

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

PAROCHIAL AND FAMILY HISTORY OF THE DEANERY OF TRIGG MINOR, IN THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL. By JOHN MACLEAN, Esq., F.S.A., &c.

WE have great pleasure in introducing to the favourable attention of our friends the first part of a Parochial and Family History of the County of Cornwall, containing the parish of Blisland, in the deanery of Trigg Minor in that county, by Mr. Maclean. The historical works and notices of the county have not hitherto obtained, or deserved, any high reputation. The earliest that we possess of any value is the "Survey" of Carew, first printed, after the decease of the writer, in 1602, and afterwards expanded in a somewhat enlarged form in successive quarto editions, of which the last was published under the careful editorship of Lord de Dunstanville. The only other independent historical work, of real importance, is the volume of the *Magna Britannia*, containing Cornwall, by Daniel and Samuel Lysons, which, though executed with all the learning and acute observation and research that might be expected from those excellent antiquaries, cannot be regarded as more than a correct *outline* of the physical features and archæological objects of interest contained in the county. The latest parochial history was edited, with some original matter, by the late Mr. Davis Gibbons; but the copious extracts from the unpublished manuscripts of Tonkin and Hals, on which the work was chiefly founded, have added but little to the value of it; and the unfortunate typographic inaccuracy of the work throughout the whole of it, has contributed greatly to impair its popularity.

In the part of Mr. Maclean's work now before us, it is impossible not to recognise immediately the learning and research of its author, and to discern the promise of a really useful and instructive county history. Our only apprehension is that a work, commenced on such a scale and plan, must necessarily be a work of great labour, and of slow progress, unless the author shall succeed in enlisting in his service co-adjutors not inferior to himself.

The present part contains (besides a rather copious introduction, not especially connected with the county) the parish and manor of Blisland, called in earlier manuscripts "Bliston" and "Bluston," and several other dependent manors that have since been severed from the principal lordship or manor of Blisland. In connection with these, a specimen of an old extent or survey of it has been printed, and very ample and careful biographical and genealogical notices of the principal families which have, from time to time either resided on it or become local landowners there. The volume is further illustrated with the armorial bearings of those families, and with various woodcuts of the local objects of primeval and ecclesiastical antiquity to be found within the district to which this part is confined.