

even greater martyrs than they do now ; as it is, the lightness of the sentences will have the tendency to make any expressions of sympathy seem ridiculous. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the leaders of the expedition are men with whom imprisonment of any kind, however short, will likely be considered a very heavy punishment, indeed. The sentences, therefore, will act as deterrents to others who in future may be placed in similar positions of responsibility. Thus, not only has the law been vindicated and a salutary lesson taught, but those who were inclined to sympathize with the raiders find that they have little ground of complaint left.

Had a similar case been impending in any other country than England, we are inclined to think that an effort would have been made to whitewash the prisoners, which would doubtlessly have proved successful. Their previous characters and past services to the Empire

would have been brought up, and their many exploits for country arrayed against their one misdemeanor ; their honor, bravery and reputation would have been heralded by judge and jury alike ; their crime would have been translated into a national achievement, and the courts would probably have concluded that they were persecuted heroes, whose acts should be applauded, rather than culprits guilty of serious transgressions. The scales of justice would have been re-adjusted to momentary national feeling, and the honor of the State outraged by the acquittal of prisoners with such complete evidence against them. But the outcome of the case in England shows that rampant public opinion, the mutability of which is so certain, must bow to the law of the land ; that the courts of justice are supreme and even-handed, and that political offenders have no more hope of clemency than any others.

## BOOK NOTICES.

*Comedies of Courtship.* By Anthony Hope. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

This always fruitful theme for realist and romanticist receives distinctively original treatment at the hands of Mr. Hope. The young people are not imported from unknown worlds, and are instinct with the traditions and refinements of one's everyday acquaintance, but the situations into which he precipitates them would not be described as of usual occurrence. As a comedy, however, is seldom taken seriously, the most that can be expected of us will be to join hands with Mr. Hope and swing into the circle of his mirth-provoking measures. The scenes of these courtships are largely laid in England, and Mr. Hope avails himself of the adventitious aids to be derived from the habits of the soil—tennis and tea and dog-carts and haunted houses and, in an instance of extreme necessity, he employs the liter-

ally up-setting agency of a Canadian canoe.

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*Joan of Arc.* By Francis C. Lowell. Boston, New York and Chicago: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Careful reading of this book affords a clearer conception of the life, work and personality of Joan of Arc than we have yet received from any other source. The strongly picturesque features which attended this heroine of modern history, her sex, youth, beauty and the simplicity of the peasant caste from which she sprang, occasioned a growth of legends through which students were unable to penetrate in order to discover the real woman behind the myth. Mr. Lowell has made an exhaustive study of his subject, and presents the result clothed with every literary and historic excellence. The narrative is lucid and convincing, and its continuity is preserved