

names. The Yeomen who, for generations, had held the farms either for lives, under the Lord of the Manor, or by service, then became owners by purchase ; and again, rather more than a century later, the Civil War and consequent poverty caused a still further sub-division of lands. But the manorial history of a parish, when carefully investigated through old Deeds and Charters, will generally reveal and account for all the names of this class and fix the dates. Each parish, however small, has a history interesting, perhaps, only to those belonging to the place, yet still worth tracing out and recording ; for, after all, a County History is only a collection of such parish records collected together.

I have endeavoured briefly to sketch the main features of our local history, which need special attention. I will, therefore, only add that any information on any of these points, or on kindred subjects, will be gladly received by the Secretary, the Rev. P. H. DITCHFIELD, Barkham Rectory ; or by myself, to enable a systematic arrangement to be made, and maps to be marked.

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READING MUSEUM.—Twelve extremely fine specimens of various vases have recently been added to the Museum, eleven of them being ancient Greek and the remaining one ancient Peruvian.

HISTORY OF WOKINGHAM.—The lecture on Wokingham by the Secretary was repeated in the Wokingham Town Hall, on March 19th, at a Meeting organised by the members of the Wokingham Institute. There was an exhibition of municipal documents and curios, and the Master of Lucas' Hospital gave a short history of that Institution. He has discovered some interesting MSS. amongst the muniments of the Hospital.

THE SOCIETY'S PRIZES.—The Society's prizes to the Students of the University Extension Lectures have been awarded to Miss Ella Deverell and Miss Mary Beale. The drawing of Mr. Arthur Smith, which gained him the society's prize last year for the best architectural drawing, has been reproduced in the *Building News*. It is a very careful and accurate representation of the iron gates at Mapledurham.

WALLINGFORD.—In the April number of the *Antiquary* Mr. W. R. Davies describes some curious leaden discs which were found under an old floor in the Town Hall of Wallingford. Some of them bear the date 1699 and 1724, and he supposes them to be tallies used by the cloth sellers of the period.