

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. "The origins of the Austin Canons and their introduction into England" by the Rev. J. C. Dickinson; 308 pp. and frontispiece of St. Augustine, 20/- (S.P.C.K., 1950).

The publication of this volume on the Austin Canons has been eagerly awaited for several years. It was already in page-proof in 1939, and since the end of the war its issue has been further delayed by production difficulties. The eagerness and the waiting have been in part rewarded for, as Mr Dickinson states in his preface, the Austin Canons were "the most neglected religious order in the medieval church", and this statement is especially true of the activities of the Order in England. Thanks are due to Mr Dickinson for his careful perusal of all the printed sources and all the most recent, as well as the earlier, foreign research on the origins of the Order, on its history to the beginning of the thirteenth century, on the observance of the early Regular Canons and on their status. He adds an important appendix on the textual history of the Rule of St. Augustine, though it would have been still more valuable if he had given his own views on the rival theories of foreign scholars; as it is, the reader is given no real direction on which of the opposing views to accept, and in technical matters of this kind the reader has the right to expect the guidance of the latest expert investigator.

But more interesting and important than his synthesis of the printed sources and foreign monographs and articles on the Austin Canons are Mr Dickinson's chapters on the history of the Order in England and on early relations with the secular clergy in England, and the two useful appendixes on surviving English Augustinian cartularies and their transcripts, and a handlist of independent houses of Augustinian Canons in England. The appendix of cartularies is clearly not complete, and the author does not tell us whether he has consulted those not in print (his use of Llanthony material suggests that he has not). The appendix of houses, also, is not complete; for example, though Llanthony Prima is mentioned, St. John's, Carmarthen, is omitted; and no reference is given for the statement that the house of Baxterwood, County Durham, was founded by Hugh de Puiset but almost immediately suppressed, through Benedictine influence. Another useful appendix gives foundation charters, some from manuscript sources, of the houses of St. Gregory's, Canterbury, St. Osyth's, Plympton, Dunmow

and Thoby. If this appendix contains no new document concerning a northern house, Mr Dickinson has not forgotten the North in the attention he has paid to the foundation of such houses as Brinkburn, Hexham and Bamburgh in Northumberland, Lanercost and Carlisle in Cumberland, Cartmel, Conishead and Thornton abbey in Lancashire. There was no Augustinian house in Westmorland, but Mr Dickinson lists and deals with no less than eleven houses in Yorkshire: Bolton, Bridlington, Drax, Guisborough, Haltemprice, Healaugh Park, Kirkham, Marton, Newburgh, Nostell and Warter, and the two Nostell cells of Tockwith and Whitkirk.

Of the houses in Cumberland, pride of place is naturally and rightly given by Mr Dickinson to Carlisle, concerning the origins of which cathedral he has contributed an admirable article in these *Transactions*, which forms the basis of the section on the establishment of an Augustinian house at Carlisle in the present volume, though he has some important additions to make. Carlisle, of course, is notable as the one English house of regular canons which acquired cathedral status. It was founded as a house of regular canons in 1122-3, thus probably ranking eighteenth in date of the English Augustinian foundations. In 1133 Henry I "made a new bishopric at Carlisle", and Athelwold, its first bishop, was consecrated; Mr Dickinson brings strong arguments to prove that "arrangements for this had probably been begun some years before and by the time of his death were by no means complete": for Henry I gave a group of churches to the priory of Carlisle on condition that "the clerks who have them shall have from thence what is necessary and the canons shall have the rest." Following the *Historia Regum* (which he quotes as by Symeon of Durham, though its attribution to Symeon is more than doubtful), Mr Dickinson comes to the conclusion that "the foundation of a house of regular canons at Carlisle almost certainly followed Henry I's visit to the city in the winter of 1122, and was probably a consequence of it, the king perhaps backing earlier attempts to found a monastery . . . The king was undoubtedly the legal founder, but perhaps . . . he reaped where others had sown. The inadequate charter evidence does not clear up the matter, but gives no hint of the house existing before 1122." He considers that the nucleus of the original endowment was perhaps the lands and churches given by Walter the Chaplain and confirmed by the king between 1126 and 1129, the limits of the dates assigned by W. Farrer, and that such early benefactions as these would seem largely to have come from the king.

In the case of the foundation of the house at Carlisle Mr

Dickinson is more justified than in a number of cases, in complaining about the inadequacy of the charter evidence. At Carlisle some of the gaps in the charters can be filled by references in chronicles, but there is also important record evidence—for instance a writ of Henry I directing that the canons of Carlisle should have “the bounds of the forest as the king gave them to them in alms, and as he ordered them to be determined.” Again following Farrer, this writ is dated 1121-1129; but the earlier limit is clearly too early, and its adoption vitiates the acceptance of the fact that the foundation followed Henry I’s visit to the city in the winter of 1122 (on p. 249 a misprint makes it 1212). There appears to be little reason to doubt that Henry I made the grant of churches in 1123, ten years before the consecration of the first bishop. The churches were Newcastle upon Tyne and Newburn, with the reversion of those of Warkworth, Corbridge, Whittingham and Rothbury after the death of their holder; these are the six churches mentioned in a royal letter of 1219 to Pope Honorius III, in which they are specifically referred to as a grant of Henry I at the first foundation of the church of Carlisle: and Henry I’s interest in the new foundation is further evidenced by the record of a payment of £10 to the canons of Carlisle, for the building of their church, in the Pipe Roll of 31 Henry I, the only Pipe Roll which has survived before the reign of Henry II. For the preliminary endowment, and the view that Carlisle cathedral was planned about the time of Henry I’s visit in the winter of 1122, there is considerable show of reason, despite the lack of contemporary or early disinterested evidence; it is reasonable, also, to accept the statements that the foundation of the bishopric was delayed by the slowness with which an adequate endowment was acquired. Ten years, however, can hardly be considered a lengthy period of time, in the first half of the twelfth century, for providing reasonable endowments for a cathedral chapter, either regular or secular, in the circumstances which prevailed in contemporary Cumberland. Due weight is given to the fact that Archbishop Thurston of York’s metropolitan rights were persistently denied and, indeed, held in contempt by John, Bishop of Glasgow, to whose diocese Cumberland then belonged; but the bishopric of Durham had competing claims, not only to episcopal jurisdiction but also to eleemosynary gifts. Even after 1133, when a bishop was consecrated, the project was still uncompleted at Henry’s death in 1135; for in the following year Innocent II wrote to King Stephen “urging him to complete the arrangements for the foundation of the see which his predecessor had greatly desired but left uncompleted”, and in the same

year (1136) "the Carlisle district was ceded to the king of Scotland, a circumstance which is unlikely to have assisted the consolidation of the cathedral."

There we must leave Carlisle, in treating of the foundation of which Mr Dickinson is at his best. His account of the foundation of Hexham is not so convincing, for he places too much reliance on James Raine and the *Historia Regum*, though Thomas II, Archbishop of York, as well as his successor, Thurston, may have had something to do with the settlement of regular canons there. It is difficult, however, to read full meaning into the statement that the alienation of church property by secular canons at Hexham "had taken a comparatively respectable form". On Lanercost, Mr Dickinson has the advantage of the existence of a transcript of a cartulary, formerly at Naworth Castle; this enables him to cite Lanercost as a possible instance "of an English house of regular canons serving a great part of their churches in person", on the evidence of grants by Bernard, bishop of Carlisle, and of Aimeric, archdeacon of Carlisle, "to convert the lands of churches, the tithes and profits, to their own use and to minister to the churches in their own persons and through chaplains". Brinkburn, too, has its cartulary; its mother house appears to have been Pentney and the date of its foundation *c.* 1135: it is listed among the "English houses which had few or no churches in their original endowment". There appears to be no surviving cartulary of Cartmel; here the foundation charter specifically ordained that the house was not to be raised to the dignity of an abbey—a clause which Mr Dickinson finds is "probably to be interpreted as a prudent gesture on the founders' part, aimed at preventing the convent aspiring after a dignity they might find too onerous to bear without detriment." Lastly Bamburgh, also without a cartulary, but the deficiency in this case is offset by the valuable cartulary of Nostell, for Bamburgh was founded as a cell of Nostell and remained dependent upon its mother house throughout its life; though this wealthy church had been granted to Nostell by Henry I, there seems to have been a long delay before effective possession was obtained, and no canons appear to have resided there before the thirteenth century.

Enough has been said about the small group of northern houses to illustrate the value of Mr Dickinson's material about the houses of Austin canons in England as a whole. Though he has perhaps made less use of printed record sources than might have been made, he has marshalled well the material which he has used, and his book is a valuable contribution to the history of "the most neglected order of the medieval church."

J. Conway Davies.

2. "The British section of the Ravenna Cosmography" by I. A. Richmond and O. G. S. Crawford; 50 pp., 10 plates, 10/- (overprint from *Archæologia* xciii, Society of Antiquaries of London, 1949).

The appearance of this study is doubly welcome, as a contribution to elucidating the geography of the Roman world in general and for the light which it throws on many of the Roman place-names in our own district. The joint authors are a vice-president and an honorary member respectively of this Society, and they have been able to draw, for the study of Celtic etymologies, on the assistance of another of our honorary members, Sir Ifor Williams. They give a general introduction on the Ravenna geographer and his method of compilation, a critical text of the section of his work which relates to Britain, and an alphabetical gazetteer of the individual names, of places or of rivers, with notes on derivation and meaning; at the end are a half-tone reproduction of the surviving portion of Britain on the Peutinger map, itself a road-map such as formed the basis for the Ravenna lists, and facsimiles of the manuscripts in Rome, Paris and Basel which have been studied in the revision of the Latin text. The Ravenna geographer (his name is unknown) compiled his work, in a far from classical Latin, towards the end of the seventh century, but he drew his materials for Britain from a second-century map of the road-system and the main rivers of the province; and it is a particular service of the present study that it demonstrates how his strings of names, which in the past have baffled scholars of the highest repute, represent methodical compilation in which each road from a given road-centre is laid under contribution for place-names, before the writer moves on to another part of the map. Special attention may be directed to the diagrams which illustrate how the roads and place-names in our own district found their way into the work (figs. x and xi, p. 11, and xiii, p. 12); and it may be noted that a coastal road from Ravenglass to the western end of the Wall is clearly indicated, while one from Papcastle to Brougham and Kirkby Thore is at least implied. Twenty-two names belong to our district; for details, reference must be made to the gazetteer, but a bare list of the names and identifications proposed for them may be given here: Alauna = Maryport; Avalava (Aballava) = Burgh-by-Sands; Banna = Bewcastle; Bereda (Voreda) = Old Penrith; Bribra = Beckfoot; Brocara = "foaming stream", in north Cumberland beyond the Wall; Caluvio (Galacum) = Burrow in Lonsdale; Cantiventi (Glannoventa) = Ravenglass; Coantia = river Kent; Derbentione = river Derwent and Papcastle;

Fanococidi = "shrine of Cocidius", in north Cumberland beyond the Wall; Gabaglanda (Camboglanna) = Birdoswald; Gabrocentis (Gabrosentum) = Moresby; Galluvio (Galava) = Ambleside; Iuliocenon (Itunocelum?) = a site north of Raven-glass and south of Moresby, not yet identified; Lagubalium (Luguvalium) = Carlisle; Maio or Maia = Bowness on Solway; Mediobogdo = Hardknott Castle; Olerica = Old Carlisle; Ravonia (Bravoniacum) = Kirkby Thore; Uxelludamo (Uxellodunum) = Castlesteads; Valteris (Verterae) = Brough under Stainmore. It will be seen that there are not many omissions to be noted: Watercrook, and the direct road southward to Lancaster; the small fort at Drumburgh on the Wall; Whitley Castle, between Kirkby Thore and Carvoran on the Wall (though that fort, coming just across the county border, does not come strictly within our purview); Brougham (but Old Penrith to north and Kirkby Thore to south of it appear); Brampton (the early fort at Old Church or the near by civilian site); and possibly Netherby (unless the shrine of Cocidius was in fact located there). But these omissions are sufficient to show that the cartographic basis of the Ravenna list was not an exhaustive one, though it constitutes the most important single ancient source for the topography of Roman Cumbria.

3. "Cumberland and Westmorland" by Norman Nicholson; x + 259 pp., 49 plates and a map, 15/- (The County Books series, Robert Hale Ltd., 1949).

The writer makes acknowledgments to several members of this Society for assistance in his task, and gives *VCH Cumberland* and our *Transactions* as the two works of reference which he has found continually useful. The resulting book has much to recommend it: some really admirable photographs of scenery or of structures, an easy style and a light and confident touch; it will undoubtedly prove popular with the general public for whom it is intended. But there is a curious lack of balance to be observed in its treatment of the district. North Westmorland might hardly exist; Brampton (only mentioned, to call it "on the Roman Wall") and North Cumberland are virtually ignored; so, in effect, is the Cumberland plain. In his own West Cumberland and the southern part of the Lake District the author plainly feels at home; on his visits to other parts of the territory which the book purports to deal with, he observes and writes as a stranger. It is fortunate that W. G. Collingwood's *The Lake Counties* is still available, if only in an edition which omits its gazetteer, to serve as a guide to the whole of our territory; but it is perhaps unfair on Mr Nicholson that we

should expect him to produce a book to compare with that. Granted his individual outlook and the limitations of his interests, he has at least given us good entertainment.

4. "Northumberland" by Herbert L. Honeyman; xii + 288 pp., 49 plates and a map, 15/- (The County Books series, Robert Hale Ltd., 1949).

Mr Honeyman's book on Northumberland is a first-class piece of work; it is divided into a historical and a descriptive section, the latter showing great skill in its selection of places to describe and in the describing of them. A detailed review would be out of place in these *Transactions*, but the book is warmly recommended to our members' attention.

5. "The Place-Names of Cumberland": "Part I, Eskdale, Cumberland and Leath Wards" and "Part II, Allerdale below Derwent and Allerdale above Derwent Wards", by A. M. Armstrong, A. Mawer, F. M. Stenton and Bruce Dickins; xiv + 458 pp. (continuously paginated), 18/- each volume (vols. xx and xxi of the English Place-Name Society, Cambridge University Press, 1950).

A third Part of this long-awaited work is still to come, containing "a long Introduction and the usual preliminary matter, an Appendix on the Romano-British names of Cumberland, a List of Elements (which will necessarily be much fuller than usual since *The Chief Elements used in English Place-Names* is out of print and in process of thorough revision by Professor Hugh Smith), a large distribution map of a new type, and a much more comprehensive index than in the past." Until the whole work has been completed, a detailed review in these *Transactions* would be premature; but members may be well assured that money spent on these first two volumes will be a wise investment. It need hardly be mentioned that this Society's publications are laid under constant contribution; it is perhaps unfortunate that references are in general to volumes only and not to pages, and that we shall have to await Part III for a list of the abbreviations employed (they are very many and often drastic); but there is much to be learnt from the study of the two Parts now before us, and it is to be hoped that they will form part of the working library of all who are interested in any aspect of the history and the archæology of Cumberland. After chapters devoted to baronies, river-names, lake-names, forests and miscellaneous names (pp. 1-50) comes the main survey of the five wards; in this the parishes are arranged alphabetically in each ward, and within each parish there is a section, in

smaller type, devoted to its field-names—a subject on which there is still room for a great deal of research, the results of which would be a useful contribution to our *Transactions*.

6. "Topography of Roman Scotland North of the Antonine Wall" by O. G. S. Crawford; xii + 162 pp., 21 plates, 32 text-figures, index map and folding plan, 25/- (Cambridge University Press, 1949).

The Editor of *Antiquity* needs no introduction to this Society, which did itself honour by electing him an honorary member in 1936. The present volume gives the text of the Rhind Lectures which he delivered in Edinburgh in 1943; apart from the interest of its main theme, it is of exceptional value as a demonstration of the way in which a combination of old methods and new, air photography and field-work and the scrutiny of old records and maps, can lead to important additions to our knowledge of the Roman occupation.

7. "Ways of medieval life and thought" by F. M. Powicke; 255 pp., 12/6 (Odhams, 1949).

Our honorary member Sir Maurice Powicke has collected into this volume a dozen papers previously published in a variety of other places, and has added two fresh studies. The book itself is intended for the general reader, and it is warmly commended to the attention of members of the Society; like Walter Daniel, the biographer of Ailred of Rievaulx—to a charming study of whose life the first paper is devoted—Sir Maurice can write: and though his essays have no direct bearing on the history of our district, they throw varied and ample light on the medieval period, of which he is an acknowledged master. Particular interest will be aroused by the three chapters which consider important aspects of university life and its influence, incidentally stressing the remarkable thoroughness of the basic training which the graduate clergy had undergone, and explaining their frequent employment in the highest offices of state.

8. "Archæological Bulletin for the British Isles, 1947"; viii + 95 pp., 3/6 (Council for British Archæology, 1950).

The Bulletin for 1940-1946 has already been noticed in our *Transactions* (CW2 xlix 230); the present pamphlet deals with Cumberland at pp. 7-8, Westmorland on p. 46, and gives (what perhaps constitutes its most important feature) at pp. 79-89 a bibliography, arranged alphabetically under authors' names, of articles which were published in periodicals during 1947; a similar bibliography of recent books and pamphlets, with references to

reviews of them, occupies the last six pages. The classification by counties is not invariably accurate; thus, Drumburgh has been transferred from Cumberland to Northumberland (p. 35), and Walney Island, Low Furness, Coniston and Cartmel are assigned to Cumberland. But these are minor blemishes in a really useful work of reference.

9. *Archæologia Aeliana*, fourth series, xxviii (1950), contains the following articles by members of this Society: "Castles of Northumberland from the air" by Dr J. K. St. Joseph; "The medieval forests of Northumberland" by W. Percy Hedley; "A Roman altar from Staward Pele and Roman remains in Allendale" by Eric Birley; and "Excavations on the Roman site at Corbridge 1946-1949" by I. A. Richmond and J. P. Gillam.

10. *The Journal of Roman Studies*, xl (1950), contains an important and stimulating survey, by Professor I. A. Richmond, entitled "Hadrian's Wall, 1939-49"; other articles by members of this Society include "The governors of Numidia A.D. 193-268" by Eric Birley, "Nero: some aspects" by our lamented Vice-President, the late M. P. Charlesworth, and "Roman Britain in 1949" by Miss M. V. Taylor and Mr R. P. Wright.

11. *The Antiquaries Journal*, xxx (1950), includes a paper on "Stukeley's lamp, the badge of the Society of Antiquaries" by I. A. Richmond.