

NOTICES OF RECENT BOOKS.

[*The Editor will be glad to publish under this heading notices or reviews of new books either directly relating to the County or of general archæological interest: communications may be addressed to him at the Castle Arch, Guildford.*]

In compiling a list of some few of the more recently published books which are likely to interest the antiquary, either upon special and local or upon more general grounds, one is struck by the number of fine books of this kind which Mr. B. T. Batsford continues to put forth. Thus, taking first one of the most general subjects of interest—ARCHITECTURE—we note coming from this Publisher two magnificent volumes of *The Domestic Architecture of England during the Tudor Period*, by Thomas Garner and Arthur Stratton, folios illustrated by exceedingly fine collotypes, line blocks and other plates: the same firm has issued this year (1911) two other books dealing with similar topics—Mr. W. H. Godfrey's *History of Architecture in London* and *English House Design, a Review*, by Ernest Willmott, the latter a book concerned with the modern side of the subject, but containing also a summarising chapter on the development of the English House from the 16th to the 20th century. Earlier, but still recent, publications are *Old Cottages of Surrey*, by W. Curtis Greene, with 128 collotype plates (a book which has naturally a special appeal to Members of this Society), with others in the same series dealing with Kent, Sussex, etc.; Mr. Bond's *Gothic Architecture in England: The Growth of the English House*, by J. A. Gotch; and Mr. Ditchfield's *Charm of the English Village* and *Manor Houses of England*—all finely produced works of great interest to the archaeologist, and works which have already passed safely through competent criticism. While on the subject of Architecture, we have also to notice the recent publication by Mr. Murray of a "hand book" upon Cathedral architecture—*The Cathedral Churches of England*, by Helen Marshall Pratt—and his announcement of a new book by Mrs. Armitage on *Early Norman Castles in the British Isles*: though mention of the latter is perhaps a little out of place at this point, since we gather that the author holds the view that these castles were mostly earthworks, having also novel views on the subject of Earthworks in general. Yet another architectural work which has not long been published is a third book by Mr. Ditchfield—*Vanishing England* (Methuen), with illustrations by Fred. Roe, R.I. Finally, before turning to another topic, we have to notice yet another new publication of

Mr. Batsford—*The English Staircase*, by W. H. Godfrey. Here again the illustrations, photographic and in line, reach a high standard; and among them we note Surrey examples from Guildford, Wandsworth, and Richmond.

Turning to the subject of FURNITURE, we may call attention to what really constitutes quite a library of design in a number of other books from the same publisher: books on the work of the Adam Brothers and English Jacobean and 18th-century furniture, a reproduction of Hepplewhite's treatise, and books upon English Plastering and Leadwork (though these might perhaps be better classed with Architecture) are all of comparatively recent publication and all very well illustrated and of approved value. Here we may notice an addition, in the shape of a book upon *Cottage and Farmhouse Furniture* by Arthur Hayden, to what is (in spite of its unfortunate name) a very useful collection—Messrs. Methuen's "Chats" series.

In the class of more general ANTIQUITIES, we notice *Old English Instruments of Music . . .* by F. W. Galpin (Methuen), in the very valuable series of *Antiquary's Books*. We may be permitted also to call attention (going a little out of our direct line) to a new book by the Master of the Charterhouse (the Rev. Gerald S. Davies) upon *The Sculptured Tombs of the XVth century in Rome* (Murray).

HISTORY.—General historical works we cannot here discuss; but turning to those Records of the past which are actual DOCUMENTS, we have some recent additions to Archive publications to mention. Among the Record Office publications we notice, as of general interest, further volumes in the series of *Close Rolls* (Henry III); *Patent Rolls* (Henry VI); *Domestic State Papers* (Charles II), and *Inquisitions post mortem* (Edward II); the last being perhaps for our purpose the most interesting; there is, further, a new departure in the shape of the first volume of a *Calendar of Fine Rolls* (Edward I). The recent publications of the Historical MSS. Commission are not of special interest in relation to our County; but we must make some reference to the publication of General Records by various societies. We note, for instance, the Selden Society's new volume of *Star Chamber Proceedings* (1509—1544); also the issue by the Jewish Historical Society of England of a second volume of their *Calendar of Plea Rolls of the Exchequer of the Jews* (though Surrey was never a very favourite county with that people), and a new volume (28 Henry II) from the Pipe Roll Society. Again, we should mention, on account of its semi-official character in connection with Episcopal Registers, the Canterbury and York Society; though the last volumes do not interest our County (they deal with Lincoln, Hereford and London) we hope for another volume of Canterbury next year.

While speaking of Records, we cannot omit to mention the publication of a further volume (the fourth) of *Admissions to Trinity Colledge, Cambridge*, by W. W. Rouse and J. A. Venn (Macmillan

& Co.), a book which from its nature must appeal to persons interested in family history all over the country. Coming here to the subject of the publication of Local Records, or Documents having a local interest, we may notice such books as *The Historical Antiquities of Acworth*, by W. A. Green (Chiswick Press), a work founded largely on original documents of the Duchy of Lancaster, and *Chawton Manor and its Owners: A Family History*, by W. A. Leigh and M. G. Knight (Smith, Elder & Co.); if only in order to wish that we had similar results of private and local enterprise to chronicle in the case of our own County, where indeed much remains to be done in the way of publication of Local Records. For a similar reason we may mention the recent volumes of the Sussex Records Society—a volume of *The three earliest subsidies for the County of Sussex*, and the second part of *Bishop Rede's Register* (Chichester); and in the same connection we might note the new volumes of the "Suffolk Green Books," the volume of *Inquisitions post mortem for Worcester* (1300—1326) published by the Worcester Historical Society, the work of the Somerset Records Society, and very many others. To recur, however, to the neighbouring county, the latest volume of the Sussex Society—*Parish Registers of Cuckfield* (1598—1699)—may remind us that we have at any rate a Parish Register Society (unfortunately deserving of much more support than it receives): its work is hampered by lack of funds and it has not, we believe, published anything since 1909, when it issued the Registers of Titsey; but we understand that others are in the press.

We may perhaps note here the publication by the London County Council (though it also took place in 1909) of a volume of the *Court Rolls of the Manor of Tooting Bee*, edited by G. L. Gomme.

Of HISTORICAL ARTICLES relating particularly to Surrey there has been a dearth in recent publications. Neither the *Archæologia* nor the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, nor the *Archæological Journal*, nor the *English Historical Review*, nor the publications of the Historical Society call for special mention from our point of view.

We have already trespassed somewhat on the domain of TOPOGRAPHY and FAMILY HISTORY. The former title, however, suggests some reference to the *Victoria County History*, now happily in course of publication again. Recent issues relate to other counties, but the publication of the third volume of Surrey is, we believe, imminent, and in this topography will no doubt predominate. On the other hand FAMILY HISTORY brings to mind numerous volumes in the beautiful printing of the St. Catharine's Press. We will particularise here only two: one is the first volume of the new edition of G. E. C.'s *Complete Peerage*, edited by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, a book of universal interest; it has gained greatly in wealth of illustrative matter and in exactness since 1887, though the uncompromising nature of its up-to-date notes may provoke some criticism; the second book from the same press is Mr. Round's *Peerage and Pedigree*—a severe

work, though Surrey families, with, we think, only one exception, escape stricture. We ought perhaps to mention here Mr. H. M. Lane's *Royal Daughters of England and their Representatives* (Constable), a novel work of large scope and very general interest, though not immune from adverse criticism at several points. The most important work for us, however, under this heading is the recent volume of the Harleian Society, *A visitation of the County of Surrey* (1662—1668), edited by Sir G. J. Armytage.

Turning to what, for want of a better term, we may call GUIDES, we have several volumes to notice. Most important of recent publications for our purpose is the widely interesting *Memorials of Ancient Surrey*, reviewed in detail below. Its editor, Dr. Charles Cox, has not confined himself to this however; he has written also for Messrs. Methuen two books, one the *Surrey* volume in their excellent series of "Little Guides" (published at 2s. 6d.) in which we notice several interesting volumes relating to other counties, and one entitled *Rambles in Surrey*, of which we are told that it is "based on personal observation, though occasional use has been made of the experience of others" and which covers the whole county excepting Croydon and London. Further, the same writer has dealt recently with *Surrey Churches* in articles in the "Athenæum." Messrs. Macmillan provide a new volume—*Cambridge and Ely*—in the Highways and Byways series, and we note also coming from them *The Charm of the Road*, part of the wanderings in which traverse our county.

Glancing for a moment at more strictly LOCAL WORK, we observe that Mr. C. T. Davis has collected and published in local papers a great mass of interesting matter from both MS. and printed sources upon the Mills and "Mealemen" connected with the River Wandle; that Mr. W. P. D. Stebbing has produced a series of articles on the Parish of Walton-on-the-Hill in the Magazine of that Parish, including in them a list of rectors from very early times; and that a historical pamphlet on the subject of Esher Parish Church has been published by the Vicar, the Rev. J. K. Floyer, F.S.A., in aid of the Old Church repair fund, and contains valuable reproductions, in addition to valuable matter. We note also, at Oekham, the publication of a sheet giving details of the reparations required by the Church tower there. We might perhaps cite also, for similar reasons to those which led us to mention the publications of Record Societies outside the County, the little pamphlet in which are set forth the aims, and the results so far, of the enthusiastic work which has been done in the excavation of Bardney Abbey, co. Lincoln. Lastly, we have to record the publication of two books by Members of this Society, which cannot easily be classified, one *The Knight of the Red Cross or the Romance of Archbishop Abbot's Tomb in Guildford*, by P. G. Palmer (Lasham), and one, an historical romance dealing with Croydon, by Dr. J. M. Hobson.

If we may venture a remark in conclusion it will be that this fact emerges from the books here noticed—that some of the most valuable

work now being done for archæology is done by the writer who publishes accurate pictures of the antiquities or accurate transcripts of the documents which are the subject of his research. We might call it perpetuation by publication; and the above notes (in which, we are conscious, there must be many gaps) show that there are already plenty of models of the way in which such work ought to be done.

Memorials of Old Surrey. Edited by Rev. J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A. London, 1911.

If, as we take it, the steadily increasing flow of new works on local history and archæology is a real sign of growing interest in these subjects, Members of this Society need have no cause of complaint. Surrey, moreover, seems of late to have been especially favoured in this respect. We have the promise, on the one hand, of the completion in the near future of a work of such solid value as the *Victoria History* of the County and, on the other, quite a small library of pocket county guides, handbooks dealing with particular places, and the like, evidently intended for the more popular taste.

The last to reach us is the volume now before us in the handsome and well-illustrated series of Memorials of the Counties of England which Messrs. George Allen & Sons are issuing under the general editorship of Mr. Ditchfield. It is a little difficult to decide in which of the categories we have mentioned it is to be placed, and perhaps we must incline to assigning it a place somewhere between the two. The Editor, Dr. Cox, in his brief preface, expresses the hope that the joint efforts of himself and his contributors "will supply lovers of Surrey with much trustworthy information, not a little of which is now for the first time published," and on the whole we may acknowledge that his hope is justified. The volume contains a certain amount of material that is fresh and of real value. On the other hand there is much re-hashing of matter that has been served up more than once before. This to some extent is no doubt of necessity, but the two last articles in the book are rather sorry truckling to the more popular taste and might have been omitted with advantage to the general tone of the whole.

The chapters that stand out as the most valuable in the book are those on the Roods, Screens and Lofts of Surrey, by Mr. Aymer Vallance; and on the Wall-Paintings in the Churches, by Mr. P. M. Johnston; both writers being well recognised experts in their respective subjects. The categorical treatment adopted by them makes their contributions of real use, and the alphabetical arrangement of the churches is especially convenient in a book which is not indexed as fully as it might be. We must regret, as Surrey archæologists, that so much of Mr. Vallance's list is of what has been rather than of what is, but we are grateful to him for bringing together so much good material in proof of what the County once possessed in the way of roods and

screens. Members of the Society may be interested to note the use Mr. Vallance has been able to make of the Churchwardens' Accounts of Wandsworth, which have been printed at intervals in these *Collections*, in finding in them a specific instance of the use of a timber stair to the rood-loft in a church where there were no stone stairs, and thereby helping to solve a much-debated point. The various Edwardian inventories of the Church goods, which have appeared in the *Collections*, are also laid under contribution by this writer to good purpose. Of Mr. Johnston's ability to deal with the wall paintings, and his deep insight into mediæval habits of thought, which so often helps him to a convincing interpretation of even the most obscure of the paintings, no Member of this Society needs to be reminded. The value of his article is greatly enhanced by his excellent drawings which have been admirably reproduced.

Dr. Fairbank's chapter on the Memorial Brasses is another very valuable contribution to the volume on a subject of which the writer has already proved his fitness to treat. Beginning with a classified summary of the more important brasses, Dr. Fairbank proceeds to make a tour of inspection of the County in detail, starting from Guildford. For convenience of reference, however, it were to be wished that he had followed the alphabetical arrangement of Mr. Vallance and Mr. Johnston.

Mr. Malden's article on Historic Surrey, with which the volume opens, compresses into 17 pages a good deal of what he has already written in his *History of Surrey* (1900) and in his Political History in Vol. I of the *Victoria History*. We may note, however, that he now abandons the view held in the former work that the County does not preserve the name of an early English people, and definitely gives his adherence to the belief in the Suthrige, a Germanic tribe "with a distinct existence and old-established boundaries to mark them off from both South and West Saxons."

The same writer supplies also a chapter on the Post-Reformation Foundations in Surrey, in which he treats of the history of such institutions as Whitgift's Hospital at Croydon, Abbot's at Guildford, and Alleyn's College at Dulwich. He has also something to say of the smaller foundations, such as the free schools and almshouses which to some extent were intended to fill the place of the dissolved monastic houses. It is of special value to have this subject treated as a whole, and, though Mr. Malden's account might have been expanded with advantage, what he has to say is of much interest and frequently gives food for no little thought.

Dr. Cox has an admirable article on the Forests of Surrey, in which he makes good use of much interesting material gathered from the rolls of forest pleas and other documents preserved at the Record Office. We must, however, take exception to his unqualified derivation of such place-names as Ockham, Ockley, Ockshutt and Oxted, from the oak, whilst his remarks on p. 36, on the little obstacle likely

to be offered by a fairly wide river to the chase of the red deer, seem only to have point on the supposition that the writer believes Windsor to be on the north side of the Thames. It seems unnecessary, moreover, that the story of John Selwyn and the stag should be twice recorded at length within the compass of a single volume, namely, in Dr. Cox's article, and later on by Dr. Fairbank in connection with the Walton-on-Thames brass; and its inclusion by Dr. Cox is a special fault in an editor.

Of the religious houses of the county, the Abbey of Bernouidsey is treated fairly fully by Dr. Fairbank, and Chertsey and Waverley somewhat scantily by Dr. Cox. The latter writer makes mention of the architectural account of Waverley and the coloured ground plan published in Vol. II of the *Victoria History*, but is apparently ignorant of Mr. Brakspear's much fuller account with the coloured plan to larger scale published by this Society. The fact that the illustration of the Chapter House, which faces p. 248, appeared in Mr. Brakspear's book, as well as in an earlier volume of the *Collections*, is unacknowledged.

Of other sections of the book, we must confine ourselves to brief mention of the article on Surrey before the Norman Conquest, by Mr. Clinch, which, save for its three pages on the Roman period, is little more than a much-condensed summary of the contributions by the same writer and Mr. Reginald Smith to Vol. I of the *Victoria History*; to a readable paper by Mr. Tavenor-Perry on the Royal Residences of Surrey; and to Mr. Kershaw's chapter on the Fortunes of Lambeth Palace, a subject with which no one can claim fuller acquaintance than that writer.