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and they are sending patients by the score to Dartmoor. In spite of its heavy rainfall, the moor is never damp. The soil being sand and peat, the water runs off at once, and as the rain nearly always comes heavily when it does fall, and not in miserable mists and drizzles, as in the East of England, the moor rejoices in plenty of sunshine. From April to September almost every farm, house, and cottage in Lydford Parish is full of visitors, and rooms are frequently booked from one year for the next.



### Literary Notes.

A MOST interesting presentation was made recently to the University Library, Cambridge, by the Master of St. John's College. It is a collection of 103 block-books, being the sacred canon of the Thibetan Buddhist Scriptures. It is sincerely to be hoped that a transcript of these books will at no distant date be given to the public. There should be much in them of immense interest. These books are somewhat large, measuring one way about 2 feet, by some  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Each volume, if one may give them such a name, contains something like 300 leaves. It is very interesting to note that each of these leaves is printed on both sides and held together with bands of string made from yak's wool. Dr. Rouse brought this valuable collection from Pekin, where it had been taken from Thibet on yaks and mules.



We have just had published a volume dealing with "Ancient Britain and the Invasion of Julius Cæsar," by Mr. Rice Holmes. A volume devoted to this particular period, while much of the book must necessarily be based to a considerable extent upon discreet and careful historical deductions, is bound to have a large proportion of intrinsic value. The study of Julius Cæsar has been ousted somewhat of late by the tremendous number of works dealing with another great, but modern general—Napoleon—which reminds me of an amusing story which I read somewhere the other day. It was to this effect: A person was very much interested in Napoleon, and wrote to his bookseller, asking him to forward all recent books dealing with the Emperor. In the course of a little while there arrived at his house a cart-load of volumes devoted to various sides of Napoleon's life. By the last post there came an invoice, many pages in length, and a polite note, saying that the books which had just been delivered represented but a portion of the consignment; there were more to follow! The Napoleonic student at once countermanded the order. Of course, this was a little piece of satire. But the fact remains that almost every month there appears a book devoted to some portion of Napoleon's career. Only the other day there was published

quite a lengthy study by Dr. Lenz. One of the most popular biographies, however, is that of the late Judge O'Connor Morris in the "Heroes of the Nation" series. In this series there is also issued quite an excellent little biography of "Julius Cæsar," by Mr. Ward Fowler, in which one gets, it seems to me, all the information—at least, as much as the general reader requires—relative to Cæsar's invasions of Great Britain. But no doubt Mr. Rice Holmes's volume, which is admirably arranged and thought out, will more particularly appeal to the student.



I suppose, as long as literature lives, so long will "Lorna Doone" live. Personally, I think it is one of the best books, if not the best, we have, belonging to the Victorian age. There may be those who differ, but surely it can only be a matter of temperament which would cause the difference. I doubt if there is a volume of fiction more gracefully written, possessing so much force of character, with a more healthy tone, fresher, cleaner, or more charming than Mr. Blackmore's "Lorna Doone." Yet Mr. Blackmore had nothing of the genius about him. As I look at his portrait now, if I did not know him to have been a novelist of supreme merit—at least in one book—I should think him a farmer. And practically that was his vocation. Down at Twickenham in Surrey he had a fruit-farm, and I believe found that it paid much better to grow strawberries than to write books. As some one said, and rightly so, the other day: "'Lorna Doone' is in a fair way to become a classic." Messrs. Sampson, Low and Co. have issued a new annotated and illustrated edition, which has been prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Snowden Ward.



Professor Richard G. Moulton's arrangement of the Bible, known as "The Modern Reader's Bible," which has been before the public in a series of separate books for a number of years, has just been issued in a single volume. This new edition contains all the material to be found in the separate volumes, and, indeed, the notes and introductions have in some cases been enlarged. In the earlier issue Professor Moulton's work has been found acceptable in this country to many readers, who have been attracted by the arrangement of all the books of the Old and New Testament according to the literary forms which they represent.



Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace's new book is entitled "Is Mars Inhabitable?" It is a critical examination really of Professor Percival Lowell's greatly-talked-of book, "Mars and its Canals." The author's views are in conflict with those of Professor Lowell, who is, of course, the well-known American astronomer, and there is an additional point of interest in the alternative explanation of the phenomena of the famous "canals."



There has been published a new and cheaper edition of that delightful book of Professor Mahaffy's, "Rambles and Studies in Greece." In its present handier form the volume should prove welcome to the increasing number of those who find their way to Greece year by year. I often wonder why those two charming little volumes by the late Professor

Freeman on "Sketches in Greece and Italy" are not reprinted. But perhaps there is not sufficient demand to warrant a new edition. However delightful and graceful a book may be, the publisher has to ask himself the question when a reprint is mooted, "Will it pay?" If the work is pure literature, often he has to regretfully come to the conclusion that "It won't." And so, for a time, there is an end of the matter.



An interesting addition has been made to that ever-living series, "The Globe Library," in Mr. William T. Arnold's edition of "The Poetical Works of John Keats," which has long held a high position for its scholarly qualities, and which now finds a fitting place in a series whose first claim is for purity of text. This edition does not contain every poem written, or even every poem published, by Keats, but all that appeared in the three volumes issued in the poet's lifetime are here reprinted. It may be added that in the arrangement of the poems the order of Keats has been religiously maintained.



The editor's Introduction to the two volumes of Lord Acton's "Essays," to be published respectively under the titles "The History of Freedom, and other Essays," and "Historical Essays and Studies," is of great interest in connexion with the light it throws on the life of the great historian. Some of Lord Acton's most striking characteristics are forcibly brought out in many passages in this Introduction. Here is a quotation: "The second tendency against which Acton's moral sense revolted had risen out of the laudable determination of historians to be sympathetic towards men of distant ages and of alien modes of thought. . . . He demanded a code of moral judgment independent of place and time, and not merely relative to a particular civilization. He also demanded that it should be independent of religion. . . ."



One of the earliest publications this year will be an important work on "Modern Egypt," by the Earl of Cromer. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the importance of this announcement, for it will without a doubt excite the liveliest interest in every part of the British Empire, as well as in foreign countries which have carefully watched the development of the country, especially under the administration of Lord Cromer, who wrenched the country out of a seething mass of anarchy and brought it to a condition of law and order. Lord Cromer says that he has two definite objects in preparing this book. In the first place, he wishes to put on record an accurate narrative of some of the principal events which have occurred in Egypt and the Soudan since 1876. Secondly, he desires to explain the results which have accrued to Egypt from the British occupation of the country in 1882. It is a noticeable fact that when a great servant of the Crown finishes his work officially he sits down and writes a book.



Professor James S. Riggs, of America, has written a volume on "The Messages of Jesus according to John." From the same country comes "Roman Catholic and Protestant Bibles Compared," edited by M. W.

Jacobus. This volume also contains the essays that secured the prizes offered by Miss Helen Gould for the best statement of the difference between the two versions.



“Nunburnholme: its History and Antiquities,” by the Rev. M. C. F. Morris, is a new work which Mr. Frowde publishes. The author, who is Rector of Nunburnholme, explains that a somewhat close intercourse with East Yorkshire folk, extending now over many years, has led him forcibly to the conclusion that from a historical point of view local traditions are by no means to be despised. The volume is illustrated.



## Notices of Books.

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THE REPROACH OF THE GOSPEL. Being the Bampton Lectures for 1907. By the Rev. J. H. F. Peile, M.A. London: *Longmans*. Price 5s. 6d. net.

This is, undoubtedly, a book to reckon with. There is no slightest parade of scholarship throughout its pages; yet they bear evidence of scholarly thought. There is no attempt to startle the reader; yet the book is profoundly startling. There is no new device suggested whereby men, unaided, may—whether by scientific theory or social panacea—work out their own salvation; yet the cure for the sorrow of the world is not obscurely hinted at—nay, it is held before our eyes as the one and only solace, the one and only remedy. And what is that cure? Belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. The careless unbeliever, reading the title of the book, and hoping for some “new light” on the burning questions of the day, will, it may be, turn away in disgust or despair. The thoughtful and reverent among those who are not Christians will view the book otherwise; they may yet learn, after thinking over the great lesson of its pages, to echo the words of the lecturer when (on p. 193) he thus writes: “I believe the miracle which can alone deliver us from the inexorable tyranny of economic laws is the influence of Christ upon human character.” It is no new Gospel which Mr. Peile preaches (God be thanked!), but an old one, even that which we have heard from the beginning—the power and love of God, manifested in and through the Person of Jesus Christ. The book professes to be an inquiry into the apparent failure of Christianity as a general rule of life and conduct, especially in reference to our own days. We hope it will be read by every one to whom the ethical and religious outlook of our times appears discouraging, preposterous, sad. If a hurried reader—and who is not hurried now?—cannot make up his mind to study the whole book, let him at least peruse, and dwell patiently upon, the first two lectures; for these contain the best things in the book, as well as strike the keynote of all that is to follow. The book is starred with many pregnant words. Where there is so much that is helpful and admirable it is impossible to select, especially as