

NOTICES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS.

CALENDAR OF THE GORMANSTON REGISTER, from the original in the possession of the Right Honourable the Viscount of Gormanston. Prepared and edited by JAMES MILLS, I.S.O. M.R.I.A. F.R.S.A.I., late Deputy-keeper of the Public Records, Ireland, and M. J. McENERY, M.R.I.A. F.R.S.A.I., Deputy-keeper of the Public Records, Ireland. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. xx + 252 pp. Dublin: printed at the University Press for the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, 1916.

Early in the fourteenth century, two of the three sons of Adam son of Philip of Preston in Lancashire settled as merchants in the town of Drogheda. Their brother Roger, to whom they conveyed their property in Preston, also sought his fortunes in Ireland as a lawyer, and is found as a justice in the Justiciar's court and the Bench at intervals between 1326 and his death, some twenty years later. His son Robert pursued the same profession, and in 1358 was appointed chief justice of the Bench. In the later years of his life he was twice keeper of the great seal in Ireland, and filled the office of Justiciar in the interval. The account of him in Foss's *Judges* confounds him with his father, and sets too early a beginning to his career; but from 1355 to his death in 1396 he was one of the most prominent officers of the Crown in Ireland. His early promotion was probably due to his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Sir Walter Bermyngham, Justiciar of Ireland from 1346 to 1349, who eventually inherited her father's estates. Sir Robert Preston bought Gormanston, which became the seat of his family, in 1363. Sir Christopher, his son and heir, added to the family possessions by marrying one of the co-heiresses of Sir William London or Londres, the last of a famous house, who brought him her purparty of the barony of Naas and the manor of Athboy. It was Sir Christopher who caused this register or chartulary to be compiled, and the publication of the present calendar is due to the permission of his descendants in the viscounty of Gormanston, created in favour of his grandson in 1478.

The alliances of the Prestons brought them into connexion with distinguished Irish and English families. Through the Bermyngham marriage they could claim descent from the Multons of Egremont; for Sir Walter Bermyngham was the second husband of Elizabeth, the eldest of the three Multon co-heiresses, from whose first marriage were descended the Haringtons whose heritage came to the Bonvilles and to Cicely, marchioness of Dorset. The inheritance brought by Elizabeth Londres to Sir Christopher was derived from Maurice, one of the Geraldine conquerors of Ireland. Among the miscellaneous documents entered at various dates on the leaves which precede the beginning of the register proper are pedigrees of the descendants of Multon and Londres, compiled early in the sixteenth century; and documents relating to Bermyngham, Geraldine, Lacy and Londres property are entered in the text. The nucleus of the property of the Prestons lay in Drogheda and in the neighbouring district south of the Boyne, and Gormanston, eventually their chief manor, is in this region. A large collection of charters relating to Drogheda occupies twenty-two pages of the calendar. The greater number of the deeds naturally concern Ireland; but the longest section connected with an individual place deals with land and tenements in Preston and the neighbourhood acquired by

the founders of the family, and is an important addition to Lancashire documents. A Lincolnshire final concord will be found on pp. 115, 116, relating to the advowson of Algarkirk and other parcels of the heritage of the Multons in the parts of Holland, including the manor of Moulton, from which the family derived its name.

The more interesting documents are printed in full as an appendix to the calendar. For the most part, these deal with the Lacys and Geraldines, who were united by the marriage of David, the grandson of Maurice Fitzgerald, with Maud, daughter of Hugh Lacy, earl of Ulster. Among them we may note the charter of king John granting the whole land of Ulster '*de qua ipsum in comitem cinximus*,' to Hugh Lacy. The clerk who copied it into the chartulary appears to have substituted '*Henricus*' for '*Johannes*' in the subscription. There is also the grant made by Strongbow to Maurice Fitzgerald of Wicklow and its cantred, with the exception of the vill and commote of Erkeks or Erkek, presumably Arklow, and another cantred or half-cantred, in which, as we learn from a confirmation by John, as lord of Ireland, to William the son of Maurice, the vill of Naas was situated. A charter of Walter Lacy, lord of Meath, grants in frankalmoin to the abbot and convent of Furness the land '*in villa de Mariners*' (Mornington) near the harbour of Drogheda which belonged to Christian, the widow of Robert le Mariner, including the chief messuage, with a stone tower near the church. The grant also concedes the free use of timber in the forest of Trim for buildings in Ireland belonging to the abbot and convent. A series of documents, from the middle of the twelfth to the third quarter of the thirteenth century, relates to the tenure by Maurice Fitzgerald and his heirs of their Pembrokeshire property and the office of steward of the household to the bishops of St. Davids. These conclude with a composition between William, the great-grandson of Maurice, and Richard of Carew, bishop of St. Davids 1256-1280, by which it was settled by a jury that William should attorn to the bishop for his tenement of Castle Maurice, recognising the services of holding the bishop's courts of Pebidiog and Llawhaden at his own expense, of five knights to the bishop, of holding at his own cost '*parliaments*' on the border of his lands against hostile neighbours, of imprisoning felons captured in Pebidiog at Castle Maurice, and bringing them, after three courts had been held, to Llawhaden, and of keeping ward with the bishop's men at the fair of St. Davids twice a year, again at his own charges. A memorandum in French, among the miscellaneous documents at the beginning of the register, records the judgment of Walter of Hopton, given in 1284, upon the right of a lord to make truces on his own behalf with the Irish. His decision was founded upon a precedent which had occurred in Henry III's Welsh campaign at Deganwy, when the marchers who had made truces with the enemy were treated with impunity. Lastly, we may note the deed of the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Newtown by Trim, confirming the foundation of a chantry and the endowment of two beds in the hospital by Nicole, lady of Athboy, the widow of John Londres and mother of William Londres, whose marriage with the heiress of the barony of Naas forms a link in the descent of the Prestons of Gormanston from the Geraldines.

It will be seen that the register contains a variety of material of a kind in which private chartularies are often deficient. It has been edited with

care by two prominent Irish scholars, and there are few faults to find with the index, which is an invaluable guide to the contents of the book. Identifications of the numerous place-names are not always possible, and 'Lanbedin' and 'Lanwadeyn' (pp. 203, 205) appear in the index as 'Laubedin' and 'Lauwadeyn.' A note on p. 203 recognises the identity of 'Lanbedin' with the 'terra auledeni,' a name from which the initial letter has disappeared, in an earlier charter. 'Lauwadeyn' is, of course, Llawhaden, and probably the other names indicate the same place, although the context does not make this absolutely certain. John Patrystow, who lived at Bordeaux in 1393, and owned three shops hard by St. Nicholas' chapel in Drogheda (p. 186), probably derived his name from Padstow in Cornwall.

LONDON CHURCHES BEFORE THE GREAT FIRE. By WILBERFORCE JENKINSON.
10½ × 7½, xvi + 319 pp. London: S.P.C.K. 1917. 15s. n.

This book is intended by its writer to be 'an anthology rather than a treatise.' He has collected, chiefly from the literature of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, a large number of allusions to London churches, and has produced a very useful miscellany. It is obvious that his interest lies on the literary rather than on the historical or architectural side of his subject. His numerous quotations are carefully provided with dates and references, and the reader who strays through the book will find much information and some entertainment. At the same time, it is doubtful whether, even when the author's limited object and casual method are taken into account, a little more critical judgment might not have been employed. His brief summaries of the earlier history of the churches are not satisfactory. For this purpose Stow and Newcourt have been well used; but they might be supplemented from other sources, and occasionally their statements might be given with some qualification. Thus the names of the first incumbents of churches recorded in the episcopal registers of London are given from Newcourt, with occasional additions of earlier names from Hennessy's *Novum Repertorium*; but no attempt has been made to verify them from Mr. R. C. Fowler's edition of the earliest volume of registers. Mr. Jenkinson says (p. 140) that the 'first rector' of St. Edmund's, Lombard Street, was 'Ioc. de Morren.' Newcourt calls him 'Jac[obus]'; Hennessy gives 'Moren' for 'Morren'; but Mr. Fowler's doubtless accurate version of the name is 'John de Mordon.' Newcourt and Hennessy alike give John de Stynington as rector of St. Nicholas Acon in 1333. In Mr. Fowler's hands the name becomes Styvynton; but Mr. Jenkinson reproduces it under the form 'Stynayton.' Chantryes are sometimes mentioned; but a more extensive use of Sharpe's *Calendar of Wills proved in the Court of Husting* would have provided much more on this head.

In his treatment of the patronage of churches, which is slight, Mr. Jenkinson is not always very accurate. He tells us that the same church of St. Nicholas Acon 'was built in 1084 for the benefit of the Abbey of Malmesbury.' The church, i.e. the advowson, is said to have been given in that year to the church of Malmesbury, but this proves nothing with regard to the building. The patronage of St. Mary Woolchurch (p. 135) 'was partly with the Crown, and partly with the Convent of St. John the

Baptist, Colchester.' As a matter of fact, a comparison of the list of incumbents with that of the abbots of Colchester shows that, as with other churches in the gift of religious houses which were tenants in chief of the Crown, the Crown presentations were made during vacancies of the office of abbot or for reasons which may be verified from the Patent Rolls. There is a serious historical slip on p. 250, where Howell's allusion to Gondomar's residence at Ely House and his wife's pious attentions to the chapel leads Mr. Jenkinson to think that it 'remained in Roman Catholic ownership, as it is to this day.' His notice of the consecration of John Wilkins, bishop of Chester, there, might have persuaded him that this was not so; and to this he might have added a further notice from Evelyn's *Diary*, which records the marriage in 1693 of Evelyn's daughter Susanna to William Draper in the same chapel, Archbishop Tenison being the officiating minister.

While these are specimens of an inaccuracy which is rather too common in the text and might sometimes, as on p. 127, where 'bishop of Limoges' appears for 'bishop of Limoges,' have been avoided without trouble, the quotations which are the *raison d'être* of the volume are given with much care. The plates, from old engravings, are the work of Mr. Emery Walker, and give special value to the book. It was perhaps too ambitious to crowd into a small space allusions to the fabric of Westminster Abbey, and the result is of small account; but Mr. Jenkinson knows the limitations of the taste of the period in which he has read most widely, and has some good remarks (p. 41) on its want of appreciation of the beauty of medieval buildings.

THE ANCIENT EARTHWORKS OF THE NEW FOREST, described and delineated in plans founded on the 25 inch to 1 mile Ordnance Survey, with a coloured map showing the physical features and the ancient sites of the New Forest founded on the 1 inch to 1 mile Ordnance Survey. By HEYWOOD SUMNER, F.S.A. 11½ x 7½, x + 142 pp. London: Chiswick Press. 41 n.

As compared with those of other neighbouring districts, the earthworks of the New Forest district are not a remarkable group, and Mr. Sumner notices that, taken as a whole, they 'express the poverty of its soil.' His survey, however, issued on the lines of his earlier book on *The Ancient Earthworks of Cranborne Chase*, is a valuable supplement to the general survey in Dr. Williams-Freeman's *Field Archaeology as illustrated by Hampshire*. It records several sites, which, owing to the thickly overgrown character of the country, have been hitherto unnoticed or insufficiently explored, and its plans add no less than sixteen to the number of those in the Ordnance maps. In themselves, the plans and sections, clearly drawn and supplied with beautiful lettering, are singularly attractive; and a few other drawings bear witness to the author's artistic skill and to his possession of an imagination, which, as distinct from mere fancy, is an invaluable asset to the archaeologist.

The early history of the district, as read in its earthworks, is briefly suggested by Mr. Sumner in a few adequate sentences. The numerous barrows of the Solent valley testify to the presence of a thick population in the Bronze age. With the subsidence of this low-lying ground, new settlements were gradually formed on the higher and less fertile land to the north-west. The seven defensive camps described await systematic exploration,

and village sites are wanting. Cultivation was not attempted: the district was sparsely inhabited, and the invader made his way through it to more promising neighbourhoods. In Roman times an extensive pottery-making industry came into being round Sloden, to the east of Fordingbridge, but there are no Roman villa-sites within the area. The two possible relics of Jutish or Saxon occupation are the 'seafarers' camp' at Ampress, on the Lymington river, close to the defensive camp of Buckland Rings, and the well-known moot-hill at Downton on the Avon, near Salisbury. In the second of these cases, it seems likely that the earthworks of a British camp were utilised; but the site has been so much disturbed by the ornamental gardener that it is difficult to accept any positive conclusions with regard to its use for its supposed purpose as the venue of a Saxon hundred-court. The castle founded by Henry of Blois in 1138 appears to have been outside the moot earthworks, but the excavation of its remains in the neighbouring Castle meadow has not revealed its complete extent. The only earthwork noted by Mr. Sumner which suggests a Norman origin is Castle Hill, on the left bank of the Avon between Downton and Fordingbridge. History is wanting here, but there are indications that the site, eminently adapted for defence by natural conditions, may have been utilised by the Normans within the limits of an earlier camp.

Documentary evidence for later enclosures, such as the Old Park at Lyndhurst, is given in some detail, and the claim of Walter Curll, bishop of Winchester, to his privileges at Bishop's Ditch, between Lyndhurst and Beaulieu, in August 1635, is translated at length from the Chancery Forest Proceedings. The difficulty of place-name study is amply illustrated by an appendix which contains a few interesting topographical conjectures, but in many respects is hardly satisfying to the philologist, and needs a much fuller apparatus of old forms. The will was undoubtedly father to the thought when Ampress, in the eighteenth century, was converted into Ambrose and connected with Aurelius Ambrosius. One noticeable point is the recurrence of the word 'church' as applied to small earthwork inclosures or barrows. 'Castle,' as usual, is frequently applied to early camps, such as Malwood castle, which was long believed to be the site of a Norman fortress. The second term is obviously due to popular error, which confused all defensive works as castles, when the specific nature of a castle was forgotten; and it seems likely that such names as Sloden Churchyard may have been invented to account for inclosures of a smaller type, where no church is known to have existed.