

sketch as to illumination and other particulars to be kept in mind. The drawing, with its craters, mountains, rills, with all details of the part of the lunar surface adjacent, were next modelled in clay, and from the clay models, after they were dried and corrected by further telescopic observation, plaster casts were taken. These casts were then carefully illuminated to throw shadows similar to those projected by the objects when the drawing was made, and finally they were photographed. By such an unexampled expenditure of time and skill, were obtained those contrasts of light and shade, and delicate half tints, which make the Nasmyth lunar drawings so exquisitely beautiful.

To the instructive writings on lunar subjects by Webb, Elger and other popular writers, it is needless to refer. Nor need mention be made of the writings and eloquent addresses on these subjects by the late Prof. Proctor. His works speak best for themselves to all who care for astronomical instruction.

The most complete treatise accessible to English readers concerning the moon is that published a few years since for Mr. E. Neison, F. R. A. S. Professedly based on the great work of Beer and Mædler, it has original merit, and not only includes his own observations for eight years, but those of Mr. Webb and other observers who aided him in his work, and also contains much interesting matter from the works of Schröeter and of Lohrman. His instruments were of the best class, and included a fine 6 in. refractor, and a $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. With-Browning silvered glass reflector. The lunar map accompanying his book is in twenty-two sections, and is on a scale of two feet to the moon's diameter. Though his chart is more than

third smaller than that of Beer and Mædler, it is finely engraved, shewing more formations than are given in their map, and more rills than are shewn by Schmidt in his "*rillen an dem Mond*."

Neison groups the lunar surface under the names of plains, craters and mountains. His plains include all the large, dark, comparatively smooth tracts, called by the early selenographers *Maria*; the smaller tracts they named *Palus*, *Lacus*, or *Sinus*, and the brighter, smooth tracks which previously had received no name. For easy reference he divided the lunar craters into walled-plains, mountain-rings, ring-plains, crater-plains, craters, craterlets, crater-pits, crater-cones and depressions. His special names for the lunar mountains are great ranges, highlands, mountain-peaks, peaks, hill-