

has been done than Dr. Cox's notes in Vol. 21 of our *Journal* for 1909, as the Rev. Charles Kerry contributed a paper to Vol. 18, 1896. However, these two papers really amounted to nothing, and selections such as the two earlier writers gave are of no value to the historian.

The Assize Rolls are preserved on the Public Record Office and those for Derbyshire date from 53 Hen. III [1268-9] to 14 Hen. VIII [1522-3], and consist of some thirty rolls known as No. 144 to No. 173. As Mr. Lugard's copy of Roll No. 159 occupies 83 printed pages, it will be realized that the complete rolls contain a vast amount of matter, which deals principally with local affairs of all kinds, chiefly relating to persons and places of whom there is no other record.

The Justices of Trailbaston were not the same as Justices of Assize although their findings appear in the Assize Rolls, and were specially appointed to hear pleas touching vagabonds and murderers. Mr. Lugard has taken the first of the Trailbaston courts as his subject, the one held at Derby on 4 July 1306.

Mr. Lugard has set the type and printed the book by his own hand at his private press in Ashover, and the work is a great credit to his skill and perseverance quite apart from its value as a serious contribution to Derbyshire history.

Lugard, Cecil Edward. *Trailbaston: Derbyshire*, Vol. I. 1933. Privately printed. Ed. limited to twenty copies.

ECKINGTON.

As we went to press there appeared a volume from the pen of one of our Vice-Presidents, Sir George Reresby Sitwell, Bart., to which we must draw the attention of our members, although we are not able to devote as much space to it as its merits deserve.

It is a picture of medieval life with Sir George's native village of Eckington as a background, and it has been his endeavour to dwell upon the beauty and wisdom of that period rather than on its follies and superstitions which have so often been the theme of other writers. The people who were the builders of our most magnificent cathedrals and abbeys were no fools, and it is well that this should be pointed out to us moderns in no uncertain voice.

Sir George's chapters deal with the Lord of the Manor (he has been one himself for 70 years), the feast, the pilgrim, the rector, the manor court and the serf, and his pen pictures have been aided by drawings from contemporary sources, which have the merit of authenticity.

The book is beautifully printed on good paper, and is a distinct ornament to our Derbyshire literature, although its appeal is by no means local in its extent.

Sitwell, Sir George Reresby, Bart. *Tales of my Native Village*. 1933, Oxford University Press, 12/6 net.

ADDRESSES AND EXCURSIONS, 1933.

On the 10th February a lecture was given in the Assembly Rooms by Mr. G. W. Stafford, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., etc., on three years of excavations at Caistor-by Norwich, the Roman town or settlement of Venta Icenorum. It was finely illustrated by an extensive series of lantern slides (some in colour), representing views, plans and drawings of details, and was attentively followed by a typical audience of appreciative local archaeologists.

Brigadier-General Godfrey Meynell, C.M.G., J.P., was in the chair, and in introducing the lecturer said it gave him much satisfaction to learn that Mr. Stafford was of a Derbyshire family and a member of our society, and he felt that few undertakings more worthy for historical students could be entered into than the investigation