

# THE ACADEMY.

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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Wales, in recognition of his services to Welsh literature and the Eisteddfod.

DURING the early part of next week Messrs. Sotheby will be engaged in selling several small libraries, each of a very different character. On Monday, a collection of modern books, chiefly those issued on large paper in limited editions; on Tuesday, the choice collection of early editions of the classics, &c., formed by the late Dr. J. E. Millard, of Basingstoke, whose liturgical collection was, we believe, sold during his lifetime; and on Wednesday, the most valuable series of Americana that has come into the market for a long time. This last includes an imperfect copy of Eliot's Indian Bible; all three of the rarest editions of *Parsi Novamente Retrovati*; books printed at Mexico, Lima, Guatemala, Havana, &c.; and many relating to the dialects of the aborigines.

#### UNIVERSITY JOTTINGS.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS HARDIE, of Balliol, has been elected to the chair of humanity at Edinburgh, vacant by the premature death of Prof. Goodhart. Mr. Hardie, who graduated at Oxford in 1884, had previously won the Hertford, Ireland, and Craven scholarships, as well as the university prizes for Latin verse, and for Greek prose and verse.

We ought to have recorded before the transfer of Prof. Adamson, formerly of Owens College, from the chair of logic at Aberdeen to the same chair at Glasgow.

THE council of University College, Dundee, have resolved to establish a chair of physics, which has hitherto been combined with the professorship of mathematics. An appointment will be made before the beginning of next session. The salary offered is £400 (derived from the endowment bequeathed by Miss Margaret Harris), together with a share of fees.

MR. J. W. HEADLAM, of King's College, Cambridge, has been appointed professor of Greek and ancient history at Queen's College, Harley-street.

THE University of London has conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, without examination, on Mr. Th. Groome, professor of natural history at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, in recognition of the merits of his original researches and published papers.

THE trustees of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, have invited Sir Archibald Geikie to be the first lecturer in geology on a new foundation instituted by Mrs. George H. Williams in commemoration of her husband, the late Prof. Williams. As already mentioned in the ACADEMY, Prof. George Adam Smith, of Glasgow, has accepted an invitation to deliver the Turnbull lectures next year, on Hebrew literature, at the same university.

At the recent Commencement at Harvard, the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred (in absentia) upon Dr. Fitzedward Hall; and the honorary degree of M.A. upon Mr. Joseph Jefferson.

THE Rev. Charles H. Hoole has published, in pamphlet form, an account of some Greek MSS. contained in the library of Christ Church, Oxford. The MSS. in question form part of the large collection bequeathed to the college by Archbishop Wake. A rough catalogue of them was made some time ago by the present Dean of Durham, but Mr. Hoole has been able to correct and amplify that catalogue in several points. In particular, he examines one class of works relating to the Greek Church, written by St. Symeon Metaphrastes, the earliest of hagiologists. One MS., which has hitherto been described as a Menologium or

Kalendar of the Greek Church for the month of October, he proves to be really a missing volume of the "Lives of the Saints," written by St. Symeon, not to be found in Migne's *Patrologia*. Among them is a Life and Conversation of St. Sabae, of Palestine, consisting of more than 120 pages of Greek text. In another MS., Mr. Hoole has found thirty-two sermons of the same St. Symeon, which have never been printed. He also calls attention to a volume, apparently of the fourteenth century, containing seventeen sermons by Antonius, Archbishop of Larissa, who seems to be otherwise unknown. The Wake collection is by no means confined to Greek MSS. It includes a large number of documents illustrating the history of the English Church during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and also a correspondence of the Archbishop relating to the union of the Reformed Churches on the Continent, and to early missions in America and the East and West Indies. Finally, Mr. Hoole enumerates some of the other MS. treasures of the library, and prints a letter addressed by Cromwell, as Chancellor of the University, to Dr. John Owen, the Puritan Dean of Christ Church, recommending one Thomas Partridge for a vacant place among the almsmen.

#### TRANSLATION.

##### THE FABLE OF DEATH.

(From the Portuguese of Manoel de Mello.)

ONCE I saw Death go sporting through a plain  
Of living men, and none perceived him there;  
The old, of what they did all unaware,  
Each moment ran against him to their bane;  
The young, trusting their youth, that of the pain  
Of death knows nothing, gave him not a care;  
Purlind were all, none sought to 'scape the  
snare,

While with his hand he counted out the train.

Then he prepared to shoot, closing each eye:  
He fired and missed. I, that his aim did see  
Thus reckless, shouted, "Butcher, hold thy  
hand."

He turned, and—"Such is war"—was his reply:  
"If you pass life without a look at me,  
How dare you more respect from me demand?"

EDGAR PRESTAGE.

#### OBITUARY.

##### PROF. DRAGOMANOV.

ON June 20 died at Sofia, where he occupied the position of professor in the High School, Michael Petrovich Dragomanov, author of many important works on the songs and traditions of the Ukraine. He was born in South Russia in 1841, and became professor of history in the University of Kiev. In 1876, owing to disputes with the government, he left his native country, to which he was not destined to return. Of his numerous works the most important are his "Historical Songs of the Little-Russian People" (*Istoriicheskie Piesni Malorusskago Naroda*), in conjunction with Prof. Antonovich, of which the first volume appeared at Kiev in 1874; and "Little-Russian Popular Traditions and Tales" (*Narodnia Predania i Razskazi*, Kiev, 1876). Besides these, the late professor wrote many essays on the history and literature of the Ukraine, which appeared in different periodicals. After various wanderings, he settled at Sofia, where the post of professor of history in the newly created High School was offered to him. Here Dragomanov showed an unwearied activity and became one of the most valuable contributors to the *Sbornik* (or *Miscellany*) published by the government, consisting of essays on the traditions, history, and antiquities of Bulgaria. Even the most recent volume con-

tains an article by him. The writer of the present notice saw him for the last time in 1892, when his health had begun to give way. But he died in harness. Dragomanov was a generous and enthusiastic man, and his talk was replete with learning. His memory will long be cherished by his Russian, Bulgarian, and English friends.

W. R. M.

A WIDE circle of friends in England will hear with keen regret of the death of the Countess Balzani, which took place at Rome on July 3. She was the only child of the late Dr. Collyus Simon, himself well known as a philosopher and the friend of philosophers. Her mother was an Irish Agnew, from whom she inherited an ancestral seat of that family in county Antrim. From her father she received a most enlightened education, which did not stop short of Greek, Latin, and metaphysics, and which was further extended by long visits to the continent. She shared all his intellectual pursuits, and nursed him during his last illness at Oxford. Her husband was that Count Ugo Balzani, who has written two admirable little books on the mediæval period of his own country, and who enjoys the friendship of our leading historians. Two young daughters survive to console him, in some measure, for the irreparable loss he has sustained.

NEXT week we hope to print, from one of his pupils, a notice of Prof. Zapitza of Berlin, who, though not old in years, was universally recognised as holding the foremost place both as a teacher and student of English literature. He died, very suddenly, on July 5.

#### MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

A WRITER, who does not give his name, contributes to the *Antiquary* for July an admirable paper on "Some Mediæval Closing Rings and Door Knockers." The subject has hitherto received little attention. Had someone with the abilities of an accurate sketcher visited our old churches half a century ago, the memory of many of these interesting objects would have been preserved. They have been swept away, like so much else, to make way for tasteless modern-mediæval work from some art manufactory. The well-known knocker on the north door of Durham Cathedral, we need hardly say, holds a prominent place. The writer has discovered another of the same character, at Lindsell in Essex, which is called "the brazen head." It does not seem to have ever been appropriated to ecclesiastical use. It was attached to the chief door of an old farmhouse, which became ruinous, and was replaced by a new one, but happily the brazen head was retained. That it is very old we are sure, but as to its precise date we dare not speak positively. Two other knockers are reproduced of which we had not before heard: one from All Saints' Church, York, the other from Adel Church, Yorkshire. They are by far the oldest of the series, and so much alike that we may not unreasonably conjecture them to be from the hands of the same smith. We do not think they are later than the early years of the thirteenth century. Mr. F. H. Haverfield continues his "Notes on Roman Britain." This series will be valuable for reference in all future time, but the present part contains little of interest. As the writer says, "The archaeological record of the last four months contains more of promise than performance." Mr. A. W. Moore's "Further Notes on Manx Folklore" are mainly devoted to fairies, who seem to have been at one time as plentiful in Mann as they now are in Ireland. We seldom notice reviews, but no apology is needed for