

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

1. "The Place-Names of Cumberland: Part III, Introduction, etc." by A. M. Armstrong, A. Mawer, F. M. Stenton and Bruce Dickins; lxxx + pp. 459-565 (continuing the pagination of the two previous parts), 18/- (vol. xxii of the English Place-Name Society, Cambridge University Press, 1952).

The two previous Parts of this important work were noticed briefly in CW2 1 220 f.; this final part includes a long Introduction, discussing the geography of Cumberland, its Wards, the Roman and British periods, the British revival, the Anglian period, the Irish-Scandinavian settlement, Gospatric's writ (with text, translation and a half-tone illustration), the Norman period, the Angevin period and after, and Mining and place-names by Professor Bruce Dickins (pp. xiii-xxxix), notes on the dialect of Cumberland as illustrated in its place-names (pp. xli-xliv); an elaborate list of bibliography and abbreviations, which will now enable readers to make full use of the earlier Parts (pp. xlv-lvii); and *Addenda et Corrigenda* (pp. lxiii-lxxx, mainly referring to earlier volumes in the E.P.N.S. series, but the last three pages are devoted to Parts I and II of *Cumberland*). The main text is resumed with a discussion of the elements, apart from personal names, found in Cumberland place-names (pp. 459-98); then come notes on the distribution of these elements (pp. 498-504), and on personal names compounded in Cumberland place-names (pp. 504-8); a brief appendix (pp. 509-12) is devoted to the Romano-British names in Cumberland. The main index (pp. 515-59) is devoted to place-names in Cumberland, and is followed by an index of place-names in other counties (pp. 560-3) and by a list of parishes as a key to the map, which is inserted in a folder at the end of the volume.

This is not the place for a detailed review, which must be deferred until there has been time to take the full measure of the rich feast now laid before us. But it may be emphasized that the Place-Name Society has provided us with an invaluable quarry for the study of the history of Cumberland, and there is abundant food for thought in the distribution of names of various types, as indicated with welcome clarity on the map. The section of the introduction devoted to the Roman and British periods is perhaps the weakest, and that on the British revival (though brief) the most stimulating.

The Editors, in their short preface, make acknowledgements to many members of this Society for help in preparing the volume; pride of place in the list is given to our Vice-President, Mr T. Gray—"It is hardly too much to say that but for him these volumes might never have appeared"—it is good to see such generous recognition of services which are characteristic of Mr Gray's long and unwearying reign at Tullie House.

2. "Archæology in the field" by O. G. S. Crawford; 280 pp., 25 plates and 43 text-figures, 42/- (Phoenix House Ltd., 1953).

This is a fascinating volume—as was only to be expected from our honorary member Dr Crawford; witness the chapter-headings — "Preface or What is Archæology?", "Archæology before 1859", "Archæology Achieves Independence", "Archæology and Maps", "The Modern Phase of Field Archæology", and the rest. For workers in our district, the chapters on Roman roads and ancient tracks (pp. 51-86), on Celtic fields (pp. 87-97), and on huts and houses (pp. 145-50), will be of particular interest; the chapter on Roman earthworks (pp. 175-82) is too brief and too condensed to be of much value, except for its detailed footnote references and for a number of characteristically stimulating *obiter dicta*. But it is impossible, in a necessarily brief notice, to convey the richness of the feast which the book offers to readers of a wide variety of tastes; one is constantly stimulated, and the only drawback which one reader has found, in studying the volume, is that undue application to it induces mental indigestion: Dr Crawford's chapters must be interspersed with plainer fare, or the reading of them interrupted for periods of reflection. There is a brief but adequate index, and it need not be added that the half-tones are of an exceptionally high standard.

3. "The Congress of Roman Frontier Studies, 1949", edited by Eric Birley; viii + 137 pp., 8/- post free (University Office, 46 North Bailey, Durham, 1952).

This volume, excellently produced by Titus Wilson & Son, makes available the eleven papers communicated to the Congress of Roman Frontier Studies (in the organisation of which our Society was represented), which was held in Newcastle upon Tyne during the week which followed the Centenary Pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall; it provides a very useful survey of contemporary knowledge of other Roman frontiers, and suggests a number of problems on which further work is needed in our own district. Special interest attaches to Miss Anne Robertson's paper on

"The Antonine Wall" (pp. 99-111), and to Dr V. E. Nash-Williams's survey of "Wales and the Roman frontier system" (pp. 68-73), which will suggest a fruitful comparison with the Roman occupation of the Lake District. Further afield, attention may be drawn to Sir Mortimer Wheeler's stimulating exposition of the possibilities of further research on the Roman frontier in Mesopotamia (pp. 112-29), and to the account of the late frontier-system between Basel and the Lake of Constance, by Professor Laur-Belart (pp. 55-67), which will help to explain such phenomena as the fortlets on Barrock Fell and at Wreay Hall in our own district; and our member Professor van Giffen, reporting on his excavation of three Roman forts in Holland (pp. 31-40), incidentally produces striking evidence for a climatic change, in the latter part of the fourth century, which may well have contributed decisively to the mass migrations of northern peoples which ultimately overwhelmed the western half of the Roman empire. Eight maps and a full index add to the usefulness of the volume.

4. "Roman Britain and the Roman Army" by Eric Birley; xii + 196 pp., 15/- (Titus Wilson & Son, 1953).

In this volume our member has collected together sixteen papers (three of them originally printed in these *Transactions*), half of which are primarily concerned with the military history or the organisation of Roman Britain, half with the officers of the Roman army and their careers. To members of this Society, the papers on "The Brigantian problem, and the first Roman contact with Scotland" (pp. 31-47, first printed in *D. & G. Trans.*, 1952) and on "Civil settlements on Hadrian's Wall" (pp. 69-86, from *Archæologia Aeliana*, 1935), will perhaps be of the most immediate interest; but the first three papers, originally printed in the *Durham University Journal*, present a fresh interpretation of the course of events in Britain from the time of Nero to that of Hadrian (pp. 1-30), and attention may also be drawn to the elaborate detective-work and the human interest of "Marcus Cocceius Firmus: an epigraphic study" (pp. 87-103), which deals with the adventures of a slave-woman whose master, a centurion of the second legion, was at one time stationed at Auchendavy on the Antonine Wall. In the second half of the volume, Mr Birley has been mainly concerned with the careers of Roman officers and the principles on which they obtained advancement: here, too, there is a great deal of human interest to be discovered, particularly in the examination of the part which equestrian officers, commanding *alae* or cohorts

in frontier provinces, might play in the civil administration of the surrounding districts—witness the case of M. Sulpicius Felix, from Rome, whose services to the frontier-town of Sala on the Atlantic coast of Mauretania were commemorated by a long inscription, including an extract from the local council's minutes of 28 October 144 (pp. 149-51). It need hardly be added that the volume has been impeccably produced; it is provided with ten indexes, so as to satisfy the needs of specialists as well as of the general reader.

5. "The Roman occupation of south-western Scotland" by John Clarke, J. M. Davidson, Anne S. Robertson and J. K. St Joseph, edited by the late S. N. Miller; xix + 246 pp., 67 plates and 12 text-figures, 42/- (Glasgow Archæological Society, 1952).

For a review and discussion of this volume as a whole, reference may be made to *D. & G. Trans.*, 3rd ser., xxx 198-201, where attention is drawn to certain deficiencies in its treatment of the subject; its principal value is as a record of a great deal of field-work, reinforced by the excavation of selected sites, carried out by members of the Glasgow Archæological Society in the three seasons 1937-39. Our member Dr Kenneth St Joseph contributes important sections on the Roman roads from Carlisle to the Forth, to Nithsdale, from Tweed to Clyde and from mid-Clydesdale to the Ayrshire coast (pp. 1-65), on a series of forts and fortlets (pp. 95-103, 111-23), and on his excavations at the fort of Loudoun Hill (pp. 188-91); he also contributes a bibliography (pp. 192-4). Another of our members, Mr John Clarke, describes his first excavations at Tassiesholm (pp. 104-10—for the important results which he has obtained there subsequently, reference must be made to recent volumes of *D. & G. Trans.*), and his investigation of the fortlet at Durisdeer (pp. 124-6). Attention may also be drawn to Miss Anne Robertson's excellent account of her work at Castledykes (pp. 127-71) and to Mr J. M. Davidson's report on the fort at Bothwellhaugh, an interesting addition to the map of Roman Scotland (pp. 172-87).

In his description of the Roman trunk-road from Carlisle to Birrens, Dr St Joseph accepts the traditional line, first put forward by Roy and accepted by Haverfield, from Stanwix to Blackford Bridge and thence to the Esk at the Roost ford; but his account makes it clear that there are no visible remains on this line, and reference to Art. II above (p. 28 f.) will show that there are grounds for supposing that the road really ran

from Stanwix direct to Netherby and only crossed the Esk close to that fort.

There is an elaborate index, and the wealth of illustrations makes the book very good value for the money.

6. "The parish church of St Kentigern, Crosthwaite" by Francis C. Eeles, O.B.E., D.Litt., LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., F.R.Hist.S.; 79 pp. and 23 illus., 7/6 (Charles Thurnam & Sons Ltd., Carlisle, 1953).

Fortunate indeed is Crosthwaite parish church to have so distinguished an historian as Dr Eeles; needless to say the book is a model of how such a history should be written. Beginning with the fabric itself, the author describes the layout of the building, with an account of the walls, the ancient consecration crosses preserved on them, and the windows. He then notes the effect of the restorations in 1844 and 1915—the first he puts in inverted commas, fortunately an account of the church, published in 1853, tells us what it was like before this "restoration". Next the stained glass, the ancient font, with its heraldry, the plate and the bells are described. Under the heading *Miscellanea*, it is suggested that the rood loft originally stretched the whole breadth of the church and was thus an exceptionally wide one; there is also an interesting account of a leaf from a 14th-century breviary, used as a cover for the first book of the registers, which Dr Eeles thinks shows that this MS. indicates the Sarum use and may have come from Carlisle cathedral. The registers published by this Society in 1929-31 are briefly referred to. The description of the building is concluded by an account of its monuments, which include medieval ones to the Ratcliffe family and a 19th-century one to Robert Southey, with an inscription written by Wordsworth. This is followed under the title *History* by a brief life of St Kentigern, and an account of the vicars of the parish; the five chapels within the parish and their churches are briefly described. There are five appendices. The book opens with a two-page introduction by Bishop Williams and concludes with a chapter on the associations of the church with literature, science and art by the late Canon Rawsley, and a glossary of technical words. The numerous illustrations add considerably to the book's interest and value.

7. "North country life in the eighteenth century, The North-East, 1700-1750" by Edward Hughes; 425 pp., 7 plates and map, 30/- (Oxford University Press, 1952). A University of Durham Publication.

This book has been so widely reviewed and so highly praised that there is no need to commend it since its reputation is already established. It is obviously a volume that all interested in the history of the North Country will want to read and keep. It is interesting to learn how it came to be written. In 1940, some six chests full of old manuscripts were deposited in the keep of the old castle of Newcastle upon Tyne. They were apparently due to be consigned to the pulp mill. Fortunately before this took place Professor Hughes was asked to look at them. A short inspection told him what valuable documents they were and that among them were letters, account books and papers of the lords of the manors of Gateshead and Whickham, once the richest coal bearing manors in this country. These documents, so fortunately saved, form the basis of this history.

Thus quite rightly, whether by accident or by design, the account of the coal trade of the North-East occupies the centre of the volume—this account takes up 107 of its pages. Before it there come chapters on the "Social conditions in the north", 1700-50; "Tyneside merchants", 1680-1726; "The Professions" and "Farming" (150 pp. in all) and after it other chapters headed "Politics", "The Bishopric", "Schools and Colleges" and "Diversions" (149 pp.). There are three appendices, one about the '15, another of great interest to us on this side of the Pennines about "Tenant Right" at Durham, and the third a list of authorities. There is also, of course, a full index.

Readers of *Transactions* will be interested in the differences and similarities of 18th-century social conditions between the north-east and north-west of the Pennines. Of course, the greatest was the existence of the prince bishop of Durham; compared to him the bishop of Carlisle was very small fry, and that is true also of the position of the Church, as a whole, in terms of material power. Another great difference was that quite a number of families on the east coast acquired great wealth from coal and trade compared to the one family who did so—the Lowthers—on this coast. One of the most interesting and saddest parts of the book is the account of how these new families acquired their wealth and supplanted the poverty-stricken remnants of the ancient gentry of the north—the last of one of them, Sir William Chaytor, Bt., died a debtor after over seventeen years in the Fleet prison.

The similarities between the two sides of the country were in farming conditions—in both the Celtic, rather than the midland methods, were followed; and in the existence of the famous tenure of Tenant Right.

This is not a criticism, because it is the inevitable result of

the documents on which the history is based, but it unfortunate that little account of the poor occurs—there is nothing, for instance, about the administration of the Poor Law. Perhaps one day Professor Hughes will supply this omission. It is indeed good news that he is hoping to follow up this volume with a similar one devoted to the North-West.

8. "Barton Records" by Ernest Hudson; 79 pp. and 12 illus., 6/-. 1951. (Obtainable from the author at Barton Vicarage, Penrith).

For the serious student the criterion of value of a parochial history is whether it is based merely on records already printed or on unpublished material. By this standard Canon Hudson's book must be judged to be a good one because, though he has not used any of the unprinted national records, he has produced some interesting new material from his parish chest, especially a terrier of 1578 and valuable documents about Barton Grammar School and the administration of the Poor Law. The book is divided into four sections: (1) *Unwritten Records*, which is devoted to a description of the church and other ancient buildings; (2) *Ecclesiastical Records*, dealing with the parish registers (printed by this Society in 1917 as vol. v of the Parish Register section); the terriers; the churchwardens account books, preserved, alas, only from 1700 and concluding with lists of the clergy and churchwardens; (3) *Educational Records* giving a history of the grammar school founded in 1649; and (4) *Social Records* using documents from the Poor Books, dating from 1798, the surveyors' records, beginning in 1752, and the parish charities, the earliest founded in 1671. The illustrations include pictures of the unrestored church and the old vicarage; also photographs of documents about the school. This book is therefore to be commended and the author congratulated.

9. *Kirkby Stephen and District* by R. R. Sowerby; iv + 48 pp., 31 illus. and a map, 10/6 net (Titus Wilson, 1948).

10. *Historical Kirkby Stephen and North Westmorland* by R. R. Sowerby; x + 116 pp., 65 illus. and 5 maps, 21/- net (Titus Wilson, 1950).

The second of these books, by our member, is a new (enlarged) edition of the first, with additional illustrations, all by the author, and maps; it also has an index. Most of the first fifty pages are a reprint, though in some chapters with additional material, of the first edition. These earlier chapters cover

Kirkby Stephen and Brough, with the surrounding villages. The second edition adds accounts of Appleby and the adjacent country, as far south as Kendal and Kirkby Lonsdale. It also includes a chapter on Prehistoric and Roman Remains. Both editions conclude with chapters on The Open Road, Odd characters and the Dialect, a Description of local birds and Some reflections on Past and Present. Thus, though those interested only in Kirkby Stephen and Brough may find that their needs are met by the first edition, most people will prefer the second one, with its many additional illustrations.

Mr Sowerby makes no pretension to have produced a work based on original authorities, though in some places he quotes from these, but he has given us a very pleasant and readable account of North Westmorland which, while it provides the visitor with useful information of where to go and what to look for, will also be of interest to those who have the good fortune to live here. We hope that this will not be the last volume from Mr Sowerby that we have the pleasure to possess and to notice in *Transactions*.

11. "The ancient burial-mounds of England" by L. V. Grinsell; xviii + 278 pp., 24 plates and 13 text-figures, 25/- (Methuen & Co. Ltd., 1953).

This is the second edition, revised and enlarged, of a book which was first published in 1936, and it is warmly commended to the attention of our members. Part I is devoted to a general survey of barrow study (pp. 3-118), with sections on type and chronology, the cult of the dead, construction, local names, folklore, maps and distributions, fieldwork, and barrow-digging through the ages (which gives a fascinating story, for all its brevity); there could be no better manual for the student of the subject, and the book should be added to the libraries of all of our members who are interested in the prehistory of our district. Part II consists of regional surveys, in nineteen chapters; the Lake counties (chapter xviii, pp. 240-7) are treated briefly and clearly, with detailed references (mainly, of course, to our *Transactions*, to *RCHM Westmorland* or to *VCH Cumberland*), and there is an equally good chapter on Northumbria (pp. 248-55). Three indexes are provided, and format and printing are of the high standard to be expected in a Methuen volume.

12. *Archæologia Aeliana*, fourth series, xxxi (1953), includes the following articles by members of our Society: "The problem



of the Vallum at Carvoran" by Brenda Swinbank (pp. 82-94); "Prehistoric Weardale: a new survey" by Clare I. Fell and E. J. W. Hildyard (pp. 98-115); "Third report on the Roman site at Old Durham" by R. P. Wright and J. P. Gillam (pp. 116-26); "Excavations at Low Brunton milecastle, no. 27, in 1952" by J. P. Gillam (pp. 165-74); and "Buildings of the first and second centuries north of the granaries at Corbridge" by I. A. Richmond and J. P. Gillam, with a description of samian vessels by Grace Simpson (pp. 205-53).

13. *Dumfriesshire and Galloway Transactions*, third series, xxx (1953), contains a number of papers of considerable interest to members of our Society, including the following: "The Roman fort at Glenlochar" by I. A. Richmond and J. K. St Joseph, with notes on the pottery by J. P. Gillam (pp. 1-16); "St Ninian and the Picts" by J. D. Mackie (pp. 17-37); "Upper Nithsdale and westwards in Roman times" by John Clarke (pp. 111-20); "A 'fort' in Mochrum parish" by James Fiddes (pp. 143-55); "A stone head in the Burgh Museum, Dumfries" by J. M. C. Toynbee (Roman, from Birrens: pp. 156-8); "Glenluce Abbey: finds recovered during excavation, part II" by Stewart Cruden (tiles, painted glass and metal objects: pp. 179-90); and a review and discussion of the late S. N. Miller's posthumous work, "The Roman Occupation of South-Western Scotland", by Eric Birley (pp. 198-201).

14. *Transactions of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland*, vol. x (part iv) (1953), is the last part of that journal to be edited by our late member Professor C. E. Whiting. It includes two important papers by members of our Society, namely "Calpurnius Agricola and the northern frontier" by J. P. Gillam (pp. 359-75), and "The activities of Lollius Urbicus as evidenced by inscriptions" by Brenda Swinbank (pp. 382-403).

15. *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, lxxxv (1953), includes "Exploratory trenching at the Roman fort of Cappuck, Roxburghshire, in 1949" by I. A. Richmond (pp. 138-45); reference may also be made to the important paper by Professor Stuart Piggott, "Excavations in the broch and hill-fort of Torwoodlee, Selkirkshire, 1950" (pp. 92-117), which must be taken carefully into account in any assessment of the interaction between Roman and native in south Scotland.

16. *Journal of Roman Studies*, xliii (1953), includes "Air reconnaissance of Southern Britain" by J. K. St Joseph (pp. 81-97 and plates viii-xvi), a study of the highest interest and importance for the investigation of Roman Britain, and "Roman Britain in 1952" by M. V. Taylor and R. P. Wright (pp. 104-32).

17. *Antiquaries Journal* xxxii (1952) includes "An inscription in the Society's collection" by Eric Birley (pp. 198-9: C.799 = *Lap. Sep.* 324, ascribed to Carvoran, really comes from Rome); xxxiii (1953) includes "An excavation below Bishop Tunstal's chapel, Durham Castle" by Grace Simpson and Victor Hatley (pp. 56-64).

18. "Housesteads Roman fort, Northumberland" by Eric Birley; 24 pp., 4 plates and folding plan, 1/- (Stationery Office, 1952).

This is a revised edition, with new illustrations and in a more attractive format, of our member's Guide to Housesteads, first issued for the National Trust in 1936. It is good to know that the site is now in the custody of the Ancient Monuments Department, which has already begun to give active attention to the fabric of the exposed walls of the fort, and may be expected to uncover more of the buildings in due course.

19. "Guide to Chesters Museum, with notes on the Roman fort, bridge and bath-house etc." by Grace Simpson; 6 pp. and 2 plans, 3d. (1952).

The Trustees of the Clayton Memorial Museum are to be congratulated on their initiative in producing this excellent little Guide, compiled by their honorary curator, who is a member of this Society. Copies may be obtained at the Museum or by post (postage 1½d.) on application to the Estate Office, Chesters, Humshaugh, Hexham, Northumberland.

20. *The Journal of Transport History* i, no. 2 (November 1953), includes "The Furness Railway and the Growth of Barrow" by S. Pollard and J. D. Marshall (pp. 109-26); read in conjunction with *Early railway history in Furness* by our members J. Melville and J. L. Hobbs (this Society's Tract Series, no. xiii) and with Dr Pollard's article in CW2 lii 160-77, this study throws interesting light on the part played by the Furness Railway in converting "a backward and isolated district of England" into one of the country's most important shipbuilding centres.

21. "The Journal of the Lakeland Dialect Society" xv (1953), edited by F. Warriner and Thomas Gray; 44 pp., 2/6 (Thurnam & Sons, Carlisle).

We welcome this copy of their journal from a kindred society. It includes a dialect play by Alfred Sutton, with an introductory note by Graham Sutton; a short story by Mrs. Rawnsley; and a useful article on "Lakeland Dialect Study" by F. Warriner, containing an account of work done and books published on the subject from the Restoration onwards. The valuable dialect dialogue, "with a Design to mark to our Posterity the Pronuntiation of A.D. 1760" given in *The Beetham Repository, 1770* by William Hutton and edited by J. R. Ford, pp. 166-8 (this Society's Tract Series, No. 7), should be added to this account.

22. "The Rushbearing in Grasmere and Ambleside" by E. F. Rawnsley; 28 pp. and 7 illus.

This admirable little account by our member of a famous ceremony, after a brief survey of its probable origin and of the evidences about it in the Grasmere churchwardens accounts, gives descriptions of it gathered from many sources, from Clarke's *Survey* in 1789 to *The Times* of 1921. It also gives the words and music of the hymns used, including the traditional *Rushbearing March* fortunately recovered from the last of the "old fiddlers" Anthony Hall, "when he was close on ninety years of age." A brief account of the Ambleside ceremony is also included.

23. "The Preservation of Buildings of Historic Interest"; 12 pp., 6d. (Council for British Archæology, 1953).

This note on the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 is designed to help those responsible for the upkeep of historic buildings.

24. "Official Guide to the county of Cumberland"; 104 pp., including advertisements, and many illustrations and map, 1/6 (Fullerton & Lloyd).

This *Guide*, "issued under the authority of the County Council", is one on which that body is to be congratulated. Though there are a few slips in it, much useful information is provided, and the photographs, some by our member Miss M. C. Fair, are noteworthy and alone make it a very good 1/6 worth.