REVIEWS.

Peru. By G. Reginald Enock, F.R.G.S. (Fisher Unwin. ro. 6d. net.)

We must congratulate all concerned, the author, the publisher, and the general editor of the series, on the production of this admirable account of one of the most interesting and best known of countries. A strange fate has overtaken the great territories of South America; for although the names of some have become household words, less interest is taken in them than was taken in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; any knowledge of their history, past or present, or even of their geographical position, is limited to a few scientific or mercantile persons.

It would be entertaining to unravel the source of this neglect of these fertile provinces, and to look at the relations of the Andes to other great mountain systems of the world. Peru has become a land of human material, and although it is a country rich in natural resources, its development is delayed by lack of knowledge of the country's resources. The author has done his work well, and the book is a credit to the series.

Mr. Enock reminds us that, speaking geologically, these Andean countries are new-born. When mankind has become a world-wide race, the Andes will become a great centre of human activity. The author's knowledge of the history and culture of the Indians is invaluable, and his description of the Inca civilisation and its destruction by Pizarro is a valuable contribution to the study of South American history.

The book is a valuable addition to the knowledge of the world, and will be of great interest to students of history and geography.

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Andean altitudes, the real Amazonian plains, the desert coast lands. His descriptions are at once picturesque and accurate; he betrays a kindly sympathy with the dwellers in the cities and the isolated cultivators on the soil. As we read these pages there come vividly to our minds the dear valleys and great mountains where we spent some of the most thrilling years of our life: the days with a good horse to carry you and a poncho to cover you. You were free to take of life what it might offer. Adventure or supper, a night beneath the stars or a baile in some remote township where the black-eyed señoritas were more winsome than—they are to-day.

The Life of Tolstoy: First Fifty Years. By Aylmer Maude. (Constable. 10s. 6d. net.)

Mr. Aylmer Maude has written so much about Tolstoy, and must know him so intimately, that one would expect him to be prepared to express very definite views on the subject of his book. As a matter of fact, he has often avoided his responsibilities. Instead of telling us what he considers the balanced view which one is entitled to hold of this strange man's career, he generally quotes some words of Tolstoy's, still leaving us to work out the puzzle ourselves. Now, we would not blame anyone for hesitating before setting out on the search for this weird Russian's mental foundations. We even think it was good art to leave him with all the vague possibilities and suggestions which make up a great human nature which has eluded psychological analysis. If a great mind is explicable, the less a great mind it is. It is embarrassing to write an apology for Tolstoy. We are not concerned in any such attempt; indeed the task would seem a rather heavy one. It is embarrassing to write an apology for a friend who is continually giving the case away.

Here, in Mr. Maude's words, are some of the complex facts which face the searcher—he is writing of 1851, when Tolstoy was twenty-three. "Next came a period of religious humility: he fasted diligently and composed a sermon, which, of course, was never preached. He also tried unsuccessfully to write a gipsy story and an imitation of Sterne's "Sentimental Journey." Now, when ordinary humdrum people go in for religious humility they find gipsies and sentimental journeys distressing. But as Mr. Maude says, "the nineteenth-century Russian noble" had "so much in common with the mediæval saint and the Oriental fatalist." We put it to Mr. Maude that there is a key to a great part of his hero's life: Tolstoy has a morbid and unhealthy conscience. The idea came to us from a passage of Mr. Maude's which says: "In his correspondence we find frequent references to indisposition. In early manhood he seems to have disturbed his stomach by imprudence in eating, and for the rest of his life he was subject to digestive troubles." Count Tolstoy has been so frankly communicative about his earlier career that it is surely quite permissible to suggest that the "imprudences" of that time left him the heritage of a "distended conscience" for his later years. The symptoms showed themselves about the age of forty-five, whereof Tolstoy writes in his "Confessions"; "Something very strange began to happen to me. At first I experienced moments of perplexity and arrest of life . . . and I felt lost and dejected." Imprudence had brought about the natural consequence of distension. We mention it rather as an interesting psychological fact than as a moral accusation. We somehow gather that Mr. Maude is inclined to be over-anxious to apologise for Tolstoy. We are not concerned in any such attempt; indeed the task would seem a rather heavy one. It is embarrassing to write an apology for a friend who is continually giving the case away.

It is in that fascinating book, "The Cossacks," that appear in most vivid contrast the healthy Tolstoy and the morbid Tolstoy. It is the record of the author's own experiences amongst them: "There was much that

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Has pleasure in announcing that the Florence Fount designed by Mr. HERBERT P. HORNE especially for the Press is now in use, and that the first publications printed in the Florence types will be issued during November, viz.:—

I. The "trial" impression from the Florence Press types will take the form of a reprint of MEMORIALE DI MOLTE STATUE E PITTURE, SONO INCLITA CIPTA DI FLORENTIA. This, the earliest known guide-book to Florence, is reprinted from the unique copy of the original edition preserved in the Bibliotheca Riccardiana, Florence. Published October 2, 1510, Mr. Horne has transcribed the MS., and will supervise the production. Edition limited to 500 copies, 450 for sale, on hand-made paper, page ten by seven and a half inches, sewn wrapper, 5s. net.; or bound in limp vellum, 12s. 6d. net. Also 11 copies printed on vellum, bound in limp vellum, laced (10 only for sale), Two and a half Guineas net.

II. The first Florence Press Book will be "THE ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE," of GEOFFREY CHAUCER, after the text of the Globe Edition, by courtesy of Messrs. Macmillan & Co. In this edition will be included twenty reproductions in facsimile coloured colotypho, after the Water-colour Drawings by Keith Henderson and Norman Wilkinson. Edition limited to 500 copies on hand-made paper, page ten by seven and a half inches, bound paper boards, 52s. 6d. net., or bound in limp vellum, 63s. net.; vellum boards, 72s. 6d. net. Also 12 copies printed on vellum, bound in limp vellum, laced (10 only for sale, of which nine are already sold), with an additional set of the plates, 15 Guineas net. Prices for binding this book in vellum boards or morocco may be had on application.

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attracted Tolstoy in the simple life of these people: their frankness, their skill in hunting, their contempt for all that is artificial or weak, and their freedom from unhealthy fellowship, always preoccupied with himself. Why does Tolstoy not get rid of that nightmare?" Olesin is the author himself; and there you have summed up the problem of this great man's life: the struggle of a supreme artist against a sickly conscience which had been overburdened. To all who delight in searching the hills and valleys of human nature, we recommend Mr. Aymer Maude's book.

Science in Modern Life. Edited by I. L. Ainsworth Davis, M.A. In Six Parts. (Gresham Publishing Co. 6s. each.)

The extraordinary series of recent scientific discoveries constitutes our age an era in the history of man. Strangely enough, however, they are few in number who follow with intelligent interest the path of the great Cosmic Engineer. The road is strewn with so many technical thorns, the equipment is bewildering and the view is so often made to appear uninviting that, in spite of science schools and science talk, the number of lay people who could give a tolerably accurate account of the Nature and Cause of Sun Spots or the wonders of the Soothes are more than one in a thousand of the so-called cultured people. The remedy, of course, is reading, in the absence of any hope of direct experiment; and in the series of which the above-named volume is the first, the general and not altogether uninstructed public is invited to make good its defect.

The opening volume deals with Astronomy and Geology by A. C. D. Crommelin, B.A., F.R.A.S., and O. T. Jones, B.Sc., F.R.S., respectively. Each subject is admirably dealt with and illustrated by an abundance of diagrams and full-page coloured plates. Both authors know their subject thoroughly well, waste no words on foolish and misleading analogies (the curse of so-called popular expositions), and confine themselves to a full, lucid, and comprehensive summary of the results and methods of their department of science.

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hoped that his work may be the last on the subject for some time. Ten years will not be too long a time to assimilate the conclusions of half a century’s investigation and in view of the thoroughly encyclopedic nature of the work and the thoroughly conscientious fashion in which no authority has been neglected and no view left undiscovered, we unhesitatingly commend the book as the complete guide that exists in our language to all the tremendous problems, personal and social, of sex.

BOOKS RECEIVED.


"Coins and How to Know Them." By Gertrude Burford. Rawlings. (Methuen. 6s.)

"Walking in the Apple Reddins." By Arthur James. (Griffiths. 6s.)

"Socialism and its Perils." By Sir W. Earnshaw Cooper. (Grant. 6s. net.)

"A Daughter of France." By Constance Elizabeth Maud. (Methuen. 6s.)

"The Broken Honeymoon." By Edwin Pugh. (Milne. 6s.)

"Some Treppenny Bits." By G. W. E. Russell. (Grant. 5s.)

"Evolution in Italian Art." By Grant Allen. (Grant Richards. 10s. 6d. net.)

"Jean Jacques Rousseau." By Jules Lemaître. (Heinemann. 15s. 6d. net.)

"Place Beautiful." By A. E. Sims. (Brown. 15s. 6d. net.)

"Over Bemerton." By E. V. Lucas. (Methuen. 6s.)

"Corto and his Friends." By Everard Meynell. (Methuen. 10s. 6d.)

"An Introduction to Social Psychology." By W. McDougall. M.A. (Methuen. 5s.)

"National Idealism and the Book of Common Prayer." By Stanton Coit, Ph.D. (Williams and Norgate. 10s. 6d. net.)

"Chats on Oriental China." By J. F. Blacker. (Unwin. 6s. 6d. net.)

"A Royal Quartette." By Mrs. Beare. (Unwin. 10s. 6d. net.)

"The Bridle Roads of Spain." By George John Cayley. (Unwin. 7s. 6d. net.)

"The Nun Ensign." Translated from the Spanish by J. Fitzmaurice-Kelly. Illustrated by Daniel Vierge. (Unwin. 7s. 6d. net.)

"Salthaven." By W. W. J. Jacob. (Methuen. 6s.)

"Beads from a Lover’s Rosary." By G. F. Wilson. (Allen. 2s. 6d. net.)

"The Place of the Doctor in the Modern Education." By F. Carruthers Gould. (Unwin. 25s. 6d. net.)

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