

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Medieval Farnham : Everyday Life in an Episcopal Manor.
By Etienne Robo. Farnham : E. W. Langham, 1935. 12s. 6d.

This handsome volume is written to give Farnham people a picture of the daily life of their forbears in the 13th and 14th centuries. It is naturally written from the Catholic standpoint but as Fr. Robo points out the fact that the same beliefs and customs "have continued without change or interruption in the Church to which the writer of these pages belongs should help him to understand the past of Catholic England." He has, moreover, the further advantage of an upbringing in the Brittany of half a century ago which gives him a natural understanding of a primitive agricultural community.

Many of his chapters are separate studies reprinted from various publications, which leads to a certain amount of overlapping : but they are all based on a close study of original documents.

Two of the chapters have already appeared in these *Collections*, others in the *English Historical Review*, the *Tablet*, and the *Farnham Herald*.

It is gratifying to find that frequent use has been made of our Record Society's *Register of John de Pontissara*, and the *Taxation Returns* have also been consulted : but the main source is the great series of episcopal accounts called "Pipe Rolls of the Bishopric of Winchester." It is regrettable that no bibliography has been provided, which would have mentioned that these rolls are not in the Cathedral archives but at the Public Record Office, where, however, they can only be seen with a permit from the Ecclesiastical Commission. Some reference might also have been made to the transcript of one of these rolls edited some thirty years ago by the London School of Economics. Fr. Robo, however, gives an analysis of the contents of a typical roll, and his chapters are all based on a detailed study of these accounts.

The work falls into five sections, dealing with the People, the Lords of the Manor, the Castle, the Borough, and Religious and Parochial Life and is primarily concerned with the 13th and 14th centuries for which the evidence of the rolls is fullest and most

valuable, but he carries his story down to the 16th century. He begins with a clear and simple description of medieval economy, and has a useful chapter reprinted from the *Economic Journal*, on wages and prices. The value of this part especially for the general reader would have been enhanced by a short glossary, which would for example have explained that a virgate is a unit of variable area. It appears (p. 11) that in these rolls it is to be reckoned at 32 acres, but elsewhere 30 acres is a more usual equation. Again while it is fairly common knowledge that Martinmas is the 11th of November, the general reader can hardly be expected to know that Hock Day was a fortnight after Easter Tuesday.

The first part shows that although the condition of the bondmen was economically miserable, this resulted as much from primitive agricultural conditions and general poverty as from the oppressiveness of the system. Many instances are given of episcopal lenience in its actual working, such as William of Wykeham's provision for the old age of Henry Fulcher the miller (p. 39), and John de Pontisana's testamentary thoughtfulness in making his estate pay the fine due from the tenants to his successor. An interesting short chapter on the watermills shows that most of the six Domesday mills can be identified, and some of the best of the illustrations show the still unspoilt surroundings of four of them, while a biographical chapter traces the history of a few individuals (such as Nicholas de Farnham, Henry III's physician), whose careers can be reconstructed from the rolls and other sources.

The section on the lords of the manor deals with three bishops whose episcopates covered periods of special economic interest. The manorial system is seen in full working order under Peter des Roches (1204-38) the soldier administrator who according to the chronicler "preferred marks to Mark and lucre to Lucas," but practised a lavish generosity and endowed many charitable foundations. Under Aylmer de Valence, Henry III's young half-brother, who for nine years occupied the see as bishop elect, and died in 1260, a few months after his consecration, extensive commutations of labour service took place, which won for him some posthumous popularity. Under William of Wykeham (1367-1404) "the manorial system showed signs of approaching dissolution." Fr. Robo gives an attractive picture of this famous prelate, with many examples of his generosity to his tenants, and firm but just exercise of ecclesiastical discipline in troubled times.

The detailed description of Farnham Castle is a useful amplification, from the episcopal rolls, of the account given in the *Victoria County History*, but suffers from the absence of a ground plan. There are many excellent illustrations in the book, but its value

would have been greatly increased if some of them could have been replaced by a plan of the Castle and a sketch map of the Borough and Hundred.

The section dealing with the Borough gives a facsimile and translation with comments (already printed in these *Collections*) of the charter of 1249. The text of the translation is a 16th-century one, with corrections, but a fresh translation would have been preferable.

Evidently the section most congenial to the author is that on "Religious and Parochial Life" giving a vivid reconstruction of parish life in 1400 and a history of the two chantries established at Farnham, one in the castle and one outside. A useful biographical list of the Vicars is reprinted from these *Collections*, and the last chapter describes "the Passing of the Old Faith," naturally from the Catholic point of view but without attempting to distort facts.

It would be invidious to criticize meticulously a book not intended for scholars and written for the most part away from works of reference: but in spite of frequent revision some errors are noticeable and one or two points of detail invite correction. The burial-place of William Marshal (p. 71) should have been described as the Temple Church, and the French king generally referred to in English as Philip Augustus appears on p. 75 as Philip August and on p. 154 as Philippe Auguste. In a book meant for the general reader the modern forms of place names should be used, or added in brackets, *e.g.* Stepney rather than Stebunhithe (p. 301) and Tewkesbury rather than Theokesb(er)ia (p. 73), while Lestues in Southwark (p. 269) is presumably the unsavoury quarter usually called the Stews. The indexing of places is rather inadequate, but the more difficult task of indexing the subject matter has been much more successfully attempted.

It is as an imaginative reconstruction of past times, based directly on original documents (especially in the pictorial chapters such as "Passing through Farnham in 1300"), that the book is most successful and can be strongly recommended not only to "those who have lived in the neighbourhood long enough to feel the spell of its past" but to a much wider circle.

R. L. A.

The Place of Surrey in the History of England. By F. J. C. Hearnshaw, Litt.D., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of History in the University of London. Macmillan & Co., 1936. Price 4s. 6d.

In this admirable little volume Prof. Hearnshaw surveys our county from 100,000,000 B.C. to A.D. 1936. The greater part of

the book is of course concerned with the last 1,300 years of this period, since the emergence of Surrey as an obscure dependency of Middlesex in the 7th century: but the preliminary sections give a most illuminating account of the physical basis of the county's history, and its gradual settlement in prehistoric and Roman times. His object is "to display what may be termed the highest common factor of the history of the Kingdom of England and the history of the county of Surrey." He shows how Surrey was affected by the Danish and Norman conquests, the rise and fall of the religious houses, the Black Death, the Civil Wars, the Revolution of 1688 and the economic changes of the last two centuries, and traces the effect of local influences, such as the rivalry of Clares and Warenes, the resistance of Surrey to the forest rights claimed by the crown, and the gradual spread of urbanization, from Elizabethan Southwark, of which he gives a lively description, to the greater London of the present day.

Although it does not profess to be based on anything beyond readily accessible secondary sources it gives a new and stimulating interpretation of both local and general history, and its authorities are well up to date, as in the reference to the light thrown by recent excavation on the massacre of Alfred the Atheling's followers in 1036. We may hope, however, that in the next edition the list of sources will include all our Record Society's publications, and not only the *Guide to Surrey Documents*.

The book is well supplied with illustrations drawn by Miss E. S. Hearnshaw, and the maps are particularly good. The map of the distribution of parishes in Tandridge Hundred clearly illustrates the point that "no delimitation of boundaries that had been primarily ecclesiastical would have made matters so extremely inconvenient for the parsons," and the map of the Surrey hundreds is very useful, though some indication might have been given of the date when these boundaries were established, and of the alternative names sometimes used for some of these divisions. A map of present-day administrative divisions might also have been included. As criticisms of detail are invited and it is to be hoped that new editions will be called for, it may be mentioned that the name St. Peter's Isle for Battersea (p. 158) may be misleading. Battersea was a manor of St. Peter's abbey at Westminster, but the forms given in *Surrey Place Names* show the derivation to be "Beaduric's isle."

It is a book which should appeal to all Surrey residents who have any interest in the past of their county, and one which should be studied by every teacher of history in a Surrey school.

R. L. A.

The Cradle of a Great Corporation. Compiled by Alfred L. Whealler. Croydon [1935]. Price 3s. 6d.

Some years ago we had occasion to notice a little work compiled from the parish records of Clapham describing the administration of the parish in the 18th century.¹ Here on a considerably larger scale Mr. Whealler has done the same for Croydon from the Vestry Books between the years 1745 and 1899. We gladly welcome all such works for, as Mr. Berwick Sayers, the librarian of Croydon, says in his introduction to this book "to be of value all local history must be based upon such original documents" and we hope that in time the practice of compiling such works may be extended to all the Surrey parishes.

The printing of vestry minutes in their entirety is hardly a practicable undertaking or indeed necessary. But it may be questioned perhaps whether the method here adopted of printing the extracts under subject headings is the best for showing the gradual development of the parish from comparatively small beginnings into the great corporation it is to-day. A chronological arrangement throughout with a good subject index might have fulfilled this purpose better and it might have been useful to have printed the complete minutes for certain selected days during the period in order to show the full duties devolving upon the vestry at different times, no matter how trivial many of the entries may have been.

However, we have no wish to quarrel with the present editor on these grounds and indeed his method is doubtless the best to interest the wider public to which from its price his book is evidently intended to appeal. His range of subjects is fairly wide, those fullest of treatment being the ones dealing with the charities and poor relief, the parish church and since 1829 the various new churches erected within the bounds of the ancient parish. A very detailed and interesting report was made to the vestry in 1821, supplemented by a further one in the following year, on the charities of Croydon, showing the property belonging to each and its disposition. Both reports are given here in full. The sections dealing with the church show the measures taken from time to time for its repair and contain reports by the surveyor, James Spiller, of its condition in 1799 and 1800. There were also interesting questions regarding the seating and appropriation of pews which came before the vestry for settlement. Within a week or two of the disastrous destruction of the old church by fire in January 1867, a meeting was held at which we hear that the sum of £9,200 had been recovered from the in-

¹ *S.A.C.*, XXXIX, pp. 157, 158.

insurance on the building and a voluntary subscription list was opened and the sum of £6,399 3s. there and then raised.

Of other subjects dealt with we may note especially those relating to the officials of the parish, the churchyard and burials, the workhouse and the hospital and to apprenticeship. Another of more general historic interest concerns the defence of the realm during the Napoleonic scare, when a rate of 6*d.* in the pound rent was raised for the maintenance of nine men for the army, "in defence against an invasion threatened by an implacable and inveterate enemy in order to destroy our existence as an independent nation." It was perhaps as an aftermath of these wars that a spirit of economy pervaded the vestry in 1828 for it then declared that various charges which had apparently been previously allowed, such as the lighting of the town (p. 4) and the expenses of the Judges' lodgings and other accommodation of the assizes (p. 9), were not applicable to the office of churchwarden and that it would never sanction them in future out of the church rate.

The extracts are pointed with brief comments by the editor and in addition to the introduction above mentioned there is a foreword by the Bishop of Croydon. The book which is fully indexed cannot fail to add to the interest of the present inhabitants in the story of their important borough and is indispensable to its future historian.

M. S. G.

Alfold : The Story of a Surrey Village. By F. W. Cobb. To be obtained from the Author, Elsenham Vicarage, Bishop's Stortford.

Most people are interested in the history of the place where they dwell, but many have not leisure to study the subject. The majority are satisfied if they can find a little book, such as the one under review, which gives them, in a handy and inexpensive form, all the information they require.

Under the devastating onslaughts of speculative builders, the rural charm of our old Surrey villages is fast disappearing. In the twinkling of an eye, noble trees are felled and luxuriant hedges rooted up, making way for rows of unsightly bungalows which are strung along our roads like the beads of a Woolworth necklace.

These regrettable but inevitable changes bring home to us the value of village histories, for without records of this kind our knowledge of local topography and tradition would soon be lost. In the case of Alfold the need of such a work has been met by Mr. Cobb, one of its former Rectors, who has provided us with an attractive and well illustrated little history which is quite a model of its kind.

Alfold has so far suffered little at the hands of the builders. It is still "charmingly rural and sequestered," and until a few years ago was one of the most primitive villages in Surrey. Like all its neighbours, however, it has come under the sophisticating influence of the motor-bus and bike, and has thus lost some of the old-world placidity and quiet for which it was remarkable. The village had no place in history before the reign of Edward I and is not mentioned in Doomsday. We hear of it first in a charter of William de Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, a natural son of Henry II, who gave the advowson of the benefice, with the manor of Shalford, to John Fitz Geoffrey who died in 1256. The "ecclesia de Alfaulde" is also briefly referred to in the Winchester Diocesan Register, under the year 1270.

The name of the village lends itself to many variants in spelling. It was Alfaulde to begin with, but in the course of centuries many other forms have been recorded. Thus we have Allfolde, Arffold, Aldefaulde and even Harfull. Speed's map of Surrey, 1611, shows it as Awfold. The present spelling does not express the local pronunciation which is "Arfold." The first syllable is derived from the A.S. Ald, eld or old, and the second from the A.S. fald or fold, a pen or enclosure of felled trees for the shelter of sheep and cattle. "Fold" is distinctive of this part of Surrey, which was included in the Weald, and it marks the spots where the early Saxon settlers made clearings in the forest for their homesteads.

The glory of Alfold is its interesting little Church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, which dates from the 12th century. It is remarkable for the massive oak pillars and beams which support its bellchamber, its Norman font, its ancient and well-preserved pews some of which date from about 1400, and the stocks and whipping-post outside the churchyard gate. At the time of the Reformation orders were issued for the removal and destruction of all stone altars. Very fortunately this order was evaded at Alfold, for the splendid slab of Sussex marble which had formed the top of the altar, was concealed under the floor of the nave, where it was discovered in 1845, when the church was restored. It is in perfect condition and has been replaced in its original position. Another interesting feature is the old yew tree in the churchyard, said to be 22 feet in girth and of incredible age.

Iron working and charcoal burning were the principal industries of the village in the 15th and 16th centuries, but more important than either was the glass-making, which, as at Chiddingfold, was at one time largely in the hands of French settlers or their descendants. The last master of the Alfold glass house, in Sidney Wood, was John Carré, who died in 1572 and was "buried at Awfolde."

The manufacture of glass came to an end in the reign of James I, when the felling of trees was prohibited, thus depriving the Alfold glass-blowers of the means of making the charcoal essential to the carrying on of their craft.

In the 18th century, Alfold was on the smugglers' road from the coast, and many ankers of brandy and rolls of lace found their way into its old farm-houses, most of which contained handy hiding-places where contraband goods could be concealed when the Preventive officers were hot in pursuit of the "Gentlemen," as these Georgian ruffians were politely but incorrectly described.

The remoteness of Alfold in the past was mainly due to defective communications. There were no made roads before 1809, and in winter its heavy clay soil was almost impassable for vehicles. The isolation of its villagers accounts for the survival of customs long after they had been abandoned elsewhere. On Shrove Tuesday there used to be cock-fighting in the churchyard, and on Good Friday a loaf of bread was baked black in every household, and kept till the next Good Friday, as a charm against sickness.

The Churchwardens' accounts give us an idea of what 18th-century village government was like. Every meeting of the wardens necessitated a liberal expenditure on beer, and on the 5th of November, a Thanksgiving Service was held yearly to celebrate "the happy deliverance of the King and the Three Estates of the Realm from the most Traiterous and Bloudy intended Massacre by Gunpowder." To demonstrate their unflinching loyalty and thankfulness, the churchwardens sanctioned an outlay of ten shillings on beer, which must have made a big hole in the parish income.

Mr. Cobb describes many of the beautiful half-timbered farm-houses and cottages of the parish. Of these the most interesting is Alfold House, with its picturesque projecting gable. It stands at the top of the street and has been visited by members of our Society in the course of its excursions. Another interesting old farm-house is Alfold Park which has a history carrying us back to the 13th century.

Prominence is given in the book to some articles which appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* in 1933, in which it is claimed that the name of that city can be traced to John de Sydenie of Alfold, the yeoman owner of Sidney Farm, who is mentioned in the Assize Roll of 1307. The claim may have a basis of truth, though it seems rather far-fetched. The flourishing city of Sydney in New South Wales was no doubt named after some member of the Sidney family; but we think that the latter can claim a more distinguished origin than that assigned to it by the writer of these articles.

A. H. B.

With a Spade on Stane Street. By S. E. Winbolt, M.A. Methuen, London, 1936. Price 10s. 6d.

Much has been written about Stane Street. But too many of the earlier writers have been content, in dealing with doubtful and invisible sections of the road, to rely on theoretical guesswork, or, which is not much better, hearsay evidence. Mr. Winbolt is not of these. As he says in his preface his "main purpose is to record facts, to show where the road actually did go." Facts about a Roman road are best ascertained by the spade. Accordingly Mr. Winbolt's motto has evidently been "when in doubt dig." He has lived up to this motto, and the book lives up to its title. The strip maps in the text record some 60 sections, nearly all of the author's own digging, and this on a road only 58 miles in length, of which a great part coincides with modern roads, or is for other reasons inaccessible to the spade.

The opening chapter deals with the character and date of the road. On these points Mr. Winbolt's views differ from those held by several previous writers. He holds that the road was not, in the full sense, a "military" road, but that it was "from the beginning mainly a road for peaceful travellers engaged in commerce." But he admits that it was "planned on strategic lines" (p. 2), and possibly with the object of connecting London, "one of the bases of the army, with the friendly territory of Cogidubnus" (p. 3). As to the date of construction, he puts it at A.D. 60-70, or possibly earlier. Accepting the date assigned, it seems reasonable to suppose that the road was designed, in the first instance, as a strategic, or military way, at a time when the Roman invaders were still uncertain of the temper of the populace, but that, since the south accepted the occupation peaceably within a very short period, it was found unnecessary to establish forts or garrisons on it. Mr. Winbolt also adduces a considerable amount of evidence to show that Stane Street was not merely "an empty through route" between London and Chichester, but that there were settlements at a number of points along its course. This view agrees with that of some modern archæologists, who hold that the Weald was by no means the unpopulated area which older writers assumed it to have been.

Chapters II to XI describe in detail the whole course of the road from Chichester to London. So close and accurate is the description that it would be possible, in many places, to follow the line with no other guide than the text. Lest the general reader, as distinct from the Roman road specialist, should fear that these chapters may be tedious, let him be assured that they are eminently readable. They are, in fact, "pleasant discourse," and at the same time "a

serious contribution to archaeological research." Apart from the scientific value of the details, the reader is enabled to share in the thrill of pursuit and discovery, notably in the account of the working out of the detour at the Oakwood stream crossing (p. III *et seq.*), and the excavation of the "waterworks" at Grevatts Wood (pp. 35-8). Mr. O. G. S. Crawford has written "there is no sport so thrilling as the tracking of a Roman road across country" (*Man and his Past*, p. 207). That Mr. Winbolt has the same feeling about this aspect of his work is evident, not only in his descriptions but also by the quotation from Lucretius printed on p. v. And he is able to convey this feeling to his readers.

Chapter X requires a word to itself. It deals with the stretch from Thirty Acres Barn (just south of Ashted Park) to Ewell. Here, for lack of actual evidence by the spade, Mr. Winbolt is compelled to deduce a theoretical line over a distance of some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Probably there has been more discussion and controversy over this stretch than over any other similar length of Stane Street. Mr. Winbolt, refusing to accept certain deviations proposed by previous writers, and admittedly helped by a discovery in the Old Fair Field at Ewell in 1934, deduces a continuation of the Pebble Lane alignment (just south of Thirty Acres Barn), through the eastern side of Epsom, to a point near Windmill Bridge Nursery. One point in favour of this line is that it is in agreement with the usually safe assumption that a Roman road goes straight on until there is some very good reason for a change of direction. Mr. Winbolt's faith in this line was vindicated, and the soundness of his reasoning brilliantly demonstrated, by the discovery, on 30th April 1936, of a well-preserved piece of Stane Street at the north boundary of Woodcote Park, almost exactly midway between the north end of the Pebble Lane straight and Windmill Bridge Nursery, and only *five yards* off the theoretical prolongation of the Pebble Hill Lane alignment. Mr. Winbolt is to be congratulated on the fact that it was his own spade which uncovered the metalled road at this spot. (See Addendum, p. 219.) This discovery closes what was by far the largest gap in the proved course of Stane Street, and it may now be accepted that the whole line of the road is settled beyond argument.

Chapters XII and XIII deal with the main alignments, the methods of construction used by the Roman engineers, and other general questions, including the dating evidence. In addition to the Addendum (referred to above) there are four Appendices, *viz.* I. A table of intermediate distances along Stane Street. II. A schedule of the whole route, with convenient references to the strip maps in the text and the 6-inch O.S. sheets over which the road

passes. III. Some notes about the Grōma, the chief surveying instrument of the Romans. IV. An attempted reconstruction of Roman Ewell. This last (IV) is admittedly conjectural, not being built on the spade evidence which Mr. Winbolt would prefer. That there was a considerable Roman settlement at Ewell, and an early one, appears to be certain, from the number and date distribution of the finds which have been made from time to time. The now definitely ascertained fact that Stane Street passed through it and changed direction at a point probably on the N.E. boundary considerably strengthens the case. But, since the place was not a walled town, the location of its actual boundaries is a matter of doubt and difficulty. Mr. Winbolt makes out a very interesting case for his conjectural lay-out of the settlement. Perhaps some day further evidence may be forthcoming.

The arrangement, printing, and general get-up of the book is admirable. The strip maps, on the 6-inch scale, with numbered marginal references, make it easy to find any place mentioned in the text. A folding map of the whole route ($\frac{1}{4}$ -inch scale) is bound in at the end of the volume, and there is a good index. A Roman road, whether in its untouched state or under excavation, is not an easy subject for photography, but the pictures included are very successful. Of those showing the actual road, untouched, the Agger of Stane Street on Bignor Down is the most impressive. The frontispiece (by courtesy of the Sussex Archæological Society), showing the anchoring stakes of the Roman bridge at Alfoldean *in situ* in the bed of the river, as they were exposed during the drought of 1934, is particularly interesting. There is a small misprint on p. 224, which might be corrected in any future edition: 20.164 (square metres) should be 20,164.

In these days of building developments and arterial roads, by which agencies so many ancient vestiges and landmarks are being destroyed, it is of the greatest importance that authentic records should be made while the evidence is still available. Mr. Winbolt has done this for Stane Street. The result of his enthusiastic and persevering labours is a valuable book which is likely to remain, for some time to come, the last and most authoritative word on the subject.

J. G.

Roman Roads in South-East Britain. By G. M. Hughes. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd. Price 7s. 6d.

Admittedly, any work of a scientific nature which has remained in manuscript for a long period of time will contain a high percentage

of errors and omissions, even if through no fault of the author's. Such is the case with the book under discussion, which, we are told, was written forty-five years ago. It has, however, been fortunate in having Mr. I. D. Margary as editor, and he has, in the form of notes and additions, attempted to fill some of the more obvious deficiencies.

The advance of knowledge in recent years, particularly as regards Archæology (*vide Archæology in England and Wales, 1914-1931*, Kendrick & Hawkes) has been considerable, and those who read this present work will realize how completely the outlook has altered since it was written. In spite of this fact, which is freely admitted by those responsible for the appearance of this book, it is a work of a very readable nature, and much stimulating argument and many suggestions for further research are to be found in its pages.

One may perhaps, criticize the fact that the title fails to indicate the lapse of time since this book was written. There are, probably, some who will obtain it in the belief that they are securing the most recent knowledge about Roman roads in the south of England. It is to be feared that they will be disappointed.

The book is divided into three separate parts, though Part 1, which deals with Julius Cæsar's two expeditions to this country, is the only one which differs materially from the remainder of the work. In it, the author endeavours to establish the places and routes concerned, mainly from the literary evidence. His disbelief in Cæsar's claim to have crossed the Thames on his second expedition, is strangely at variance with his championing of the Antonine Itinerary in Part 2 of this work. (Dr. R. E. M. Wheeler's excavations at the Wheathampsted "oppidum" in 1932, established the likelihood of this having been the stronghold of Cassivellaunus referred to by Cæsar.)

Most of the chapters of parts two and three are presented under the names of the various important Roman sites in southern Britain, and contain a brief description of them and the roads on which they are situated. (The fact that for some of the titles, Latin place-names are employed, while for others, present-day names are used, appears somewhat incongruous. Thus "LONDINIUM," Chap. XIII, but "Silchester," Chap. XV, while Chap. XIV is headed "Pontes and Bagshot.")

Chapter XVI endeavours to fix the site of "Vindomum" at, or close to Bentley in Hants., a few miles west of Farnham, Surrey. This, purely on a calculation of distances from those given in the Antonine Itineraries (XII and XV), and a vague assortment of "Roman remains" found in the district.

There are many statements in this book which are now contrary

to archæological evidence ; to list them all would be tedious, but a few are as follows :

p. 133 : " Such is my reliance on the accuracy of this valuable record (the Antonine Itinerary) that on the faith of it I place the earliest station of Londinium on the southern bank of the river."

p. 179 : the suggestion that only " some sudden and violent convulsion of Nature " will account for changes of coast-line in late Roman times.

p. 199 : The inscription recorded is incorrect. The original lead pig (not " pipes " as stated), is in the British Museum and the inscription (*B.M. Guide*, p. 31, 11), reads : CL.TR.LVT.BR.EX.ARG., the lead being from the mines (EX.ARG.) of Lutudarum which is stated to be the mining centre near Matlock.

Finally (a point for which the author is in no way to blame), the map published at the end of this volume fails to do it proper justice. It neither illustrates the author's own opinions, nor (though it claims to be based upon the Ordnance Survey Map) is it very accurate, as the following errors show :—

The names Ashstead [*sic*] Leatherhead, Mickleham and Dorking are all incorrectly placed, Dorking being placed some twenty-five miles east of its actual position.

Ainsteybury appears for Anstiebury.

Calleoae for Calleva, and Rutupice for Rutupiae.

A. W. G. L.

Illustrated Regional Guides to Ancient Monuments under the ownership or guardianship of H.M. Office of Works. Vol. II Southern England. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1s.

A common failing of the average guide book is to dilate at length on some historic building while omitting to say whether or when it is open to the public, a serious omission for the tourist since local information on such matters is notoriously vague and unreliable. This handy guide is open to no such criticism. Precise details are given of the times of admission and the distance of each monument from the nearest town or station with other useful and practical notes and a distribution map. The introduction by the First Commissioner is admirably done though covering a vast field. The illustrations are not all as clear as could be wished, but the little volume can be cordially commended to all who are interested in the preservation of our national antiquities ; particularly to those who desire to visit any of the monuments in the southern counties here described, though the only Surrey examples are Farnham Castle and Kew Palace.

W. H.