

Europe and the Saracens

maps took place in Catalonia, the province of Spain where Lull's ancestors lived. The remarkable Catalan map of 1375 in the Paris Library is the first world-map that throws aside all pseudo-theological theories and incorporates India and China as part of the world. Nearly all the maps of the Middle Ages are inferior to those in our illustration. Clever artists concealed their ignorance and gave life to the disk of the world by pictures of turreted towns, walled cities, and roaring lions in imaginary forests. Swift has satirized their modern descendants as—

“ Geographers who in Afric's maps
With savage pictures fill their gaps ;
And o'er unhabitable downs
Place elephants for want of towns.”

Regarding the general attitude of the masses toward intellectual progress, a writer* justly remarks: “ There were by no

* J. A. Symonds : “ The Renaissance,” *Encyc. Brit.*, **xx.**, 383.