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## *THE EARLY INTERPRETERS.*

By MR. JOHN READE, F.R.S.C.

IN "The Right Honorable," a clever romance of society and politics by Justin McCarthy and Mrs. Campbell Praed, the reader is introduced to a Scottish professor, the business of whose life it is to write treatises and make speeches on the wisdom of universal disarmament, and the establishment of an international council, composed of one delegate from each of the nations of the world, civilized and uncivilized, for the settlement of all disputes. This council should assemble at the base of the Great Pyramid, which he had persuaded himself to regard as the centre of the earth. One of the incidental blessings which the international council would bring about was the adoption of an international language. As the council swelled in numbers and began to receive delegate after delegate from the various peoples and tribes, it would of course happen that some of them would not understand what the others said. Some common form of discourse would, therefore, be essential, and whatever might be the form agreed upon, each delegate, on returning home, would naturally teach it to his own people. The result would be the gradual institu-