NOTICES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS.

EVERYDAY LIFE IN PREHISTORIC TIMES: (i) THE OLD STONE AGE, (ii) THE NEW STONE, BRONZE AND EARLY IRON AGES. By MARJORIE and C. H. B. QUENNELL. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$, x + 110 pp. and 71 figs. and 120 pp. and 91 figs. London: B. T. Batsford. 1924. 10s. n., or separately 5s. n. each.

The 'Everyday Life' books by Mr. and Mrs. Quennell now hold a place of their own in the secondary literature of archaeology. Their value lies professedly not in the presentation of new facts but in the new presentation of old ones. Armed with a practical architectural training, the authors have striven in this series to rebuild the past as a solid and convincing structure of three dimensions. With what success they have striven is now well known.

They themselves 'do not lay claim to any great store of archaeological knowledge.' They have 'approached their task rather as illustrators,' and illustrators they are of the best kind. Text and illustrations march side by side, the one directly explanatory of the other, and the two of them combining to show *how* things were (probably) done—*how* an arrow-head was made and hafted, *how* Stonehenge was set up, *how* ore was smelted by the lake-villagers of Glastonbury. But in spite of the modesty of the authors' claim, it is sufficiently apparent that so practical an aim has demanded an archaeological and ethnological knowledge that are at the same time wide and precise, and the fact that the authors have now covered almost the whole field of British history and pre-history in this manner is in itself a remarkable tribute to their energy and discrimination. The present volume, in which the two books already issued by them on the stone and metal ages are conveniently brought together, may be suspected of having taxed their patience and their judgment to an exceptional degree. They have, however, chosen good guidance, and the inevitable contentiousness of much of the earlier material finds compensation in the multitude of intriguing 'how' problems which that material presents. No other book in the language is so well fitted to serve the new-comer as an introduction to the phase of archaeology which, perhaps more than any other, requires intelligent illustration.

R. E. M. W.

THE ANCIENT ENTRENCHMENTS AND CAMPS OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE. By EDWARD J. BURROW. Abridged Edition. $9 \times 5\frac{3}{4}$, viii + 132 pp. 69 illustrations. Cheltenham: Ed. J. Burrow & Co. Ltd. 1924. 7s. 6d. n.

This is an abridged edition of a work published a few years ago under the same title. It is primarily a series of efficient pen-and-wash drawings of pleasant Gloucestershire landscapes to which a mildly romantic interest is lent by the introduction of vestiges of ancient earthwork, all clearly delineated and well reproduced. Plans are few, and add nothing of moment to the Ordnance Survey. The accompanying text and maps belong to the pre-scientific era of archaeology and need scarcely be discussed in the present context. Their accumulative effect is to point the moral which the author himself is rash enough to urge upon the student (p. 48): 'You will gain

much by association with those who have made a life-study of the enterprise you are just entering upon. You will be able to compare notes, and will be saved from the besetting vice of the amateur—casual and superficial knowledge.'

R. E. M. W.

ROUBILIAC'S WORK AT TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. By K. A. Esdaile. 8 × 6¼, xvi + 42 pp. 20 plates. Cambridge University Press. 1924. 7s. 6d. n.

This is a small but perfectly produced book upon a delightful theme. The twelve works of Roubiliac, here illustrated, are among the most beautiful of this great artist, and they are set before us with a very full historical commentary of the first value to the student. Moreover, with them are illustrated five busts in plaster and terra cotta (now in the British Museum), which were studies for those at Trinity, and in addition a similar cast of Bentley in the library of Lambeth Palace.

The book is not wholly concerned with historical *data*. Mrs. Esdaile shows a grasp of the high qualities of Roubiliac's art, and expresses a discriminating appreciation of the relative excellence of each of the sculptor's works. Her criticisms are forceful and just, and help to raise the subject out of an academic atmosphere into one of reality and life. How valuable a service she renders can be realised only by those who know the need of a more informed basis for national taste. The study of mediaeval art brought a host of imitators of a tradition unsuited to modern thought, and has left a colloquial aftermath of indifference to classical beauty. The correction of this state of the popular mind is a necessary antecedent to the understanding of an art appropriate to our own time, and it is to masters like Roubiliac that we must turn for instruction, if we are to win further development, and seek a true expression of contemporary life and thought.

W. H. G.

EARLY ENGLISH ORNAMENT: The Sources, Development and Relations to Foreign Styles of Pre-Norman Ornamental Art in England. By J. Bronsted. With a preface by Reginald A. Smith. 10½ × 7, 352 pp. 217 figs. London: Hachette. 1924.

Professor Bronsted's book on Early English Ornament may be said, without exaggeration, to mark an epoch in the study of Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian ornament. For the first time we have here a clear and logical exposition of the general facts of the case and the production of a chronological scheme which is so convincing that it must needs hold the field until the production of some very cogent arguments in favour of a contrary opinion, which are not at present forthcoming. The author confines his argument largely to the plant and animal-forms represented in early English carving and other decoration and does not hesitate to argue from one material to another; thus manuscript and metal material is used effectively to establish the sequence where stone-carving is lacking, and the result is a coherent scheme of development which would appear unassailable.

The main thread of the earlier part of the book may be said to be the well-known Northumbrian vine-scroll which is traced from eastern originals, imported in their original purity late in the seventh century and gradually transformed and deformed in the hands of the native craftsmen of the two

succeeding centuries, until the final extinction of the motif about the beginning of the tenth century. Side by side with this we have a masterly analysis of the accompanying animal-forms—the Anglian beast, the Merovingian beast, the later ribbon-beasts and the great beast of Scandinavia. The Anglian and Scandinavian forms are studied side by side and their interaction considered and explained.

The illustrations of the book are well chosen and form in themselves a valuable series of examples, such as has not elsewhere been collected from the various scattered sources from which they are drawn. The translation is the work of Mr. Albany Major, who has performed his work effectively, and Mr. Reginald Smith has added an appreciative preface. The book is well printed and the illustrations well produced; it will certainly be indispensable to any future student of the subject, on which it may well rank as the standard text-book.

A. W. C.

THE TOPOGRAPHY OF STANE STREET: A Critical Review of the 'Stane Street' by Hilaire Belloc. By Capt. W. A. Grant. 8¾ × 5½, 95 pp., with 4 diagrams and a map. London: John Long, Ltd. 1922. 5s.

There was once a current belief, a sort of 'vulgar error,' that a pot, full of ashes, would hold as much water as it would without them. Aristotle took this for granted, and many since his time, having perchance set out to prove or disprove it, were astounded at the amount of water that such a pot would contain. That they tired of the experiment long before its conclusion, and were content to accept the conclusions of the philosopher. But one day a nasty fellow, without faith, without belief, without reverence for antiquity, or, as Mr. Belloc himself would say, without *Religion*, persevered to the end and another bubble was pricked.

Captain Grant (we say it without offence), appears to be such a one as this. Mr. Belloc's book on the Stane Street, published in 1913, is a well-known essay in that author's brilliant style, wherein he demonstrates, to his own satisfaction, and doubtless to many others', that the course of the Roman road from Chichester to London can be accurately laid down on the map in 'four great limbs.' The subtilty of the argument, and the wealth of data in the matter of bearings, alignments and so forth, is almost bewildering, so that the layman, setting out to verify these things for himself, soon finds himself in a hopeless muddle, or else wearies of the whole thing and takes Mr. Belloc for granted.

Now after an interval of nine years comes Capt. Grant, who says that he is not an archaeologist, that he has shot over many parts of the Stane Street without being unduly disturbed by its signs of antiquity, and that finding by accident Mr. Belloc's book, he read Part I and commenced Part II with unimpaired faith in the author. But not for long. And the result of this shattered faith is the volume under review.

How comes it, then, that Capt. Grant can write such a volume that destroys completely the whole of Mr. Belloc's foundations and leaves his conclusions without visible means of support? Simply that Capt. Grant, if not a trained topographical surveyor, is the next best thing, a highly efficient amateur, and he makes very small beer of Mr. Belloc's high-sounding

phrases. Mr. Belloc appears to have done what ninety per cent. of map-using antiquaries appear to do: he has used a map of far too small a scale. The result is, that what Mr. Belloc calls an alignment—or a straight line—is actually nothing of the kind. A straight line on a map of quarter-inch scale (the one probably used: vide p. 20 and also p. 61) is not a straight line when plotted, place by place, on to a larger map, six-inch for example. This is a highly technical matter and one that only a professional map-maker would adequately comprehend.

It is very obvious that Mr. Belloc is not one of these, and though his critic gives him an appendix full of geographical co-ordinates, it seems doubtful whether they will convey much to him. The strange and unusual use of terms, the obvious ignorance of technicalities, such, for instance, as bearings, led to his undoing, and Capt. Grant is unsparing in his denunciation. In fact his statement 'loses none of its acerbity by the method of its delivery,' and to fell an opponent in an archaeological argument by a Gilbertian tag is the unkindest cut of all.

An appendix of one page, 'Errors due to carelessness or printers' errors,' and another of four pages, 'Errors due to miscalculation and mis-statements arising therefrom,' together with a map that corrects Mr. Belloc's chart, completes a sufficiently damning piece of destructive criticism.

On the other hand, Capt. Grant's final hypothesis that the Stane Street was planned on what is technically termed a 'closed traverse' is likewise open to question. We know far too little at present of the methods of Roman surveying, and to suggest that Roman roads were laid out in such a fashion that would demand instruments of precision like the modern theodolite, is too obvious an example of interpreting the past according to the practice of the present. The *groma*, which was illustrated in a recent number of the *Journal*, may be taken as an example of the degree of exactitude attained in Roman surveying instruments, and the number of Roman earthworks and forts that are approximately right-angled is sufficient to show that its limit of accuracy was appreciable. To set out the average Roman road, nothing more elaborate was necessary than a series of smoke-signals and a ground-survey. Both author and critic are at fault in this matter, in attributing modern methods of survey to the Romans. Capt. Grant merely shows that Mr. Belloc has built his error on ignorance, while he himself has erected a similar fallacy on excessive knowledge. The book abounds in technicalities, but would form light and pleasant reading to an ordnance surveyor after a tiring day in the field.

F. C. E. E.

THE PARISH OF KING'S LANGLEY: ITS ANCIENT CHURCH AND ITS HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS. By JOHN PARKER HAYTHORNTHWAITE, M.A. 9¾ × 6, 212 pp., 30 plates and 18 cuts. London: Cassio Press. 1924. 10s. 6d.

Nothing but good can come from the continued publication of local monographs and parochial histories, always provided they are written by those who combine local knowledge with a sense of historic proportion and perspective. In this case these conditions are fulfilled and the result is a book that is quite worthy of its subject.

The architectural student might justifiably demand a more scientific

account of the growth and development of the church, the herald would prefer a more detailed account of the tomb of Edmund de Langley and its coats of arms, while a plan of the Dominican friary, incorporating the extant remains, with some suggestions as to the approximate positions of the buildings mentioned in the post-dissolution survey, would have delighted those whose chief interest lies in monastic remains, especially when they are of friars' houses. The palace, too, might have been made to reveal some details of its planning.

But these things are for the specialist, and the author asks for their help and sympathy in his laudable efforts to make the story of an interesting English village known to that vast body of readers who treasure the vestiges of our mediaeval life. He has achieved, with the help of his publishers and printers, a successful history that should travel far beyond the limited circle of parochial readers. There is a good index and the book is copiously illustrated.

F. C. E. E.

THE PILGRIMAGE OF ROBERT LANGTON. Transcribed with an introduction and notes by E. M. Blackie. 9½ × 6, xxviii + 50 pp. Cambridge: Harvard University Press; London: Humfrey Milford. 1924. 14s. net.

In 1522, at the sign of the Rose garland in Fleet Street, Robert Coplande printed the book of the pilgrimage of Master Robert Langton. A short time ago a copy of this book was found in the library of Lincoln cathedral, and it is the only one in existence; it belonged to Michael Honywood, dean of Lincoln from 1660 to 1681, who gave his priceless collection of books to the new library which was built for the dean and chapter by Sir Christopher Wren. Robert Langton held a prebend of Lincoln cathedral from 1483 to 1517, he was archdeacon of Dorset from 1486 to 1514 and treasurer of York minster from 1509 to 1514. The date of his travels is unknown. He went first on an English pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the Holy Land, and found the book of one Master Larke 'a grete light guyde and conducte,' and he trusted that Larke's name was put in the book of life for his blessed and good deed. His own itinerary was destined to be a guide to the principal shrines of western Europe, and he bade his readers study it often. Starting from Orleans he took the road through the west of France to St. James of Compostella, and noted down the names of the towns and places and the distances between them. He followed the well-known route across the Pyrenees as set forth in the twelfth-century Guide for Pilgrims which Monsieur Bedier has shown on a map in volume III of *Les Légendes Epiques*. He returned across the eastern Pyrenees to Perpignan and Narbonne, Carcassonne and Toulouse, and back through Carcassonne on the line of the railway to-day; to Aigue-Mortes and Les Saintes-Maries de la Mer, which still draws crowds of pilgrims in May and October, but was then a comparatively new attraction, for the bones of the saints had only been brought to light in 1448. He passed through Arles and Tarascon to Avignon, noting the crossing of the river Durance; at Valence he turned aside to visit Saint-Antoine de Viennois, the mother-house of St. Anthony's hospital, Threadneedle Street. It is impossible to follow him further on his travels across the Mont Cenis to visit all the principal cities of Italy, and

home through Venice, Trent, Cologne, Antwerp and Bruges to Calais. We are much indebted to Archdeacon Blackie for transcribing this interesting book. It has been reprinted in a black-letter type, and there are facsimiles of two woodcuts in the original book and of the device of the printer, Robert Coplande.

ROSE GRAHAM.

A MOST FRIENDLY FAREWELL TO SIR FRANCIS DRAKE. By HENRY ROBARTS. Transcribed with short introduction by E. M. BLACKIE. 9½ × 6, viii + 18 pp. Cambridge: Harvard University Press; London: Humfrey Milford. 1924. 8s. 6d. net.

This pamphlet in the Lincoln cathedral library was also probably a gift from Michael Honywood, dean of Lincoln, and since the sale of the Britwell library to an American collector in 1916, it appears to be the only copy in England. It was printed in London by Walter Mantell and Thomas Lawe on the occasion of the departure of Sir Francis Drake for the West Indies, when he sailed from Woolwich on 15th July, 1585, with a commission from queen Elizabeth and the command of a fleet. The author was Henry Robarts, then a citizen of London, but a Devon man by birth. He had heard ignorant folk mutter:—'What doe these Gentiles mean so to roome from home that enjoye such wealth as they doe, and maye staye at their owne pleasure?' He trusted that 'some learned which can write, will of their good nature emploie their paines to your praise, and in learned stile register your noble fame'. Meanwhile to keep Drake in remembrance, Robarts wrote this pamphlet, which consists of an address to Drake, and two rhyming farewells, one to him, and the other to his men, whom he admonishes in these words:—

> Therefore agree in unitie and love one with the other,
> And joine your selves in amitie, as brother with his brother.
> For in this cause you are as one, though many soules you be,
> Then fellowe mates looke to your selves and never disagree.

There is a facsimile of a woodcut in the original pamphlet of a ship in sail, crowded with men.

ROSE GRAHAM.

LONDON ON THE THAMES: A STUDY OF THE NATURAL CONDITIONS THAT INFLUENCED THE BIRTH AND GROWTH OF A GREAT CITY. By H. ORMSBY, B.Sc. (Econ.). xiv + 190 pp., 34 maps and illustrations. London: Sifton, Praed & Co. 1924. 8s. 6d. n.

There is little need for the apology with which the author modestly prefaces this excellent little book. It pretends to no new facts or original theories, but its merit consists in the attractive manner in which the old subject is presented from the geographical standpoint.

Naturally the foundation and early growth of the city, from this point of view, is the most interesting, and to this a great deal of space has been devoted. The fact that no important pre-Roman settlement existed on the site is properly recognised, as is also the rapid growth of Londinium as a trading centre, soon after its foundation.

The physical conditions of the site, and the levels of the Thames, are dealt with in an able and imaginative manner, but it is to be regretted that

the more conservative view of the river and the tides is alone accepted The alternative theory advanced by Spurrell, that the tides did not, in the early days of Londinium, come so far inland, is mentioned, and it is admitted that problems such as the level of the Roman buildings in Southwark, would no longer present difficulty under this explanation, but his conclusions are rejected on the grounds that he did not take into account the effect of embankment and the shrinkage of the deposits. This is hardly a fair statement of the matter, for Spurrell not only makes many allusions to, and observations on these factors throughout his writings, but he expressly says :—' I do not forget to give these movements their value but there has certainly been another.' Had this hypothesis received more sympathetic treatment, the result might have been most helpful in throwing light on this open question. Space for this might have been found by curtailing the long discussion on the hypothetical crossing of the river at Westminster, which is quite unsupported by archaeological evidence, and which the author frankly admits could only have been of short duration, or previous to the development of Londinium.

Much care has evidently been taken to select the facts accurately, and it is no easy task for the collator to sift the mass of imperfect and often contradictory evidence relating to early London. The misstatements of Sir Lawrence Gomme as to his supposed Celtic London have been detected and exposed.

Mediaeval and later London are more a matter of history, but the development of its trade during these periods is traced with its geographical bearings, while the description of its various streams and a review of London's early water supply, form a story which infuses interest to some of the outer districts usually regarded as devoid of anything except dullness and squalor.

The author displays a thorough and intimate topographical knowledge of London and has illustrated the book with numerous carefully prepared maps and plans, some being elaborately contoured or shaded in relief, which will be welcome both to the geographer and the archaeologist.

F. W. R.