, handled by a man of letters, can be made interesting to a far larger public than the legal fraternity affords.

The Trial of Sir Roger Casement. (1916.) Edited by George H. KNOTT, Barrister-at-Law. Dedicated to the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE and the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE DARLING.

Though the trial of Casement for High Treason in the High Court of Justice in 1916 was but one of the minor sensations of the Great War, yet its intrinsic interest and historical importance well warrant this authentic report of the proceedings. Casement, having held divers high appointments under the British Crown, having been knighted for his services and having retired on a pension, upon the outbreak of hostilities proceeded to Germany where he was actively employed in inciting the Irish prisoners of war to join the German arms against England. The frustration of his attempt to run men, arms, and ammuition with a view to raising a rebellion in Ireland reads more like some tale of strange adventure than sober history. A full report of the trial is here given, as well as of the no less important proceedings in the Court of Criminal Appeal, together with many documents and photographs illustrative of the case.

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