

## Review.

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ERLEIGH COURT AND ITS OWNERS: by ERNEST W. DORMER.

(J. A. Poynder, Reading).

We welcome any additions to the History of our Country, for every village or house has a history of its own worth recording, which if not written down is soon forgotten. The latest contribution is Mr. E. Dormer's "Erleigh Court and its Owners," an extremely well illustrated work, written in a pleasing style. The illustrations are of exceptional merit, and we note with interest that the production is also local, bearing on its title page the well-known name of Mr. J. A. Poynder. Not the least interesting chapter is the one dealing with the history of the Court Chapel of St. Bartholomew's, Earleigh, which together with other chapels at Arborfield, Sindlesham, Ruscombe, Wokingham, Hurst and Sandhurst, were dependent on the Mother Church of Sonning. From this we learn the immense size of a medieval parish, also these chapels were the parents of the present parishes of the above names. Also of interest is the chapters dealing with the various owners of the Court, but we wish that it might have been possible to state how the property descended from the Erleghs to the family of Fettiplace. Perhaps a search amongst the sixteenth century wills at Somerset House may throw some light on such descent, or the Feet of Fines and Inquisition Post Mortem at the Record Office might again prove of assistance. These are such important sources of information that no one who is writing on the descent of landed property should leave them untouched. The work shows that a great deal of painstaking research has been undertaken by Mr. Dormer to obtain the information which he has so ably put together, but the references might have been more explicit. Thus, on page 15, are several references to the Calendar of Patent and Close Rolls; it would have been well if the dates covered by the volume in the page were given. Mr. Dormer would do well to copy the very explicit references given in the Victoria County Histories as a model, because we hope to have more work from his pen.

