

## Reviews.



THE NEW GUIDE TO SILCHESTER, by Alan Cheales, with a preface by the Lord Bishop of Oxford (Miss Langley, Reading). The author of the "Sack of Silchester" has now furnished us with a most accurate and useful guide to that place, which, as Stukeley says, "a lover of antiquity will visit with great delight." This delight has, of course, been considerably enhanced during recent years while the systematic excavations have been going on. The Bishop's preface is valuable, and points out the danger of rash speculation and hasty conclusions. The writer tells us (1) How to prepare for visiting Silchester, viz. :—By seeing the Reading Museum ; (2) How to get there ; (3) What to see there. He tells us the whole history of the place, such as it is ; its Mythical records ; its annals during the Romano-British period ; its mediæval and modern history, much of which is blank. There is a very full account of the excavations, so ably conducted by the Society of Antiquaries. There is much graceful writing in this, as in all Mr. Cheales' productions, and no one should visit Silchester without furnishing himself with this useful guide.

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CHRONICLES OF FINCHAMPSTEAD, by William Lyon (Longmans and Co.). This is one of the most perfect histories of a parish that we have ever met with. The work reflects the greatest credit upon its author, who has succeeded in arranging a store of historical information about a parish, the annals of which were entirely unknown. It is impossible in the present number to do adequate justice to this admirable work ; and we propose to reserve until our next issue a full review of Mr. Lyon's book. In the meantime we recommend all who are interested in Berkshire history, and all who love to read a beautiful work, ably written, admirably printed, and excellently illustrated, to acquire a copy of the *Chronicles of Finchampstead*, which will certainly not disappoint their expectations.