

ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SURVEY.

The appeal published below is commended to the close attention of our readers. The enormous contribution which scientific place-name study can make to our knowledge of early England has become very clear of recent years. But this study cannot be effective unless it is based on a very extensive examination of the early forms of place-names as known from surviving documents.

The English Place-Name Society can arrange for a trained scholar to decipher such deeds and is of course concerned to record and publish only place-name spellings; with the general contents of the documents it has no concern. It is hoped that all who have local records of any antiquity or can secure access to them, will give their fullest co-operation in this important and fruitful venture, in which Professor F. M. Stenton, F.B.A. asks our aid.

THE ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SOCIETY.

The English Place-Name Society, which is now completing a volume on the Place-Names of Cumberland, hopes before an indefinite time to publish a volume also on the Place-Names of Westmorland. The names of this county are very interesting in themselves, and illustrate many important historical problems. But the remoteness of the county from the main centres of the national administration means that its history is imperfectly represented in the national records. The experience of the Society in regard to Cumberland, where similar conditions prevail, has shown that no survey of the place-names of the Lake Counties can in any way approach completeness unless extensive reference is made to muniments in private possession. It would be of great assistance to the work of the Society if any owner of such a collection who was willing that his documents should be read for the forms of place- and field-names which they contain, would communicate with the Acting Editor of these *Transactions*, Mr. J. C. Dickinson, c/o History Dept., Leeds University, Leeds 2, who will be glad to supply further information.

In north-western England, documents as late as the eighteenth century frequently contain spellings of value for the purposes of the Place-Name Survey, and the Director of this Survey is anxious to miss no opportunity of obtaining the information which records, even of this late period, can supply.