

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On November 19th, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield lectured on "A Reading Pageant," and with the assistance of Mrs. Friend, the Rev. R. P. and Mrs. Newhouse, and Mr. Mansfield, read the book of words. The music of the pageant was most ably executed by Mr. Pryce Aspinall assisted by a choir of ladies and gentlemen. Much interest was shewn in the proceedings, and a hope was expressed that the town of Reading should have its Pageant.

On December 13th, Major Godsall delivered an able and interesting lecture on "A Military Study of the Conquest of Britain by the English," in which he advanced some new theories which are worthy of careful consideration. A resumé of his lecture appears in this number of the Journal.

Other Lectures promised are :—

January 30th, "Japan," by Dr. H. A. Powell.

February 13th, "A Tour in Petra," by Mr. A. W. Sutton.

March 19th, "The Land of Lleyrn," by Mr. Albin White.

April, by The President, on "Some Berkshire Churches."

Reviews.

GLEANINGS AFTER TIME, Edited by G. L. Apperson, I.S.O. Elliot Stock, 1907. These chapters on social and domestic history have been gleaned from the earlier numbers of the *Antiquary*, and are well worthy of being re-printed. The selections which Mr. Apperson has made are admirable. He has wisely chosen those articles which illustrate the social side of English history, and his subjects range from a 13th century book of etiquette to an 18th century visit to America. Many of these chapters are too valuable to be left buried in the bygone columns of a magazine, and we are heartily glad to see them disinterred. The list of writers, including such well-known names as Mr. H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A., Viscount Dillon, F.S.A., L. Jewitt, F.S.A., and L. Toulmin Smith, and their articles, as well as others, will command attention. The present writer has a fatherly interest for this volume, as it was at his suggestion that the publisher first conceived the idea of making these gleanings.

MEMORIALS OF THE COUNTIES OF ENGLAND, Edited by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield (Bemrose & Sons). Two more volumes have been added to this series. The Derbyshire Volume has been entrusted to the Rev. Dr. Cox, the distinguished antiquary, who is a native of that county, and has produced with

the assistance of other learned writers a book which will be greedily devoured by all who love Derbyshire. The book is enriched by nearly a hundred illustrations, and each chapter deals with some important feature in the county. Historic Derbyshire, the Foljambe Monuments and Peak Forest are written by the Editor; Mr. Aymer Vallance treats of Rood-screens and Lofts. Prehistoric relics, Repton, the old houses of the county, old country life and folk-lore, and the history of some famous families are the subjects of other important chapters. Dr. Cox's enthusiastic affection for his county has produced a book which all will prize.

THE DORSET Volume was edited in the first place by the Rev. T. Perkins, and after his death the Rev. H. Pentin, the Editor of the Dorset Field Club, kindly completed the work and saw it safely through the press. In addition to the editors, the authors' names include the Bishop of Durham, Mr. Sidney Heath, Mr. Wildman, Mr. Prideaux, Mr. Gill, and many others, who are among the chief authorities upon the subjects of which they treat. There are many illustrations, and among them a beautiful water-colour drawing by Mr. William Pye and some sketches by Mr. Heath. The book is a valuable addition to the series.

The Volumes on Warwickshire and Norfolk are nearly ready, and many other volumes are in progress. It is anticipated that ultimately the Memorials' Series will form a complete *revue* of all the Counties in England. The General Editor is now engaged upon the two London volumes, which are passing through the press. The subscription for each volume is half-a-guinea, the price being raised to 15s. after publication.

THE *Antiquary* begins its new volume with the January issue, and contains interesting articles on the Querns of Anglesey, the Bosses of Miltn Abbey, Early Settlements by the Kentish Marshes, etc. The notes of the month are always an important feature of this Magazine.

THE *Reliquary* since the death of Mr. Romilly Allen has been edited by Dr. Cox, who has maintained the high reputation of this important periodical.

ILLUSTRATED POCKET CLASSICS AND MODERN FICTION (Messrs. W. Collins, Sons & Co., Glasgow). Beautiful books are a delight and a joy to the booklover, and no well-lined purse is needed in these days to purchase a good supply of standard works. "Every Man's Library," published by Messrs. Dent, and Routledge's reprints of standard books are well known, and we have received a number of volumes from Messrs. Collins, of Glasgow, which rival anything that we have seen elsewhere. They are neat, handy books, beautifully bound in red cloth or in leather, and are well worthy of a conspicuous place on our shelves. Moreover they are well illustrated with coloured drawings, and their Pocket Classics include such masterpieces as Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, *The Last Days of Pompeii*, and *The Three Musketeers*, all of which can be purchased for one shilling in cloth, or 2s. in leather. The Modern Fiction library includes Oxenham's *A Weaver of Webs*, Black's *Daughter of Heth*, Clark Russell's *Wreck of the Grosvenor*, and Helen Mather's *Coming through the Rye*. The modest sum of 7d. will purchase these dainty books, which have been so successful that the publishers have arranged to issue at an early date notable volumes by R. L. Stevenson, A. E. W. Mason, Conan Doyle and other distinguished writers. We know of no better series of copyright reprints.