

temple by temple, church by church, gallery by gallery—up to the latest newly-housed Pinacoteca with a portrait of George IV by Lawrence!

Purely Roman touches abound, however. Pope Gregory prays for the soul of Trajan; the Bambino of Aracoeli visits the sick in a ducal coach; and the polarity of Mussolini's Rome and the catacombs is tacitly emphasised in two adjacent chapters.

'There is much to be said for being an ex-enemy nation.' Mr Charles Graves, motoring from Paris to Amalfi (with a diversion to Trieste) and back by the Riviera, passes from one luxury hotel to another and puts in a creditable amount of intelligent sight-seeing between his meals. His values are not everybody's. There are pages on the flashy worlds of ancient Pompeii, modern Capri and D'Annunzio, 'to the Italians . . . a cross between a god and a saint'! Nothing, not even a passing tear, is left for Ravenna and the Campo Santo at Pisa.

Neither Mr Graves nor Mr Hutton (both lavish with illustrations) provides a single map.

H.P.E.

DIALOGUS DE SCACCARIO. (Text and Translation Edited by Charles Johnson. (Nelson's Medieval Classics; 15s.)

The choice of someone to translate and edit the *Dialogus de Scaccario* can surely have presented little difficulty to the editors of this excellent series of Medieval Classics. For the proceedings and personnel of the twelfth-century exchequer are as familiar to Mr Charles Johnson as are Hollywood adventures to most of his contemporaries; even their sensitiveness to misconduct on the part of the great ones has its counterpart in Mr Johnson's feeling for the undercurrents of twelfth-century life, witness his footnote (p. 39) on the misdeeds of Philip Aymar and his associates. One's regret that so few exercise their sensitiveness in the way that he does is deepened as one reads through his clear, unpretentious translation, and follows up the careful footnotes on scripture, theology, medieval logic, and the detailed entries in the Pipe Rolls. For those whose first readings in the *Dialogus* were made under the pressure of imminent 'schools' this leisurely insistence upon minute points of scholarship will afford a special delight—more so because this volume also contains forty pages of introduction, the text and translation of the *Constitutio Domus Regis*, and a very full index, as well as illustrations of tallies and the use of the abacus. It is a sign that good things persist when a work of such scholarship is specially directed towards the needs of the general public.

D.N.