NOTICES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS

ZENON PAPYRI: Business Papers of the Third Century B.C. dealing with Palestine and Egypt. Edited with Introductions and Notes by WILLIAM LINN WESTERMANN, CLINTON WALKER KEYES and HERBERT LIEBESNY. Vol. ii. Columbia University Press, New York, 1940. Pp. x+221, 7 plates. Price 40s. net.

This is the second and concluding volume of papyri from the famous archive of Zenon in the library of Columbia University. Like the first, it contains 59 texts (but nos. 114-18 include several fragments under a single number), some of them very small, and it has, as principal editor, Professor W. L. Westermann, with two new assistants, Professor C. W. Keyes and Mr. Liebesny. It is produced with the same skill as its predecessor and the same attention to the externals of publication. The texts are accompanied by sufficient annotation, one great merit of which is the comprehensive knowledge shown of the whole Zenon archive, so far as it is yet published. It is illustrated by six plates, one of which (no. 83, a petition to the king) is a singularly beautiful specimen of Ptolemaic writing, while no. 122, one of four non-Zenon documents included in the volume, dated 181 B.C., has a seal with a fine portrait head, which is plainly not that of a Ptolemy, but may be the personal portrait of the writer.

A comprehensive knowledge of the whole Zenon archive is not easily to be come by, owing to the scattering of the component documents. The original discovery was made in 1915, and a considerable section of the find was secured by the Societa Italiana, which began the publication of them with commendable promptitude in 1917. About two-thirds of the whole archive was acquired by the Cairo Museum and admirably edited by C. C. Edgar in four volumes comprising 799 texts. Edgar also edited 120 papyri acquired by the University of Michigan, and 18 in the John Rylands Library at Manchester. The Italian publications have included 276 texts, and a few are in other collections, while a considerable number, still unpublished though partially utilized from Mr. Bell's transcripts, are in the British Museum and possibly elsewhere. The fullest guides to all this mass of material are to be found in Rostovzeff's masterly study, *A Large Estate in Egypt in the third century* B.C. (1922), and in Edgar's introduction to his Michigan publication in 1931.

The importance of the collection lies in the wide outlook it gives over the agricultural life and economy of Egypt in the early part of the Ptolemaic regime. Zenon was the personal assistant of Apollonius, *dioecetes* or economic administrator of Ptolemy Philadelphus for the last fifteen years of his reign. Apollonius was a public official of the highest rank, but Zenon does not appear to have belonged to the civil service. He was a Carian Greek from Caunus in the direct employment of Apollonius, first in Syria and Palestine, where he executed various commissions for his employer, then in Alexandria, and finally, from the twenty-ninth year of

Philadelphus, at Philadelphia in the Fayum, where Apollonius held an estate of 10,000 arourae (about 7,500 acres) of which Zenon was the resident administrator. At the end of Philadelphus' reign Apollonius fell from power; he ceased to be *dioecetes*, and may (as Rostovzeff thinks) have lost his life. But Zenon continued to reside at Philadelphia, where he had evidently acquired property, and his correspondence shows him to have been active as an owner of vineyards and cattle, and also as a moneylender on a considerable scale, for at least the first eight years of Energetes.

Zenon's multifarious activities, whether on behalf of Apollonius or on his own account, involved a very multifarious correspondence; and the general picture of the life on a large Fayum estate has to be pieced together from hundreds of documents, most of which are individually of small importance. The second Columbia contingent adds a number of touches to the picture, some of which may be mentioned. No. 60 is a tiny fragment of a list of books sent by Zenon to his brother Epharmostus, including a 'collection' of an uncertain character by Callisthenes (*συναγωγὴ τῶν προ* [. . . .] *Καλλισθένους*, and another collection of treaties (*πρεσβειῶν*) by an author whose name is lost. No. 63, a list of payments, mentions a Trogodyte with a Greek name, Dorion, and records the employment of an interpreter. No. 66 is the complaint of an employee of Zenon that, although he had faithfully discharged all the duties assigned to him in Syria and at Philadelphia, he could get no pay from his immediate superiors, because he was a barbarian, and had been obliged to betake himself to Syria to avoid starvation. He was employed in connection with camels, and was presumably an Arab from Syria. In no. 69, Theon, known from one of the Cairo texts as a shipowner engaged in the overseas transport trade of Apollonius, appears as concerned in a boat working on the Nile. No. 70 refers to the celebration of the king's birthday, which was evidently variable, as it is in this country. No. 75 is a portion of an account of a year's income and expenditure, apparently written by Zenon himself. On the expenditure side are given the salaries and subsistence allowances given to various categories of employees, amounting to a total of 3,185 drachmas, to which is added 615 drachmas for entertainment of guests and petty cash, making a total of 3,800 drachmas, as against an income of 7,000 drachmas. But, as the editors point out, this is by no means what an auditor would accept as a true and correct view of the financial position of the estate. Overhead expenses for lodgings of employees (referred to in other documents) are not included, and there is no allowance for depreciation of stock or the cost of transport. In short, it is no more an adequate balance sheet of the property than the accounts of many farmers in our own age and country, but it does give some particulars as to rates of wages and allowances. Food allowances appear again in no. 77, where wheat (presumably drawn from the estate's own barns) is assessed at the merely nominal rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ obols an artaba instead of 1 or 2 drachmas (in the note on ll. 18-19 one would expect the total given as *κγ* to be *κδ*, that being the actual total of the items concerned). The same document

gives on its *verso* a further list of miscellaneous expenditures, including items for soldiers (μάχιμοι), barley for pigs and horses, boots and weeding. No. 78 is interesting, as giving a register of sub-tenants on the 10,000-aroura estate. One farm is of just over 200 arouras, but most are smallholdings of 18 to $25\frac{11}{16}$ arouras. In each case deduction is made of areas occupied by the irrigation ditches and for salt-saturated land which was unproductive. In no. 81, an inventory of jars of wine, the use of the word κάμινος for a store-room may be noted; apparently it means a vaulted or oven-like cellar, or wine-bin, such as has been common in Egypt at all times. The same text has the new word ἐναρίστερα (corresponding to ἐνδεξια). No. 83 is a petition in a case where usury and wrongful detention were charged; the creditor is said to have been charging 6 per cent per month, whereas the permissible maximum appears from other sources to have been 2 per cent, with a limiting proviso that the interest must not accumulate to an amount greater than the principal. The creditor is also charged with having detained a boy as a security for the debt, without legal authority. No. 104 is an account of wages paid to hired day labourers (σώματα), the rate being $2\frac{1}{4}$ obols a day. This is exceptionally high, the usual rate being round about 1 obol. Other documents (often very imperfect) deal with such subjects as the transport of goods, the cultivation of vineyards, leases of agricultural land, remissions of rent on account of bad harvests, brick-making, carpet manufacture, and the management of a bath-house (where the caretaker complains that the monarch's officer has impounded all his takings, and that on several days no water was available).

No. 120, one of the four texts not belonging to the Zenon archive (though written on the back of a Zenon document), is important. It contains a royal decree (assigned on palaeographical grounds to the reign of Ptolemy III, B.C. 229-8), requiring a registration of all properties (οὐσίαι), with a view to the assessment of a new tax of 2 per cent in order to supply a donation (δωρεά) for certain persons, who in the district of Alexandria are priests, but in the country districts are the strategi and the agent of the (unspecified) beneficiaries. It would appear therefore that the new tax was intended partly to benefit the powerful corporation of the priesthood, and partly to provide funds for gifts to royal favourites. It is unfortunate that half the width of the papyrus is lost, which causes some obscurity in its interpretation. The editors' discussion of the δωρεαί, in which they acknowledge their indebtedness to suggestions by Professors Rostovzeff and Bradford Welles, is a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the financial methods of the Ptolemies.

It is unfortunate that the war has delayed the publication of the Zenon documents in the British Museum; for when these have been made public it is believed that the main bulk of the archive will be available to scholars, in a manageable number of well-edited volumes. Among these the two volumes of Professor Westermann and his colleagues hold an honourable place.

F. G. KENYON.

SPANISH ROMANESQUE ARCHITECTURE OF THE ELEVENTH CENTURY. By WALTER MUIR WHITEHILL, F.S.A. Pp. xii + 307, with 121 pls., 117 figs. in text, and 3 maps. Oxford University Press, 1941. Price 66s.

The author of this book, well known to members of the Institute, is one of the American scholars who owe much to the teaching and example of the late Professor Kingsley Porter, and his work is appropriately dedicated to the memory of his distinguished master. He has had the advantage of working over ground unfamiliar to English students of architectural history, whose acquaintance with Spanish architecture is almost entirely derived, as a rule, from Street's account of the larger churches, written many years ago and under conditions which made visits to monuments off the beaten track laborious and even dangerous. In more recent years the work of Sr Puig i Cadafalch and his collaborators must have surprised many with its revelation of the endless riches of Romanesque architecture in Catalonia, and, later still, one special aspect of Spanish art in a wider district and in relation to external influences has been strikingly illustrated in Professor Porter's volumes of *Romanesque Sculpture of the Pilgrimage Roads* and *Spanish Romanesque Sculpture*. Although reference to Mr. Whitehill's bibliography will show the activity of Spanish antiquaries and architects in exploring fresh regions of study, yet what he says of Aragon in particular applies to other districts. 'Though the chief Romanesque monuments of the kingdom are known, there may well exist many minor buildings, still unexplored, in remote mountain villages.'

The book is divided into two parts, the first concerned with Catalonia, the second with the larger area of the northern kingdoms of the peninsula. These are preceded by a chapter on the historical setting of the subject, very necessary when it is remembered that there is no more confusing succession of events in European history than that which followed the coming of the Moors and the fall of the Visigothic kingdom in Spain for the next four or five centuries. The essential fact, so far as architecture is concerned, which emerges from the study of this period, is that the development of the art in Catalonia and in the kingdoms to the west of it follows two distinct lines. The influences which reached Catalonia came directly through Provence and were unbroken by political disturbance of any serious kind. On the other hand, the devastation of Castile by Almanzor at the close of the tenth century retarded the growth of architecture in those regions. There is therefore an hiatus between the Mozarabic architecture of the earlier age and the fully developed Romanesque which entered Spain from the north under the patronage of Sancho the Great of Navarre (1000-35) and his son Fernando I of Castile and Leon (1037-65). As Mr. Whitehill reminds us, in such a study as this we must forget the temptation to think of Spain in terms of twentieth-century frontiers and the consequent error of assuming anything like artistic uniformity in a series of districts cut off from each other by mountain ranges. The way of progress, in fact, was from north to south through the passes at either end of the Pyrenees, not from east to west; and further, at the eastern extremity, there was close

political union between Catalonia and the county of Roussillon, now included in France. Such important churches as Saint-Martin-du-Canigou and Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa, fully treated here, belong to the Catalonian group of which the abbey church of Ripoll was the crowning example, while the churches of Elne and Arles-sur-Tech represent the further unfolding of their style in the middle of the eleventh century, a process of development to which Castile and Aragon can offer no parallel.

Special chapters are devoted by Mr. Whitehill to certain churches of first-class importance, such as Ripoll in Catalonia and San Isidoro at Leon, while others are grouped together according to varieties of ground-plan and associated features of construction or, as regards the churches of the western district, on more general lines. No building, however, of any significance is unaccompanied by its plan, while 120 plates of illustrations from photographs form a valuable and beautiful supplement to the text of the volume. The choice of photographs deserves the highest praise for the effective manifestation of the dignity and fine proportions of monuments which, generally speaking, are austere in detail. It is probable that few of Mr. Whitehill's readers have had the opportunity of visiting such churches as San Martin de Frómista or the castle chapel of Loarre, and even to-day the famous monastery of Silos is not too easily accessible to the traveller ; but with the aid of these illustrations and plans of exemplary clearness it is possible to obtain more than a merely transient impression of the place which such buildings occupy in the development of medieval art. Apart from this, the illustrations show a sense of the picturesque to which Mr. Whitehill, as can be seen from more than one passage in his book, is thoroughly alive. The remarkable mountain-setting of Saint-Martin-du-Canigou is not unfamiliar, but is welcome in the context, together with the romantic drawings of the church of this monastery and the cloisters of Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa from Taylor, Nodier and Cailleux's *Voyages pittoresques* (1834) ; while photographs of the churches of Cardona and Loarre, perched on lofty rocks, display two less well-known instances in which attractiveness of situation enhances architectural merit.

The book, apart from these contributory advantages, is the work of a scholar who has spared no pains to get on the closest terms with the object of his study. It is sedulously documented throughout with references to the literature of each building and with quotations of passages from chronicles and charters which throw light on the all-important matter of dates. These offer problems from time to time of which there are conflicting solutions. How, for instance, is ' the vast stylistic and structural gulf ' between the primitive work of Ripoll and the advance noticeable in the contemporary church of Sant Vicenç de Cardona to be satisfactorily explained ? On such questions, in which the evidence of the trained eye comes into collision with written records, Mr. Whitehill suspends his judgement, leaving us with a balanced statement of the case and a suggestion of conclusions to be derived from it. Long work in the congenial surroundings of the cloister of Silos has led him to a tentative reading of the history of its progress and that of the adjoining church which is all the more worthy of careful attention

because of the modesty with which it is put forward. His judgements are characterized equally by caution and independence, for, while he hesitates to dogmatize on his own account, he is equally unready to subscribe to authority unless his reason confirms its pronouncements. We could ask for nothing better from him.

It is an advantage that work of this difficult and exacting type should have been undertaken by one who is so well armed at all points to deal with it. His critical skill in dealing with original texts has been exercised upon an edition of the *Codex Calixtinus*, with its information with regard to the building of the cathedral of Compostela, for the Seminario de Estudos Gallegos. In this, *inter alia*, his careful observation of the original MS has enabled him to detect oversights which are due to alterations made by officious scribes where none were necessary. It is to this great building, the culminating achievement of Spanish art in the eleventh century, that Mr. Whitehill's pilgrimage from the shores of the Mediterranean to the neighbourhood of the Atlantic leads us. His account of it, aided by admirable views of its exterior and interior, by a plan, elevations and a longitudinal section, has been written with an affection and a catholic appreciation of its merits which wisely disclaims any desire to sacrifice the magnificent baroque covering within which the Romanesque church exists in remarkable perfection. Here and in the chapter on Silos his power of description and comment, exercised on subjects of the highest interest, are at their best.

In the cloister of Silos sculpture becomes the matter of chief interest, and the student will follow with interest the suggested attribution of the capitals, of which a complete series of photographs is given, to successive sculptors. Few will disagree with the conclusion that the epitaph of Santo Domingo, carved upon an abacus in the northern cloister, cannot be taken as evidence of a date as early as 1073-76, i.e. between the saint's death and the removal of his body into the church. Whatever the actual date may be, the first sculptor was a master of high imaginative genius, which touched its supreme point in the relief of Pentecost on the face of the pier at the south-east angle of the cloister. In this connexion we may note that in certain instances the names of artists survive in inscriptions. To a somewhat later date belongs Pedro Diostamben, who completed the clerestory of San Isidoro at León. Xemenus, the sculptor of the portal at Nogal de las Huertas, also appears to have worked in the course of the twelfth century. But the inscription over the west portal of the church of Nuestra Senora de Iguaçel in Aragón, recording its building by order of Count Sancho and his wife Urraca, is dated 1072; its carver was named Azena and one Galindo Garcez is called *magister harum picturarum*, presumably the master who carved the capitals of the doorway. In such a context *magister* is a very flexible title, and it is rather unfortunate that Bernardo '*Senex*', the *mirabilis magister* who shared with Rotbertus the direction of the fifty stonemasons at Compostela, bore the same Christian name as Bernardo Gutierrez, the treasurer of the church who became chancellor to Alfonso VII. It does not seem very likely that the *Bernardus senex* who presided over the masons in 1078 was identical with the

Bernardo who died fifty-six years later, and, without dismissing this theory as impossible, it is more reasonable to distinguish the artist from the administrative official and to recognize in the epithet *senex* an indication of the years which separated him from his younger contemporary and namesake.

A. HAMILTON THOMPSON.

IRISH CASTLES AND CASTELLATED HOUSES. By HAROLD G. LEASK, M.R.I.A.I., M.R.I.A. Pp. 170, Pls. 7, and 99 text figs. W. Tempest, Dundalgan Press, Dundalk, 1941. Price 8s. 6d.

There are an infinite number of works of very varying merit, dealing with the castles of England, and no small number dedicated to Scottish military architecture, but for those interested in the subject, and desirous to compare the monuments of Ireland with those of the other kingdoms, there was very little to discover which would enable them to formulate general conclusions. Nothing serious on Irish castle-building had been written since 1902, and research on the subject of war-defences has progressed a good deal since that date.

Hence a special word of approval has to be given to Mr. Leask's excellent book, on which the only word of criticism that can be passed is that it is far too short, and that we would wish his 170 pages had been multiplied to 400, and his charming marginal sketches of architectural detail amplified in corresponding measure. In such short compass it is impossible to give more than a hint at the characteristic features of many of the castles cited—places often unknown even by name to the English reader of archaeological tastes. But setting descriptive detail aside, the great merit of Mr. Leask's book is that it gives us, in its introductory chapters, the means of arriving at parallel conclusions on Irish military architecture and Irish political history. The story is quite different from the annals of building on this side of St. George's Channel, and the difference can be explained by the study of Irish history. In England castles, we may almost say, ceased to be built in any numbers after the end of the thirteenth century—places like Raglan are exceptional—and by the fifteenth century great men were rearing for themselves houses of residence rather than houses of defence. This was not merely the result of the invention of gunpowder and siege artillery, which made stone walls ineffective as they had never been before, but rather of a state of internal consolidation which made normal daily life secure; even the Wars of the Roses were episodic: in many parts of the realm they seem to have had little effect on trade or architecture, the governance of towns or the development of commerce, or the administration of law. In Ireland everything was different—it was a 'shaking sod' ever since the attempt of the great twelfth- and thirteenth-century adventurers had failed to break the native resistance, and the Old Irish and the Anglo-Irish had settled down not to quiet but to endemic strife, in which no man's home was secure from day to day. The last attempts to anglicize—or perhaps we should say to Anglo-Normanize—Ireland had come to an end after Edward Bruce's invasions of Ireland in 1315-18.

Though he himself fell in battle at Dundalk, he had raised fires which never died down. In many regions the 'Englishry' had been swept away, many ancient strongholds were gone, from 1315 to the reign of Henry VIII the English dominion was little more than a name outside the 'Pale'; the survivors of 'the garrison' and the native princes or heads of septs lived on in endemic anarchy, little affected by spasmodic efforts like that of Richard II in 1394, when he entertained 75 'kings' in Dublin, proclaimed universal amnesties, and went off leaving the cauldron still boiling.

This explains why military architecture in Ireland went on, long after it had practically ceased in England. Mr. Leask starts with the earlier stages, which in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries had their parallels in England—first the Norman Motte-and-Bailey castles of Strongbow and his contemporaries, which in 1180-1200 were exactly similar to the structures which William the Norman and his crew built all over conquered England—then the period of stone castles of elaborate strength, such as were built in England to replace the old earth and timber mottes. The great stone castles of Ireland, whether of the rectangular keep style, the polygonal keep style, or the keepless styles—with towers set in the enceinte or great gate-houses, were produced in correspondence to the similar developments in English building. They are enormously numerous, in comparison with the castle-record of England, because the invaders had to make every valley secure with a stronghold, before they could call their lives their own. All the Irish castles of these types, as Mr. Leask shows, belong to various periods of the thirteenth century, and have their parallels in Great Britain—often on the Welsh Border.

But after the harrying of the Englishry in 1315-18 and the invasions of Edward Bruce, there is no parallel in Ireland to the contemporary period in England, when men were beginning to build not castles, but moderately defensible residential houses. The fifteenth, sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries saw in Ireland plenty of building, but the military purpose remained preponderant, and the residential purpose was clearly subordinate. Mr. Leask calls them the 'Tower Houses'—the small castle for the small man, the larger for the tribal chief or the baron of the Pale. No man's life being safe they were reared in enormous numbers, both by Irish and by Anglo-Irish builders. Mr. Leask quotes 120 in County Clare, 253 in Tipperary, in the large county of Cork no less than 325. Their purpose was the same as that of the Peels on the Northumbrian and Scottish Borders—security against trouble which might crop up any night without warning. If similar conditions had prevailed in Oxfordshire we should have in its borders to-day 50 ruined or partially ruined castles instead of five.

The not too happy experiments of the Tudors on the settlement of Ireland merely produced another class of small castles, what Mr. Leask calls the 'Plantation Castles'. It was reduced to a system. Of the 'Undertakers' who settled Ulster under James I 'he who receives 2,000 acres shall erect as defensive work a castle and a strong "bawn" (outer enclosure); he who has 1,500 a house of stone with a strong bawn, while at least a bawn shall be made

by the lesser man with but 1,000 acres'. Tyrone and Fermanagh are full of these 'mass production' castles, all of the same type.

Of buildings principally residential there were very few produced in Ireland in the early Stuart period, and these apparently, as Mr. Leask points out, under the influence of Strafford's iron government in the 1630-40 years. Many of them were built only to be destroyed in the great insurrection of 1641. The chaos came once more, only to be ended by the ruthless repression of the native resistance by Cromwell's great force of artillery, against which castles old or new proved helpless.

'But not every castle suffered bombardment—had this been so few of them would have survived to-day . . . Far the greater number never felt the blows of Cromwellian or Williamite artillery. Their tale of ruin was long drawn out—a story of neglect by owners, and spoliation by them, or other quarriers of later times. Most of them are roofless and abandoned, and a prey to the clinging ivy, destructive green mantle dear to the sentimentalist' (p. 144).

When building began again in the eighteenth century, the 'Georgian' style prevailed. 'Then were reared the solid four-square symmetrical Classic blocks, which in their grander examples had wide-spreading often colonnaded wings, to add to their grandeur. The castle was dead, it had become a picturesque incident of the demesne—all the more "romantick" if mantled in ivy' (p. 151).

This is a fascinating book to the archaeologist—all the more so, not from its photographic plates, though they are excellent, but from the beautiful little marginal decorations which testify to the skill of Mr. Leask's pencil.

C. OMAN.

THE FIRST CHURCHWARDENS' BOOK OF LOUTH, 1500-1524. Transcribed and edited by REGINALD C. DUDDING, F.S.A. Printed for subscribers by the Oxford University Press, 1941. Pp. 234 and xx, with frontispiece.

The Rev. R. C. Dudding, to whom all who are interested in the history of Lincolnshire owe much, completed the transcription of this important document shortly before his death in 1937 and the work of seeing it through the press was entrusted to Mr. G. S. Dixon, F.S.A.

The record is an interesting and valuable one, since it covers the period in which St. James' Church, Louth, almost the swan-song of the Perpendicular period, was re-built and the magnificent steeple was erected.

The history of the volume itself is somewhat romantic. In 1790 Sir Joseph Banks of Revesby apparently borrowed it, in order to make extracts which he communicated to the Society of Antiquaries and it appears that he failed to return it and that it remained in the possession of his family until the dispersal of the Revesby Library. After this it came into the hands of Sir Charles Anderson of Lea Hall, near Gainsborough, who eventually returned it, in 1891, to its original and proper home.

A considerable number of the entries are of a kind familiar to anyone who has read many old churchwardens' accounts, but there are many of more than ordinary interest. The detailed inventory of 1486, to which the late Edward Peacock drew attention (*Assoc. Architect. Socs. Reports and Papers*, 1873, p. 32) shows an extraordinary wealth of plate and vestments as well as a perfect library of service books, including ' j legend of saynts of the use of lyncoln '.

The conspicuous feature of the greater part of the record is the light which it sheds upon the way in which money was raised for the building of a great pre-reformation church. As the Editor says in his Introduction : ' For fifteen years, with scanty labour and scantier means, the work was carried on. They borrowed from the gilds and the richer inhabitants, they pledged their silver crosses and chalices, and they begged what they could in money and labour and kind. From the richest to the poorest all seem to have been affected with a like zeal '. Eventually, in 1515, the work came to an end ' and the wedercoke was sett upon the broche of holy rode ewyn '.

It is hardly necessary to say that the book is well produced and it is interesting to note that Mr. John Johnson, the Printer, has close family associations with north Lincolnshire.

A few footnotes are given, mostly of a glossarial character. Some of them are rather misleading or inaccurate ; for example, the term ' fereall days ' is defined as ' every day except Saturday or Sunday,' the Asperges is called a Mass and the length of the ell is given as 45 inches. There are indexes of places and subjects but the former is far from complete and a fairly random checking reveals 19 omissions and one incorrect reference. An index of persons would have added considerably to the length of the volume but would also have enhanced its usefulness. A number of the individuals mentioned were interesting and the Editor gives particulars of a few of them in his Introduction.

Among the more humble names may be noticed that of Richard Melton, who was perhaps a brother of Nicholas Melton or ' Captain Cobbler,' who played so conspicuous a part in the Lincolnshire Rising of 1536. Richard is presumably the same who was admitted to sanctuary at Beverley in 1523 for the murder of Robert Lancaster, a pardoner, at Haugham (*Surtees Soc.*, vol. 5, p. 180).

The frontispiece is a very fine reproduction of Thomas Espin's view of Louth steeple, taken from *The Beauties of England and Wales*.

PETER B. G. BINNALL.

SIR HENRY CHURCHILL MAXWELL-LYTE 1848-1940. By CHARLES JOHNSON. Proceedings of the British Academy. Vol. xxvi. Pp. 19 London : Milford, 1941. Price 2s. 6d.

The brief memoir of Sir Henry Churchill Maxwell-Lyte, written for the British Academy, is a worthy tribute to a scholar to whose work as Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records students of English history owe an irrepayable debt. His life, prolonged most fortunately into its tenth decade and a retirement from office which

showed no abatement of energy or intellectual power, was spent in self-effacing devotion to duties which he carried out with striking success. Beside the long series of Record Office publications, whose growth he sedulously fostered at the head of a group of colleagues infected by his unremitting diligence, the works which actually bear his name are possibly of secondary importance. But the well-known *History of Eton College* in many successive editions and his masterly contribution to diplomatic science in *The Great Seal* are examples of his skill in communicating the essential substance of material amassed by long and patient study. Nor must his contributions to the history and genealogy of his ancestral county in the two volumes of *The Luttrells of Dunster* and in his editions of the registers of fifteenth- and sixteenth-century bishops of Bath and Wells be forgotten in any estimate of the variety and versatility of his talents. Of the memoir itself it is enough to say that the author is Mr. Charles Johnson, a friend and colleague whose name is a guarantee of his peculiar fitness for the work.

A.H.T.