

## Notices of Archaeological Publications.

YORK: THE STORY OF ITS WALLS, BARS, AND CASTLES. Being a complete history, and pictorial record of the defences of the City of York, from the earliest times to the present day. By T. P. COOPER. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

The author of "Old Inns and Inn Signs of York" has here given us a highly readable account of the defences of that city, not the least among its many attractions to the antiquary. The work is planned in two Parts, the first, in twelve chapters, dealing with the general history of the walls and earthworks, murage grants, etc.; the second, in six chapters, dealing with the Castle of the Old Baile, the Bars, Posterns and Towers. The story of York Castle itself and Clifford's Tower is reserved for a separate volume. There is no town in this country which can compare with York in the extent of its walls and number of ancient gates at the present day, and one marvels at the callous indifference which those in authority in the city have shown too often in the past to the preservation of these memorials. One would fain hope that they are now safe, but the action of the Estates Committee in 1902, in proposing to fill up the moat parallel with Lord Mayor's Walk, is a warning to the York antiquary that he must be ever on the watch.

The book is well illustrated with plans, facsimiles, reproductions of photographs and drawings, and we hope the reception of the volume will be such as to encourage the author to give us that history of the Castle which he has promised.

A LIST OF NORMAN TYMPANA AND LINTELS with figure or symbolical sculpture still or till recently existing in the Churches of Great Britain. By CHARLES E. KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

Mr. Keyser's contributions to the pages of the *Journal* have always been characterised by enthusiasm for his subject and the fulness of its illustration. In the sumptuous volume which he has issued under the above title he has laid every antiquary under an obligation whether the book be looked at from an artistic or archaeological point of view. We have here 155 figures of Norman Tympana and Lintels taken from churches all over the country and forming a splendid series for examination and comparison. The figures which cover an immense variety of subjects, are grouped together as far as possible. The "or till recently" in the sub-title is sad reading, and it is hard to understand the wilful destruction, removal or re-cutting of these tympana which has taken place under pretence of "restoration." We heartily congratulate Mr. Keyser on the result of his labours. The names of the various photographers are very properly given in an appendix.

ROLLS OF THE ASSIZES HELD IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS IN THE SECOND YEAR OF THE REIGN OF KING EDWARD II. (1309). St. Heliers, Jersey. Labey et Blampicd. 1903.

A verbatim copy of the rolls now in the Public Record Office by Mr. Arthur F. Heintz with translation by Miss E. M. Walford, and edited for the Jersey Society by Messrs. Gervaise Le Gros and Ed. Toulmin Nicolle. The editors in a short preface rightly call attention to the exceedingly valuable particulars afforded by the roll as to the administration of Justice and the relations of the Channel Islands with Normandy. The roll also contains much information as to the customs of the Islands and the claim of the Islanders to be governed, not by the law of Normandy or England, but by certain special customs of their own (pp. 29 and 69). Students of the period will find this volume of considerable interest. There are good indices—*rerum*, *locorum* and *nominum*.

THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR (ST. MARIE OVERIE), SOUTHWARK. By the Rev. Canon THOMPSON, M.A., D.D., Rector and Chancellor of the Collegiate Church. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

This book would be more appropriately entitled an Historical Guide, and we gather from the Preface and arrangement that as such the author intends it to be used. The scheme of the book is a tour of the interior, and a considerable amount of information is given on almost every point in the building, but the work is disfigured with head lines in various fancy type which are more often associated with the evening newspaper than the history of a church. Some of the illustrations are very poor (that on page 13 is grotesque) and those in half tone would have been much improved by the use of better paper. The ground plan on page 115 is altogether inadequate for a work on the history of a building. We feel constrained to point out these defects in the present book because the elevation of St. Saviour's into the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Southwark, now happily accomplished, will, we feel sure, cause a sufficient demand for a reliable guide to make a new edition necessary in a short time, when the opportunity might also be taken to eliminate much unnecessary biographical information concerning the various personages portrayed in the church windows.

CARDIGAN PRIORY IN THE OLDEN DAYS. By EMILY M. PRITCHARD (OLWEN POWYS). London: Heinemann. 1904.

This history of the Priory or Cell of Cardigan has grown out of a paper prepared for the visit of the Cambrian Archaeological Society in August 1904. The collection of the materials has evidently been a labour of love to the writer, and we congratulate her on the amount of information she has been able to get together. It is unfortunate that so little is known as to the inner life of these small priories, and the present work does not add much to our knowledge for the records available refer almost exclusively to the property. The house, which was a cell to Chertsey, had declined like many others until in Leland's

time there were "but II religiose menne Blak monkes" therein. The descent of the property to the present day is traced, and a description of the present house occupying the site is given on pages 117 to 120, but we should have liked a ground plan (indeed no work of the kind is complete without one). The illustrations in photogravure are good, but there is no index.

A TRANSCRIPT OF THE PARISH REGISTER OF CHESHAM 1538-1636. By J. W. GARRETT PEGGE. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

This appears to be a particularly careful transcript of the Registers of Chesham for the above period—minus entries for the reign of Queen Mary I. for which period either registration was in abeyance here or the records are lost. The vicarage of Chesham was held in two medieties by the abbeys of Leicester and Woburn, and the appointment of two vicars with their clerks is attested by entries under the hands of each in the registers. One would like to know more as to how this arrangement worked in practice. Mr. Garrett Pegge supplies an interesting preface and various appendices to the volume and there is a good index. The entries in the register have been compared with the Bishop's Transcript and notes of any variations are appended. In the hundred years covered there were 4,415 baptisms, 1,100 marriages, and 3,013 burials.

CHURCH STRETTON. Some results of local scientific research. Edited by C. W. CAMPBELL-HYSLOP and E. S. COBBOLD. Illustrated. Shrewsbury: L. Wilding. 1900-04. 3 Vols.

The district touched on in these little volumes is a fairly wide area around Church Stretton, and workers in Natural History, Geology and Archaeology will find them of much assistance. With the two first-named subjects which take up Volume I and two-thirds of Volume II we are not here concerned, but they have evidently been prepared with much care and will no doubt be appreciated by those interested. From the size of the volumes we presume they are intended to be carried in the pocket for field use.

The most valuable portion of the series of papers from our point of view is that by Mr. Cobbold in Volume III on the pre-Roman, Roman and Saxon remains in the district. This is a careful and painstaking survey of the early earthworks, roads, etc., a description of their appearance at the present day, and is fully illustrated with maps and plans. The course of the Roman Watling Street is traced, and of this also a map is given and several charming photographs. We hope Mr. Cobbold will find time to continue his work on these subjects. The remainder of this third Volume is taken up with brief resumes of the architectural features of the churches of the district compiled from Cranage's "Churches of Shropshire." Miss H. M. Auden, F.R.Hist.Soc. contributes to Volume II a series of notes on the Parochial History of Church Stretton which will no doubt form a basis for more extended work later on.

CASTLES OF IRELAND. Some Fortress Histories and Legends. By C. L. ADAMS. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

The book before us is not a critical history—indeed the authoress in the preface disclaims any such pretension—it belongs rather to the class of “drawing room table” literature. At the same time its usefulness would have been increased had an index been added. So far as we can see the contents are mainly a compilation from existing printed materials and little has been added from manuscript sources. The illustrations from sketches by the Rev. Canon Lucius O’Brien are in keeping with the character of the book.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CHARITIES AND CHARITABLE BENEFACTIONS OF BRAINTREE. By HERBERT JOHN CUNNINGTON. London: Elliot Stock. 1904.

Several places have had the good fortune to possess parishioners like Mr. Cunnington who have taken the trouble to collect together information respecting the various benefactions thereto. Kimbell’s Greenwich Charities and Landale’s Charities of Dartford may be cited, and although the charities of Braintree are not on so extensive a scale as either of the places just mentioned, it is eminently fitting that they should be placed on proper record in the manner now before us by a grandson of one of the churchwardens who signed the return submitted to the Commissioners of 1839.

Appended to the book is a transcript of a list of donations for the benefit of those families who suffered from the plague in 1665–6, and an interesting account of the Parish Workhouse in the early part of the eighteenth century. The whole system of our Poor Law administration must—one would hope—be radically altered before long, and any information as to the methods (however faulty) of our forefathers in this difficult matter cannot but be useful in helping to form an opinion for future guidance.

BREGANT-FORDA AND THE HAN-WEAL. By MONTAGU SHARPE, D.L., Brentford. 1904.

Under this somewhat archaic title the author has marshalled his authorities and arguments respecting the place where Caesar crossed the Thames. The pamphlet is sold at 1s. for the benefit of the Cottage Hospitals at Brentford and Hanwell. We may say at once that this is an able argument in favour of the Brentford, and will be welcome by students of the early history of this country. It is illustrated with some exceptionally good photographs and four maps. We notice a few misprints, *e.g.* page 28, the reference should be *De Bello Gallico*, v. 18, not xviii. 5.