

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE YEAR.

“Index to Nicolson and Burn’s History and Antiquities of the Counties of Cumberland Westmorland,” abridged and revised from the MS. of the late Daniel Scott, and edited for the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, by Henry Hornyold-Strickland (Kendal: Titus Wilson & Son; Demy Quarto, pp. vi, 167; 21/- to Subscribers before publication; 30/- to Subscribers after publication).

All students of the history and antiquities of Cumberland and Westmorland are under a debt of gratitude to Mr. Hornyold-Strickland for providing them with this key to unlock the treasure-house of information contained in the two ponderous volumes of *Nicolson and Burn*.

Though published as long ago as 1777, this monumental work, despite its errors and omissions, remains the only complete history of the two counties, and will probably remain so until the much-desired completion of the Victoria County History. It seems strange, therefore, that we have had to wait so long for the compilation of an adequate index to a work so essential to all who have to deal with our local history. The present volume is an abridgement and revision of material collected by our late member, Mr. Daniel Scott, whose manuscript has been purchased by our Society. As Mr. Hornyold-Strickland explains in his “foreword” to the volume, it has been found necessary to abridge Mr. Scott’s two bulky manuscript volumes in order to render the index cheaper and easier for reference.

The work of the editor has been well done and a reference to the pages of the book will show that where Nicolson and Burn have been proved to be in error over the attribution of an identity, a note to that effect has been added. It may be added that the typography and general make-up of the book are alike excellent.

It would be a superfluous task to emphasise the importance of this index and it is to be hoped that it will meet with the success it so well deserves.

“The Barony of Gilsland, Lord William Howard’s Survey taken in 1603,” edited by T. H. B. Graham, M.A., F.S.A. (Kendal: Titus Wilson & Son, 1934; pp. xiv, 160; 15/-), being Volume

XVI of the Extra Series of the Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological Society (in the press).

All that concerns that truly great man, Lord William Howard of Naworth, will ever appeal to a wide circle of readers, and those who have studied with delight the intimate details of his domestic life contained in his *Household Books*, will extend a welcome to this survey of his estates in Gilsland. The full title of the manuscript, the contents of which are now for the first time made accessible to the public, is "An unexamined Copy of the Feild Booke Y<sup>t</sup> explaines all the Map Booke for Gilsland, taken in 1603." The original document, as Mr. Graham informs us in his introduction, has long lurked among the family muniments at Castle Howard, Yorkshire, but the old copy printed in this volume has been very kindly entrusted by Lady Henley, a lineal descendant of "Belted Will" to our Society, with permission to publish the same.

The Survey was made at a critical period of Border history; for it coincides with the ill-advised attempt of James I to abolish customary tenure and to substitute leases at an improved rent. Lord William was thus placed in a dilemma. "He had to decide between loyalty to his new sovereign and fatherly regard for his new tenants, who were by nature a turbulent crew." Mr. Graham, from the details of the survey, draws the inference that he chose the former course. At all events, he had trouble enough later with his tenants, who held indignation meetings at High Gelt Bridge and resisted the innovation.

All these matters are clearly explained by Mr. Graham in his introduction, the careful perusal of which will help the reader to understand the full significance of many passages in the text of the Survey.

With regard to the Survey itself, it is needless to emphasise the importance of this record of early 17th century Gilsland, with all its wealth of place-names, field-names, lists of tenants and rentals and miscellaneous information. It will prove a valuable book of reference to all who wish to study the history of a large and important district of Cumberland. Its publication has been delayed owing to a technical difficulty in reproducing some old maps, with which it is hoped to illustrate the text, but it is hoped that the volume will appear shortly.

"The Registers of Lowther, 1540-1812," transcribed by Henry Brierley, M.A., LL.D., indexed by Charles S. Jackson, Esq., Hazel Bank, Yanwath. Privately printed for the Parish Register

Section of this Society (pp. 216; uniform with the series of which it forms Vol. 21).

The Committee for the publication of Parish Registers continues its unremitting labour of making easily accessible to all who take an interest in our local history parish records of which the value is year by year better appreciated. The Registers of Lowther, the Committee's latest publication, possess a melancholy interest in having been transcribed, as Dr. Haswell informs us in an introductory note, by our late Honorary Member, Dr. Brierley, to whom our Society is deeply indebted for the transcription of so many of the registers published in this series. A new feature in the present volume is a preface written by the Rev. J. F. Prince, M.A., Rector of Lowther, in which the writer gives an admirable summary of the history of Lowther and of the Lowther family.

There are comparatively few notes in these registers, but those that occur are of interest as referring to Lowther School and other charities. Naturally entries relating to members of the Lowther family and their dependents bulk large in the records. Among the burials is the interesting entry under Feb. 8th., 1647:—*"Dignissima Domina Dom: Maria Lowther Uxor Johannis Lowther, Milit: et Barronet. qua non praestantior ultra Illa nec melior quisquam nec amantior aequi et mulier neque reverentior ulla deorum."* It is interesting too, to trace earlier mentions of Hackthorpe Hall and of Lowther New Town, which sprang up after the demolition of Lowther Old Town in front of the Castle. There are several allusions to the famous carpet factory established in the village.

Among the family names occurs that of Wordsworth. It will be remembered that John Wordsworth, the poet, William Wordsworth's grandfather bought an estate at the neighbouring Sockbridge. The old spellings of place-names in these Registers call for no special comment, but the student of the history of this ancient village and its manors of Hackthorpe, Whale and Melkintorpe will find much to help him in his research. The Parish Register Section of our Society deserves encouragement in the prosecution of a task to which it devotes its energies.

"Records of the Carruthers Family," compiled by A. Stanley Carruthers, F.S.A.Scot. and R. C. Reid (London: Elliot Stock, 1933; pp. 198; 21s. net). The history of the ancient family of Carruthers whose members played so important a part upon the stage of Border history and whose descendants are so numerous

throughout our Northern Counties should appeal to a wide circle of readers. This book is a scholarly piece of work, well arranged and carefully documented. Special interest attaches to the chapter upon the connection of the family with Mouswald, an account of which is provided by our Member, Mr. R. C. Reid. The earliest mediaeval mention of the Carruthers family appears to be in the reign of Alexander II (1215-45), when William de Carruthers made a donation to the abbey of Newbattle, and a Simon de Carruthers, parson of Middlebie, was among those who swore fealty to Edward I of England in 1296. Later on, according to Bain, members of the family were Stewards of Annandale under the princes and guardians of the "Old Kirk Ford" at Hoddam. They seem to have come to Mouswald in the second quarter of the 14th century. A clear account, with pedigrees, is given of the various branches of the family. Those of Langholm, Carlisle and Barrow will possibly be of most interest to many of our members.

"The History of Aldingham and of the Parish Church of St. Cuthbert" (Kendal: Titus Wilson & Son, 1934; pp. 27; 1s. net). In a preface of this excellent little pamphlet, the Bishop of Barrow gracefully acknowledges the help received in its compilation from Mr. J. R. Hayston and our member, Mr. J. Dickinson. A short but clear account of what is known of the early history of Muchland, is followed by a history of Aldingham Church, a description of its architectural features, and an annotated list of the rectors who have held the living. A word of praise should be accorded to Mr. Hayston's illustrations and plan of the "motte" and "moated grange" of Aldingham. A genealogical table of the lords of the manor of Muchland is appended.

"Excavations at the Roman Fort at Brough-on-Humber," by Philip Corder, M.A., F.S.A. (Published by Hull University College, 1934: One shilling).

Our member Mr. Corder has added another to the rapidly-growing list of his reports on Yorkshire excavations. He has now partly dug the Roman fort at Brough-on-Humber, which was already long known as an important site demanding further study, finding the east rampart of a fort about 500 feet long, an earthwork later revetted with a stone wall and protected by three ditches; and traces of occupation outside the fort itself, whose ditches appear to have been partly filled up in the second century. The

original construction of the fort was very early, apparently pre-Flavian, and Mr. Corder connects it with the campaigns of Didius Gallus (A.D. 51-57). The coins at present known go from Nero to Valens, and cover the whole period pretty evenly. It is much to be hoped that this admirable report will be followed by others, detailing the results of further work.

“The Millom District, a history”; by Frank Warriner. (Dickinson, Millom, 1932). Mr. Warriner's short book—it is only about 60 pages long—contains an introductory chapter on the pre-Norman history of the Lordship of Millom, with observations on pre-history and on the Anglian and Norse settlements and place-names; a chapter on the Boyvils and Hudlestons; one on churches and chapels; one on the castle; one on industries, and one on clergy, hunting, the enclosures, Quakers, schools and charities. There are eight illustrations, and the whole forms a compact and useful little local history.

“Some Ulverston Records,” compiled by James Park. (Ulverston, 1932).

This quarto of a hundred pages, with a frontispiece of Ulverston Market in the 18th century and two maps, is divided into 35 short chapters arranged alphabetically, with such titles as Backbarrow Mills and Iron Furnace, Bardsea Hall and Manor, Belmont and so forth, each giving a brief summary of facts and citations of title-deeds and other documents. Mr. Park, who is one of our oldest members, elected in 1890, has long been domiciled in New York; and it is a special pleasure to welcome a contribution to local history by one whose long residence across the Atlantic has not weakened his interest in his birthplace.

“An Essay on Philosophical Method,” by R. G. Collingwood. (Oxford, 1933).

This book represents an attempt to lay down the principles of method proper to philosophical thought, as distinct from those appropriate to the exact (or mathematical) and empirical sciences.

“The Roman Wall in Scotland,” by Sir George Macdonald, K.C.B., LL.D., D.Litt., F.B.A. (Second edition: Oxford, 1934). Everyone at all interested in Roman subjects knows the first edition of our Honorary Member's book, published in 1911. This edition is almost completely re-written, to embrace the great body of new material won in the last 23 years, mostly by Sir George's

own labours; and it now forms a splendid volume of nearly 500 pages, with 80 plates, 57 illustrations in the text, and—a most important feature—a complete set of six-inch maps showing the course of the Antonine Wall in detail. It is enough here to say that Sir George has given us what will probably remain for ever the classical description of the Scottish frontier-works; a book in which sound scholarship, literary elegance, and fine printing and production are magnificently combined. Sir George has done for the northern Wall what Bruce, threequarters of a century ago, did for the southern; and the difference between their two great works is a measure of the impressive advance that archaeological and historical research has made in the meantime.