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### Trail Blazers

This is a vivid story of the progress of science through five centuries told by a chronological series of a dozen biographies. The author writes with evident freedom of expression. His description of Calvin's part in the death of Servetus is a vivid picture but one which is not likely to be quoted by present day speakers on the harmonies of science and religion. Many of Gumpert's trail blazers are given more credit than that usually accorded to them in writings on the history of science. Servetus is pronounced the discoverer of the pulmonary circulation, Wolff appears as a pioneer for the doctrine of evolution, Meyer is credited with the original conception of the law of the conservation of energy, and Pettenkofer is pronounced the originator of the periodic system. Every chapter in this book is stimulating. The great volume of our American and English scientific literature serves as a barrier to the translation of many works from foreign languages. It is fortunate that this volume has passed that barrier.—*R. A. Hefner.*

**Trail Blazers of Science**, by Martin Gumpert. (Translated from the German by Edwin Shuman.) 300 pp. Funk and Wagnalls. \$2.50.