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ways, has brought that great "Land of the Rising Sun" to its present transition state. This fact in itself constitutes a clear call to God's people to enter upon and develop still more fully the grand work which lies before them.



To continue the same subject of God's tokens of encouragement given to us at this season, we may refer to an incident mentioned in the *C.M. Gleaner* for December last. It is on a much smaller scale as regards size only, not of importance. In a letter from Canton, South China, Miss A. M. Jones writes: "About two months ago I visited a new village in the Tsang-sheng district, and the whole of the inhabitants are asking for baptism. They have put away their idols and ancestral tablets." This is God's encouragement to us. What is our response? Miss Jones continues: "They require naturally much teaching preparatory to baptism, and, alas! I have not yet been able to send them a Bible woman to instruct the women and children. Other villages are begging for Chinese teachers."



*India's Women*, quoting from the *North India Gleaner*, says: "We have at Mankar (Burdwan, Bengal) a most interesting case of a woman taught through the Word of God. . . . She was a high caste Brahmin's wife in Benares. From the Zenana where she was, some children attended one of the Mission Schools, and used to repeat the hymn and texts they learnt at school when they returned home. She had never heard anything so satisfying, and eventually, without ever having seen either a Mission lady or worker, she left her home and everything it means to a Hindu wife, convinced of the truth as it is in Jesus."



## Literary Notes.

NOW that the holiday season—*i.e.*, the Christmas season—with its rush and turmoil in the book-world, is over, publishers are likely to take stock and count their successes, or losses, during the past year. Having done that, they begin to look forward once again to the prospects for the New Year. There is evidence that 1910 is likely to be better for business generally, and when trade is good books sell, and so the author, the publisher, and the bookseller are all radiant with happy anticipations. The Cambridge Press have already made announcement of one 1910 book. It is a monograph of a man who always proves of interest to the student. This is a life of John Lyly. Professor Feuillerat has given a considerable amount of study to Lyly and his times; in fact, so close has been his contemplation that he has been successful in discovering a number of new facts concerning his life; so we may expect that the volume will be a very interesting one. In addition to the new discoveries, Professor Feuillerat discusses in much

detail the story of the plays, and the reader may expect to find a number of new opinions based upon fresh aspects concerning the "Euphues" and the importance of its portents.



Quite recently Messrs. Methuen and Co. issued Mr. H. N. Asman's "Introduction to the History of Rome." The idea of this volume is to give to pupils learning Latin some knowledge of the history of the great people whose language they are studying. It has been rightly insisted on by educational authorities, that some knowledge of the history of Rome is essential, not only for a proper appreciation of Roman literature, but also as a necessary part of a complete education. This book aims at occupying a place between the primer and the larger works on the subject. It gives a brief survey of the history of Rome to the death of Augustus. It is likely, also, to appeal to the general reader who is anxious to have some knowledge of the subject.



Among Mr. Stock's newest books is to be found "The Seven Nights," by Marian Fox. It is a story narrating the adventures of a young Breton knight on a journey in England during the early years of King Richard's reign, and shows something of the medieval life in town and country under the memorial system. Another book is "Songs of Our Pilgrimage," poems on the Christian Year, by Miss Grace Farthing. Lessons of help and comfort are derived from the Epistles or Gospels appointed for the Sundays throughout the year and on the meaning of the chief festivals. A third book is "The Christ in Holy Communion," by the Rev. T. A. Gurney, a work which deals with the devotional aspect of Holy Communion, and bears upon present-day questions; while another new work is the Rev. J. B. Oldroyd's "The Doctrine of the Atonement, chiefly as set forth in the Epistle to the Hebrews."



There has just been completed a very valuable annotation. It is that great work, Crowe and Cavalcaselles's "History of Italian Painting." There is undoubtedly room for an annotated edition of this important book. It has been carried out by Mr. Edward Hutton with a thoroughness which suggests an energy in the work of preparation that is entitled to the highest praise. The last volume—the third—came out the other day. We understand that the editing of this undertaking actually caused a reference to something like five thousand books, essays, and other literary matter. Indeed, the whole task has been stupendous. Messrs. Dent are the publishers, so we may be sure it has been excellently produced.



A timely work entitled "A Project of Empire," by Dr. J. Shield-Nicholson, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Edinburgh, is to be found in Messrs. Macmillan's new list. The author goes over his ground pretty extensively, and sets before the reader a basis of argument which may be accepted as a broad attitude capable of being adjusted to the various minds of his readers. The author also deals at some length with the Imperial Conference on National Defence. The whole attitude of the learned author is calm and judicious.

The Rev. H. Montague Dale, B.D., Vicar of Christ Church, Summerfield, Birmingham, has written a treatise entitled "Religion: Its Peace and Power." The book will serve as a useful introduction to the study of comparative religion, and is published by Messrs. Allenson.



Mr. Murray is publishing "In the Torrid Sudan," by Mr. Lincoln Tangye. Such a volume as this may be properly expected to devote some space to the more sporting side of the Sudan, and while sport as well as travel is given a due measure of attention, the more serious side of the country, the descriptive side, so to speak, such as geography, history, internal conditions, administration, as well as the future of the Sudan, is very fully and very ably considered. There is a very happy account of a pretty long shooting trip which the author took in a district of the Sudan which is very little frequented.



It is now more than two years since the publication of the first number of *The International: a Review of the World's Progress*, together with the French *Les Documents du Progrès* and the German *Dokumente des Fortschritts*. The main object of the editor—Dr. Rodolphe Broda—was to place the experience of each country at the service of others by means of articles and reports on the social problems of the various nations, written by experts on the spot. Dr. Broda was successful in organizing a staff of over two hundred correspondents in every quarter of the globe, and has been able to publish many important contributions. A further development of this idea is taking place in the foundation of an International Institute for Lectures and Reviews. Its official organs will be: In England, *Progress* (with which is incorporated *The International*); in France, *Les Documents du Progrès*; in Germany, *Dokumente des Fortschritts*. It will issue monographs dealing with the social problems of special importance; it will organize lectures by leading authorities on special questions from many parts of the world; an inquiry bureau for information respecting social reform in foreign countries; and a series of international inquiries on concrete points of social reform. The subscription fee is one guinea, and the English agent is Mr. T. Fisher Unwin.



Lord Ronald Gower, whose reminiscences, it will be remembered, were published many years ago under the title of "My Reminiscences," and who a few years ago issued another volume of memories entitled "Records and Reminiscences," has in hand a volume dealing with the art treasures in that wonderful collection at Stafford House. Such a volume is bound to be intensely interesting—first, because of the subject-matter itself and the many illustrations which no doubt will accompany it; and second, because Lord Ronald Gower writes so attractively.



It is of interest to learn that Mr. Murray has issued a cheap half-crown edition of the Bishop of Birmingham's Bampton Lectures, delivered in

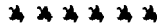
1891, on the subject of "The Incarnation of the Son of God." This volume has had a large sale in the past, and no doubt in its new dress will soon increase its circle of readers.



Mr. Hugh Thomson has just illustrated a volume entitled "Highways and Byways in Middlesex." Mr. Walter Jerrold, who is the author of this volume, says: "There are yet many people who do not allow the fascination of the far to destroy their interest in the near, and others who have not entirely lost the art of walking, who may like to be reminded that they can find much to please them, even within a few miles of their own doors." The talented artist of this book contributes over 120 drawings, and it is needless to say that he adds greatly to its attractiveness. There is also a good map in the volume. This series of "Highways and Byways," which Messrs. Macmillan projected so long ago, is one of the most delightful and most readable collection of books that we know. We can *always* find something in any of the volumes to interest us.



Messrs. Williams and Norgate have brought out one of the finest catalogues that have ever been issued. It is the "Catalogue of the London Library," which has been edited by Mr. Hagberg Wright, who has been working at it for quite a long time. Mr. Wright has fortunately had the help of a number of expert assistants, so that the catalogue is a valuable work of reference. It has been said that next to the great Oxford Dictionary it is the biggest piece of bookmaking that has ever before been undertaken. For those who have to deal with the bibliography of literature it will be absolutely essential.



Messrs. Constable and Co. will have ready this year several more volumes in "The Memorial Edition" of George Meredith's Works. This uniform edition is being printed from new type and on paper specially manufactured for it. There will be altogether some fifty or sixty illustrations in photogravure, as well as, among other things, certain facsimiles of manuscripts. This edition, which is sold in sets only, is limited to 1,500 sets.



Messrs. T. and T. Clark published in the latter part of December the second volume of their great "Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics," edited by Dr. James Hastings. The period covered is from "Arthur" to "Bunyan." Among its many articles, several of which are equivalent to concise books on their subjects, the most generally interesting to our readers will be that on the "Bible" by Dr. Sanday. In this he returns once again to those studies in Holy Scripture of which his "Bampton Lectures on "Inspiration" are the most widely known.

