

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

A HISTORY OF SURREY. By HENRY ELLIOT MALDEN, M.A. Popular County Histories. Elliot Stock. London: 1900. 8vo, pp. viii, 321.

As the author is careful to remind us, a history whose whole extent occupies little more than three hundred octavo pages can aspire to give only a brief general view of the county, not of each place in the county. The illustration of phases of English history by examples taken from Surrey is one of the guiding principles which Mr. Malden lays down for his work, and this principle, being kept well in view throughout, goes no little way to relieve the present volume from the accusation of being merely one of those dull chronicles of important events which writers of books on a similar scale are too often contented to make them. Moreover, Mr. Malden is nothing if not critical, and it would perhaps be difficult to find a single fact recorded in his history on which he has not brought to bear the light of his own scholarly reasoning and research. This, which gives him his thorough grip of his subject, combined with the fact that his style is always vigorous, if at times a little rugged, will help to show that his history of Surrey is one well worth attention.

The keynote of Surrey history is to be found in the contiguity of the county to London. The county as named, whether we derive the name from the Anglo-Saxon *rice*, a kingdom, as from its earliest variants Mr. Malden thinks we should, or from the primitive *Rea*, a river, as Camden does, is an appendage of something greater to the north of it. So at least says Mr. Malden, although one is a little puzzled to think how he would apply the argument in the case of such counties as Norfolk and Suffolk. Nevertheless Surrey does indeed appear throughout its history under the shadow of London, and the process which began early with the absorption of Southwark into the City is being continued in our own day, when the county is becoming more and more to Londoners their most delightful rural suburb. But although, as Mr. Malden thinks probable, it is to this proximity of the capital that Surrey, which never corresponded to the territory of a people or a tribe, owes the fact that it has become a district with a name, it is to it also that the county is indebted for never having possessed any great city of its own. This circumstance perhaps affords one of the most distinguishing features of Surrey history. Proximity to London, moreover, which has meant for Surrey a shifting population, will in no small measure account for the present-day poverty of the county in any considerable remains of antiquity.

For all that, Surrey has been the scene of many striking events in history. Its position between London and the south coast, which made it necessary that every army which approached the capital from the south should march through it, will help to explain this. Other reasons, however, made it the scene of the first recorded fight

between two English kings, for, wherever the much disputed site of the Battle of Wipandune may have been, it was certainly in Surrey. Mr. Malden would give the credit to neither Wimbledon nor Worplesdon but sees in the Wipsedone which occurs amongst the boundaries of the manors of Chertsey, Thorpe, Egham, and Chobham in a charter of Chertsey Abbey of the reputed date of 675 the naturally later form of Wipandune, which the earlier variants of Wimbledon, Wimbaldon, and Wymbalton, are not. Worplesdon was never anything but a random guess. Further, Mr. Malden will have it that what we know of the battle and the immediately subsequent events will sort much better with the probable position of Wipsedone than either of the two previously suggested sites. This charter of Chertsey Abbey is interesting in other respects, and Mr. Malden's critical acumen is well illustrated in his method of dealing with it. To all appearance of thirteenth century reconstruction in the form in which it has been preserved to us, it contains at least one glaring anachronism and more than one palpable error. But it probably rests on a certain basis of truth and has the special interest of containing the one mention of Frithwald, the only English king in Surrey whose name has come down to us. He appears as a dependant of Wulfhere, on whom had devolved the inheritance of the Mercian King Penda. Thus for a time Surrey is under the overlordship of Mercia. But one hundred and fifty years later the supremacy of the West Saxons within its borders was again to be asserted, as it had been one hundred years before in the Battle of Wipandune, over the men of Kent. This supremacy is the most constant feature of the history of Saxon Surrey, and its results yet continue in the ecclesiastical organisation of the greater part of the county under the diocese of Winchester, the ancient West Saxon capital.

Through the whole course of Surrey history it is not possible now to follow Mr. Malden. He appears to have omitted no event of general importance or anything that is in accordance with his previously quoted principle. He would probably be the last to feel aggrieved if we say that he seems most happy in his treatment of the earlier periods of his history. To say so is certainly not necessarily to depreciate the rest of the work. The chapter on the ancient roads and Roman rule is an especially valuable result of the deep study he has devoted to the subject, but it would have been yet more valuable if the publisher could have been persuaded to illustrate it with a carefully prepared map. The chapters on the Domesday Survey and the Feudal Tenures are rather suggestive of the writer's acquaintance with these subjects than actually replete with it. Perhaps the fear that they would prove caviare to the general in what is confessedly a "popular" history has led to their severe compression, but to this their lucidity has been somewhat sacrificed. Other chapters that call for special mention are those on the Castles of Surrey, on the Forest, on Ecclesiastical Surrey, and on Surrey Iron and Industry. The whole work is one which cannot fail to make the many to whom Surrey is the home of their leisure hours better acquainted and in love with the picturesque southern county. The student will probably find his chief cause for satisfaction in Mr. Malden's present work in the knowledge that as the editor of the topographical section for Surrey in the forthcoming Victorian

County Histories, the author will shortly have a field where he can display his evidently wide learning to better advantage.

THE DEFENSIVE ARMOUR AND WEAPONS AND ENGINES OF WAR OF MEDIEVAL TIMES AND OF THE "RENAISSANCE."

By ROBERT COLTMAN CLEPHAN. Walter Scott, Ltd. London: 1900. 8vo, p. 237.

Of the numerous works on this subject the more important may be roughly divided into two classes—those treating of armour which may be seen by travellers in the numerous public and private collections at home and abroad, and secondly, those in which the use, development, and history of arms and armour are examined. No doubt the first class of works have great attractions for very many readers, and the various kinds of illustrations now so common, and often so truthful, aid considerably in the proper appreciation of the beauties and peculiarities of the arms and armour described. But to some students the matters dealt with in the second class are yet more interesting than existing examples, which owe their survival in many cases to the very fact that they were arms and armour of parade and not for the actual business of war, while the armour of which we can only study representations in marble, brass, painted glass, and illuminated MSS. was the armour which fulfilled its chief *raison d'être*, namely, the protection of the wearer's body in the rough and hand-to-hand fighting of the Middle Ages.

It would be hard for any one nowadays to write a book on arms and armour without quoting very largely from the works of those giants, Grose, Hewitt, Way, Von Leber. Anyone who reads those works will see that unless fresh ground is broken by the examination of hitherto unexamined sources of information, such as many of the documents in the Public Record Office, Somerset House, county and parochial records and accounts, and MSS. in private possession, there is little to be gleaned after the writers named above. And there are not many corrections to be made of their works, for they faced the subject in a practical way and gave us the raw material from which they compiled their work, without ornamental restoration or developments.

Meyrick, it may be suggested, should be mentioned in company with the above, but Meyrick was at times rather careless, and, much good work as he did, one feels the want of the stern and sometimes almost dry information of the other writers. Stothard, Blore, and the Hollises gave us invaluable work and were content to draw what they saw. So also with Waller, Boutell, Haines, and in a less attractive way Cotman and other earlier artists. Meyrick's *Skelton* is all that can be desired so far as truthful drawing is concerned, but the restorations of Meyrick in his *Critical Inquiry*, however pleasing they may be to the general reader, lack the valuable exactness of the scale-drawn figures of Stothard, etc. Hewitt amassed a remarkable store of information from every source and made it still more useful by the comparisons he drew. Way and a few others worked deeper still in the untrodden paths of domestic history, and it is in this direction that, in spite of the great amount of knowledge already obtained, we may look for still more facts and

circumstances which will render clear and intelligible to modern people the uses and practices of those who, living in the midst of arms and armour, thought it unnecessary to explain the why and wherefore of so many things which to us are puzzles. Unfortunately, the best works of both these classes have from their nature become comparatively scarce or unattainable by the ordinary individual save in public libraries and other places where, though much may be read and examined, that quiet study and constant perusal which possession of a book gives us cannot be had.

Anyone, therefore, who will bring within the reach of those far from public libraries the general points of information on this subject in a handy and not too expensive form, may be said to have done a good and useful work.

We cannot expect the voluminous extracts from first authorities which the *giants* give us, but we must be content with the chief points of interest, and indications of where to look for ourselves when circumstances will permit of the subject being followed up.

In Mr. Clephan's book we have the results of a vast amount of reading and of observation of existing armour, but the information given is hardly well or systematically arranged. The book gives one almost an indigestion in the rapidity with which the author passes from one point to another, and one is inclined to think that the various forms of armour are treated too much as types of series rather than as individual examples of the armourer's art. The idea of uniformity in construction is apt to take hold of writers, when in fact there was, in those days, no such institution as the "sealed pattern" to which we are nowadays accustomed. The wearers of armour were those whose means allowed of their having armour made for them, and it was always costly. Another point that strikes one is the habit Mr. Clephan, with so many other writers, has of using foreign words such as *culbittière*, *genouillière* for the elbow cap and knee cap when we have good English words to express the parts of armour. And here it may be remarked that the terms *ogivale lancette* and *ogivale tiers point* (p. 112) are new to most of us. How the author arrives at the conclusion that "quarrels for the arbelest (*sic*) were called *muschettæ*, "hence the word musket," it is hard to see. Musket was a variety of hawk and a good English word.

Bows were not used at Rochelle in 1627, as stated on p. 182, for the reason that when the later order requiring a certain proportion of the impressed men to be archers arrived at the county headquarters the men had already left for the war, and so no such selection was possible. The broad arrow was not used as a royal badge by Richard I., and its first appearance as a mark in connection with Royal or Government stores is mentioned by Sir Thomas Gresham, who notes that certain money and stores sent by him into England were in cases so marked. The anelace is not of Italian origin, the name being merely a variant of *alenaz*, as the pointed daggers were called, as opposed to the baselard, which was a cutting weapon. The derivations of *Arbalète à tour* and the Prodd (p. 186) also are somewhat wild.

But in spite of these and some other points on which Mr. Clephan appears to be hasty in his conclusions, the book is interesting, and the numerous references and illustrations of foreign and even north-

country suits and portions of armour are very useful. For those who have not access to the chief works on the subject, and even for those who have, the book is certainly interesting, but it should not be taken alone, and the limits of the book as to size and cost, as referred to in the preface, prevent the numerous subjects from being treated otherwise than in a sketchy manner.

OLD ENGLISH CHURCHES: THEIR ARCHITECTURE, FURNITURE, DECORATION, AND MONUMENTS. By GEORGE CLINCH, F.G.S. L. Upcott Gill. London: 1900. 8vo, pp. xiv, 264. Illustrated.

This little book is meant to be an introduction to the study of ecclesiology, and gives in a concise form a very considerable store of useful information about the ancient churches of the country, and what they are likely to contain. Its subject matter is treated clearly and systematically, and is divided into four headings, as set forth in the title. But the feature of the book is the generous scale and high standard of its illustrations. There are fourteen full page plates, and a very large number of blocks in the text, carefully selected, and in some instances of quite exceptional merit, as, for example, Fig. 45, of Harberton pulpit, and Figs. 81 and 82, of stained glass from West Wickham Church in Kent. The chapter on monuments is perhaps the best, but throughout the book the treatment is clear and simple, with explanations of the terms used where they require it, and a wholesome avoidance of the confusing and useless practice of piling up instances, a very common fault in works intended for beginners. The statement as to the pulpits in monastic refectories being due to the coming of the friars in the thirteenth century will, we fear, not commend itself to antiquaries, but where there is so much good and careful work it would be ungracious to point out the few minor blemishes. The book may be heartily recommended to any one who wishes to begin the study of the ancient churches of England and their contents.

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RAMBLES AND STUDIES IN BOSNIA, HERZEGOVINA, AND DALMATIA, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONGRESS OF ARCHÆOLOGISTS AND ANTHROPOLOGISTS HELD AT SARAJEVO, AUGUST, 1894. By ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., F.R.S.E. Second edition. 1900. 8vo. Edinburgh: Blackwood. pp. xxv, 452.

That a book of this kind has reached the stage of a second edition furnishes the best evidence that it has met a want. The style, however, is easy and pleasant, and Dr. Munro has successfully combined a good deal of archæology with the recital of facts that are usually associated with Murray or Baedeker. He modestly disclaims for a part of the antiquarian matter any merit for himself but that of having put the facts into an English dress. The original accounts appear in other languages from the pens of the officers of the National Museum at Sarajevo and Spalato, and Dr. Munro has been indebted to them and to the governments for much help in this direction, as well as for clichés of the illustrations used in the original memoirs. These advantages have added considerably to the value of the book, and the illustrations in particular are both numerous and for the most part excellent. It is no bad test of the quality of a work of this character if the reader feels that he would have enjoyed taking part in the many functions described, no matter whether they are polyglot meals or equally polyglot antiquarian diggings. And this is just the effect produced by the book. The author's energy and personal interest in all the work and scenes that he describes are so intense that he carries his interested reader with him throughout.

There are full accounts of the different stations visited by the Sarajevo Congress of archæologists, and even of the discussions that followed an examination of the sites. Many of the latter show by the wide divergence of opinion among the learned men present how far we are from a true understanding of the early archæology of Europe. The neolithic station at Butmir, for example, which Dr. Munro himself holds to be a typical pile structure, was held by Dr. Montelius to be of the Stone age and to date before 2,000 B.C., by Mr. Szombathy to belong approximately to the Mycenaean period. M. Salomon Reinach held the art to be entirely indigenous, while Dr. Hoernes and Professor Virchow saw Phœnician influence and even colonists there. The most remarkable features were undoubtedly the clay idols and the spiral ornament on the pottery, and these, with the absence of any metal whatever, are certainly puzzling. It would seem almost safe to prophesy that bronze will be found eventually, if, as seems probable, the settlement belongs to the final stage of the Stone period. It is well to bear in mind how rare the metal is in such cases, *e.g.* in our own British barrows, where a hundred articles of bone or stone are found to one of bronze.

The real central point of Dr. Munro's book is, however, not so much the Stone and Bronze ages, interesting though they are, but the Early Iron period, which for us in this country has so important a bearing upon our own Late Celtic art. Of this class he gives detailed accounts of the stations at Glasinac and Jezerine, with numerous figures of

the typical objects found, which add greatly to the interest of his descriptions. Then on the homeward journey he visits and describes a variety of places, more or less well known, Spalato, Salona, and the palace of Diocletian, and finally gives an interesting sketch of the prehistoric and historic conditions of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This is all good and written in a bright and lucid style, but in the final chapter, which deals with the periods of Hallstatt and La Tène, good as it is in many respects, there is much left to desire. The ordinary reader, unfamiliar with the subject, would certainly take it for granted that no Englishman had had a hand in the determination of this particular class of antiquities in our own islands. For Dr. Munro it would appear that the long (antiquarian) feud between Lindenschmit of Mayence and A. W. Franks over the origin of our Late Celtic remains had never existed, and that the all too brief chapters in *Horæ Ferales* had never been written. Of course Dr. Munro knows all these things: he knows that Lindenschmit maintained to his dying day that the bronze shields found in the Thames were made by Etruscans, and that Franks held them to be of indigenous origin and gave the special art the title of Late Celtic. But why quote the authorities of every country but our own? And to go a little further, why not quote our own collections? One smiles at the disregard of British antiquities by a foreign writer, but ignorance forms a kind of excuse. Dr. Munro cannot plead ignorance, and knowledge has its responsibilities. It is not wise or fair to set up the claims of a host of continental critics, including some of small note, while one of the foremost antiquaries of our time is passed *sub silentio*.

THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH AND MONASTERY OF ST. ANDREW AT ROCHESTER. By W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE, M.A. London: Mitchell & Hughes. 1900. 8vo., pp. vi, 233.

The name of Mr. Hope on the title-page of a book on the architectural history of a building is assurance that the work within will be sound and thoroughly done, and to a large extent new. He writes for antiquaries and not for the superficial reader, whose digestion is not strong enough for a book like this. Indeed, even an antiquary may gently hint a wish that the good meat had been served up in a more attractive form. For instance, it would have been more easy to assimilate if it had been divided into sections (or shall we say courses?) than all put before us in one mess as it is now. And there are parts of the text which are too highly seasoned with feet and inches, most of which would have been better left on the plans and other illustrations, from which the consumer might help himself to his liking.

But our grumble is over. The book is a capital book, and will be the quarry for the Rochester guide-book maker for many a year to come. He may make good or ill use of it, according to his understanding of it. But he will not be able to do without it.

The see of Rochester is one of the oldest in England. In three years it will enter into the fourteenth century of its existence. But until quite modern times, when all the South of London has come under its sway, it has always been one of the least important and most poorly endowed. We do not know what was the constitution

of the church when it was first founded. But, being the work of missionary monks, it was most likely monastic. If it were, it became secular, as many others did, and we find it so in the eleventh century. It was then miserably poor, and Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, gave it a fresh start by refounding it as a Benedictine abbey. Lanfranc put in Gundulf as bishop, and he held the see for thirty years and with the Archbishop's help built the monastic offices and a large part of the church. The church seems to have been completed in the twelfth century, and in the thirteenth it was considerably altered and enlarged. This is the usual story with such churches, and many a one of them was rebuilt part by part until it was wholly transformed into the fashion of the later middle ages. At Rochester, however, we do not find the steady and sustained working towards a definite and understood end which has given us such churches as Wells and Lichfield. Work was done from time to time, and much of it, looked at in detail, is good; but it is not coherent, and the architectural history of the place is the record of a succession of false starts.

It has been Mr. Hope's task to follow these up and distinguish between them. And his long study of building has enabled him to make plain much which before was a confusing tangle.

In the sixteenth century the monks were again replaced by seculars, but the monastic buildings were kept in the King's hands and converted into a royal manor house. The life of that house was but short; it was pulled down for its materials, and so much of the older work incorporated in it perished with it that the close of Rochester is poorer in architectural remains beyond the church than that of any other of the new foundation cathedrals. This is the more to be regretted because, owing to the shape of the ground, the arrangements of Rochester were peculiar, and the few remaining fragments show that some of the buildings must have been of high architectural quality.

It seems that, but for the troubles of the civil wars, through which it passed with less harm than some, the church had rest during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. But the nineteenth was a bad time for it. The "restoration" agony began early there and appears not yet to be over. Cottingham set it going by destroying the old central tower and putting up one of his own which is absolutely and irredeemably bad, and the other work he did is no better. Sir Gilbert Scott came later and did after the fashion of his time. He would not destroy where he knew it, but he did not always know. And his respect for old work did not prevent him from smartening it up to the vulgar shine which is delightful in the eyes of too many cathedral authorities. Later works show no improvement on Scott's, and Mr. Hope calls attention to some of the more lamentable exhibitions of bad taste, such as the covering of the backs of the Norman arches at the west end with inscriptions in mosaic. That truly is an atrocity not easy to match.

In these days, when so many writers will undertake to give us the story of an old church with only a diagram plan, or even without a plan at all, it is a treat to find such plans as Mr. Hope gives us. They are models of what such things should be. The other illustrations are generally good.

SUPERSTITIONS OF THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND, COLLECTED ENTIRELY FROM ORAL SOURCES. By JOHN GREGORSON CAMPBELL, Minister of Tiree. Glasgow : MacLehose & Sons. 1900. 8vo., pp. xx, 318.

The lamented author of this work, during thirty years' service as minister of Tiree, made it his business to acquire at first hand a knowledge of the superstitions entertained by his flock. He purposely avoided taking books as his authority, and indeed frequently found in them statements at variance with the popular beliefs as actually entertained, generally due to a want of knowledge of the language, feelings, and modes of thought of the people. He even declined to accept written correspondence as an authority for any statement, preferring to obtain oral information from the Highlanders themselves in the spirit of their own proverb, "If it be a lie as told by me, it was a lie as told to me." The result is a very valuable and authoritative volume, dealing with fairies, tales illustrative of fairy superstition, tutelary beings, the urisk, a kind of solitary brownie, the blue men, the mermaid, the water horse, superstitions about animals, miscellaneous superstitions, augury, premonitions and divination, dreams and prophecies, imprecations, spells, and the black art, and finally with superstitions relating to the devil. Altogether nearly 300 distinct legends were recorded by Mr. Campbell.

It would be wholly beyond the space available to us to give any sort of critical analysis of all this wealth of information and of its relation to similar superstitions in rural England and elsewhere. We must be content with picking a few plums as specimens of the whole. The Gaelic men and women of peace, like the English elf, are, when referred to in the singular, strong men and beautiful women who hire themselves to the human race for service, and contract marriages with it, from which no good can come; when referred to in the plural, are a diminutive race, travelling in eddy winds, lifting men from the ground, stealing, and entering houses in companies. Fairy hags used to be seen at certain places in Tiree, but have long since disappeared, the islanders having become too busy to attend to them. By a curious coincidence, two famous Highland archers, in regard to whom exploits almost as wonderful as those accredited to our own Little John are recorded, are named respectively Little John the Black and Little John of the White Bag; but Mr. Campbell thinks these were men really of small stature and not so called, as our Little John was, in ironical allusion to his great size. It is unlucky to use for washing your hands or face water in which eggs have been boiled or washed. It is a common saying when mischance befalls a person through his own stupidity, "I believe egg water was put on me." The story of the devil joining a party of young people playing cards and taking a hand, vanishing up the chimney in smoke on his horse-hoof being detected, is universal over the Highlands. The only trade the devil never was able to learn was that of tailoring. When he went to try, all the tailors left the room, and, having no one to instruct him, he omitted to put a knot on the thread, so that the thread always came away, and he gave up the trade in despair. He wanted to learn it to make his own clothes, as no one would make clothes for him.