

**GREEKO-SLAVONIC. ILCHESTER  
LECTURES ON GREEKO-SLAVONIC  
LITERATURE AND ITS RELATION TO  
THE FOLK-LORE OF EUROPE  
DURING THE MIDDLE AGES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649597468

Greeko-Slavonic. Ilchester Lectures on Greeko-Slavonic Literature and Its Relation to the Folk-Lore of Europe During the Middle Ages by M. Gaster

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**M. GASTER**

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ILCHESTER LECTURES

ON

GREEKO-SLAVONIC LITERATURE

AND ITS RELATION TO

THE FOLK-LORE OF EUROPE DURING THE  
MIDDLE AGES.

With two Appendices and Plates.

BY

M. GASTER, Ph.D.

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LONDON:

TRÜBNER & CO., LUDGATE HILL.

1887.

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## PREFACE.

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*THE purpose of these Ilchester Lectures, delivered at Oxford in the spring of 1886, is to show, on a small scale, the importance of the Slavonic literature in the literary history of modern Europe, and likewise to call attention to the vast materials, hitherto untouched, which are preserved in the literature and folk-lore of the Slavonic nations.*

*In treating of the religious and popular literature, I confined myself to the most important texts and immediate sources. My references to authorities it would be very easy greatly to increase.*

*In another work, however, I contemplate the publication of all the Slavonic texts belonging to the apocryphal literature, in the form of an English translation, with copious notes and introductions.*

*In two appendices I have traced both the origin and history of the "Bible Historiale" and of the Glagolitic Alphabet from a wholly new point of view.*

*Finally, I take great pleasure in expressing my heartiest thanks to the Trustees of the Ilchester Fund for honouring me with the invitation to deliver these lectures at the far-famed University of Oxford. I value the honour all the more, as I had just arrived in England, an exile, banished by the Government from my native country of Roumania.*

*I wish also especially to thank Mr. I. Abrahams, who kindly assisted me in reading the proofs.*

*M. GASTER.*

*London, March 1887.*

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