

## NOTICES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS.

THE AXE AGE: A STUDY IN BRITISH PREHISTORY. By T. D. KENDRICK, M.A.  
7½ × 5, xii + 177 pp. 19 illustrations. London: Methuen, Ltd. No date. 6s. net.

This is a courageous attempt to throw new light upon certain aspects of the later neolithic and earliest Bronze Age in Britain—an overlap-period which Mr. Kendrick prefers to call the Axe Age from one of its distinctive implements, the polished stone axe. The author justly protests against the tendency to regard the introduction of the use of metal into Britain as a determining, or even a leading, factor in our earlier prehistory. In this connexion, 'the point that we want to make,' he writes (p. 123) 'is that it seems to be a mistake to allow the gradual introduction of metal to shut off one culture from another as belonging to different ages; for a knowledge of metal does not imply its extended employment, and it should be obvious enough that the discovery of the properties of copper and later of bronze did not lead to an immediate superiority in armament, since all the well-known and formidable weapons of the Bronze Age were the result of a prolonged evolution, and, so far as Europe is concerned, the centuries preceding the real Bronze Age, that is to say the chalcolithic period or the dawn of the metal era, find the strength of civilisations resting on other advantages than the possession of little copper knife-daggers and such-like insignificant articles of the novel material.' This verbal viaduct between the Ages of Stone and Bronze may be admitted to rest upon substantial foundations, and no British archaeologist worthy of the name would nowadays insist that period-terms such as 'neolithic' or 'Hallstatt' have any fixed connotation. On the other hand, it is at least doubtful whether the suggested alternative has an appreciably greater validity.

The main purpose of the book, however, is to discuss the origin and date of our long-barrow culture. In this connexion an initial word of protest may perhaps be uttered against the author's tendency to separate the 'dolmen' from the 'long-barrow' and to regard the two as distinct phenomena with potentially divergent histories (pp. 104, 114, etc.). The dolmen is of course nothing more than a structural unit which is as likely as not to have formed a part of a passage-grave or of several other forms of chambered tomb or long-barrow. Here the question is not one merely of terminology; for when our author remarks 'nor are there any [dolmens] across the Channel in our south-eastern counties (the stock example Kit's Coty House in Kent is the portal of a long-barrow)', he is confusing and vitiating an essential part of his own argument. A dolmen can only be defined as a megalithic structure or 'stone table' consisting of three or more uprights and a cover slab; and

Kit's Coty House is as blue-blooded a dolmen as one can find in the length and breadth of these isles. Whether or no it is the surviving remnant of a long-barrow is wholly beside the point. But to postulate a dolmen culture or a dolmen area and then to exclude a monument such as Kit's Coty House is simply to commit a *non sequitur* and to bemuse the unwary.

The main contention of the book may be summarised as follows. The evidence for an Egyptian origin for the chambered barrow breaks down for many reasons (Chapter IV) due to 'the grasshopper progress of those who blaze the path of world-wanderers with a series of similar funeral customs and like pursuits of bread-winning and of pleasure,' etc. The author proceeds to nip the Elliot Smith-Perry grasshopper in the bud, and with some effect, though less fatally than has Mr. O. G. S. Crawford in another context. He then pleads for the possibility of a series of different local origins (notably in Portugal, Denmark and north-eastern France—p. 105) for the various manifestations of the 'megalithic idea,' and finally leads the reader to the Paris basin, where he finds the original home of the British long-barrow. In the Paris basin he notes the existence of a series of long, rectangular gallery-tombs, each usually subdivided by a transverse block through which some sort of porthole has been contrived. These tombs he regards as artificial grottos, derived from the actual rock-cut graves of the adjacent Marne valley (p. 57). To cut a long story short, he traces these tombs into Brittany and to the Channel Islands and thence to England, which 'remained altogether outside the province of the western megalith-builders until the Paris people led the way across the Channel' (p. 111). This is strong meat, but there is more to follow. The Breton and Channel Island series is associated with bell-beakers, often in a decadent form (p. 119); for 'the beaker fashion was already losing its popularity, so that when we cross the Channel in the wake of the Paris people we find no Breton beakers on the other side but only the very occasional influence in the south of England of the typical western beaker form or ornament' (p. 121).

There, if nowhere else, the case breaks down. The British beaker culture (a central European alloy of the bell-beaker and other elements) has been shown, e.g. by Professor Gordon Childe, to have arrived in Britain within a century of its *floruit* in western Europe, i.e. about 1900 B.C. Now the British beakers, although a few sherds of them have been found in two or three of our long-barrows, definitely belong to the cultural phase which *succeeded* that of the long-barrows. In every significant respect the British beaker culture is at variance with the British long-barrow culture. No fact in British prehistory is more certain than this. There was, as always in such cases, an overlap, though not one of much significance or duration. *But*, according to Mr. Kendrick, England 'remained altogether outside the province of the western megalith-builders' until the extreme end of the bell-beaker phase. It follows that he compresses the *whole* of the long-barrow complex in England within the limits of the twentieth century B.C.—within the hypothetical gap between the end of the bell-beakers in the Channel Islands and the occupation of Southern Britain by the Rhenish beaker-folk. The long-barrow people were some hustlers!

Nevertheless, however easy it may be to pick holes in many of Mr. Kendrick's hypotheses, he has collected a number of interesting and useful facts in the course of his development of them, and his book is one

which no one can neglect in the study of the unsolved and possibly insoluble problems of our megalithic monuments.

EDWARD IV'S FRENCH EXPEDITION OF 1475, THE LEADERS AND THEIR BADGES, being MS. 2. m. 16, College of Arms. Edited by FRANCIS PIERREPOINT BARNARD, M.A., D.LITT., F.S.A. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1925. 8½ × 7½ ins., pp. 161, with 18 pages of collotype facsimiles.

The manuscript of which this handsome book is a most admirably edited transcript has, as the learned editor points out, a fourfold importance. It throws light on the field-state of 'the largest, best disciplined and most perfectly equipped army' which any English king ever led across the Channel. It sets forth the scale of pay due to every man in the host. It describes minutely the heraldic badges borne by the great nobles, the bannerets and knights, the clerks and heralds who accompanied the king; while the details about the persons named in the roll, with which the editor supplements and illuminates his transcript, are of the highest genealogical and topographical value. A 9-page list of works cited, the able footnotes and three indexes are evidences of the labour and learning that have contributed to the making of this book.

To the student of military history the account of the spears and archers, the gunners, fletchers, bowyers, and scouts will be of much service; and the list of artificers—masons, sawyers, turners, coopers, carpenters, smiths, plumbers, horse-harness makers and carters—in Edward's army bears out Comines' praise of the perfection of its equipment. Equally interesting are the figures relating to pay. It appears that the daily pay of a duke in war-time was 13s. 4d., of a marquess 10s., of an earl 6s. 8d., of a baron and of a banneret 4s. Knights received 2s., men-at-arms 1s. and archers 6d. each. The deans of Windsor, St. Stephens and Wells, who went with the king on this expedition, were paid 2s. a day, later raised to 4s. The pay of the master of the ordnance was 5s. 8d. a day, which was also the amount paid to Garter; the comptroller of the ordnance got 4s.—as much as a baron—and his clerk received 2s. pay *per diem*. The master of the king's tents received 4s. a day, afterwards reduced to 3s. 4d.; the kings of arms, Clarenceux, Norroy and March, had 28d., heralds 2s., and pursuivants 1s. 6d. each; while the two physicians and twelve surgeons were not overpaid, according to modern ideas, at rates ranging from 2s. to 6d. a day.

The numbers of men in the train of the respective captains are instructive, for it must be borne in mind that in addition to the men-at-arms who followed him, each leader was required to bring foot soldiers in the usual proportion of ten archers to one lance. Clarence and Gloucester, princes of the blood, bring each a hundred lances; the other three dukes in the array muster forty each. The three powerful earls, Northumberland, Rivers and Pembroke also bring forty lances, as do the wealthy lords, Hastings and Stanley. Scrope, Howard and Ferrers of Chartley are each followed by twenty; Grey of Codnor, Grey of Ruthyn and Fitzwarren have ten lances each. The earl of Douglas and Lord Boyd, exiles from Scotland, and pensioners of King Edward are able to contribute no more than four and two horsemen respectively. The contingents of the twelve bannerets range

from the sixteen men-at-arms of Sir William Parr and Sir Thomas Borough, great landowners of the north country, to the two who followed Sir William Stanley, Sir John Arundel and Sir John Astley; those of simple knights are proportionately smaller, from the twelve lances who followed Raynford, owner of broad lands in three counties, to cadets of knightly houses who joined the king with no more than a handful of bowmen.

To the genealogist the editor's accounts of the men and their kinsfolk will be found to be of great value. Dr. Barnard's notices of men of whom so little has been written as Sir Thomas Montgomery and Sir Richard Tunstall are impressive contributions to the history of fifteenth-century England; and his identifications of Sir Thomas Grey and Sir William Harlewin are highly praiseworthy.

But it is, after all, as a heraldry book that this excellent piece of work has the best title to be considered; and we must say that it is a pattern of what a heraldry book should be. Even to those who are well versed in mediaeval armory the careful and learned treatment of the badges is of high importance. The editor's remarks on the crowned leopard of the Lord Lisle, the white boar of Richard of Gloucester, the Percy crescent, the knot of the Bouchiers, the silver garbale of Ratcliff, the red fleur de lis of Sir Simon Mountfort and the gun of Dean Gunthorpe—to name only a very few of his illuminating commentaries—are models of patient elucidation of obscure heraldic problems. For this reason, if for no other, Dr. Barnard's book ought to find an honoured place in the library of every lover of mediaeval England.

E. E. D.

NEW GUIDE TO POMPEII. By WILHELM ENGELMANN. 7 × 5, 220 pp., 141 illustrations and map. Leipzig: W. Englemann, 1925. 5s.

This complete and practical guide to Pompeii, brought out simultaneously with the German edition, is compiled with all the accuracy and information which we are accustomed to expect in German works of the kind, and will be indispensable to visitors. It is admirably illustrated, and useful plans of the more important buildings and houses are added. It is intended for the intelligent and educated traveller rather than for scholars (there are no references); but it contains a large amount of information, and the Latin quotations are accurately given, though the negative has dropped out of the epigram about wall-scribbings on p. 26. Some introductory pages deal with the history of the town and its re-discovery, the types of house and styles of decoration, and other matters of local interest. Then follows a detailed description of the buildings and their contents, following suggested routes. In every case an account of what to be seen in each is given, and a note is made of the works of art which have been removed to the museum at Naples.

The interest of Pompeii has been considerably increased during the present century owing to improved methods of excavation and fortunate discoveries; and the pages of this guide are full of new and valuable material for the student of Roman life under the Early Empire. The House of the Vettii, unearthed thirty years ago, is well known for its works of art; but the Villa Irem or 'Casa dei Misteri,' excavated in 1910, is less familiar. The

important series of paintings in it representing, apparently, Bacchic rites of initiation, is well reproduced, accompanied by an intelligible explanation in the text. Among the most recent discoveries, the House of Loreius Tiburtinus is of special note for its paintings and garden ornaments. Attention may also be called to the reliefs in the House of Caecilius Jucundus representing the earthquake of A.D. 63, and to the glass amphora (from a tomb) with a vintage of Cupids carved in the white layer on the blue ground, forming a rare parallel to the Portland vase.

It is a pity that the translation of so good a book should have been entrusted to some one whose knowledge of English is of a very superficial character. This is specially noticeable in the case of technical or semi-technical terms. Thus we find 'tuff' or 'tuff-stone' for 'tufa,' the regular English usage, 'plated with marble' for 'veneered,' 'sink-hole' for 'cess-pool,' 'aquarium' for 'tank' (*piscina*), 'coal-pan' for 'brazier,' 'scenery-house' for the proscenium or stage-façade, 'vulcan' for 'volcano,' 'sacerdotal boy' for 'acolyte,' and so forth. In English we speak of a 'Bacchante,' not a 'Bacchantess'; and of 'freedmen,' not 'released slaves.' We are not accustomed to French forms, such as 'candelabre' or 'cuisses' (for 'greaves'); and the coffers of a ceiling are not 'caskets' (probably 'casseten' in the German). But this deficiency extends to ordinary words and expressions, and we find 'photography' for a photograph, 'superficially' for superficially, 'edification' for building, 'armours' for pieces of armour, etc. Prepositions are wrongly used (e.g. in rendering the German 'bei'), adjectival forms are irregular, and not infrequently words are misspelled. All this is irritating rather than erroneous, because the meaning is generally clear. But there are cases in which the result is positively misleading, as when we read that the Samnites expelled the Etruscans from 'the Campagna' (for Campania), or that the inscriptions of the large theatre speak of the Holconii as 'supporters' (p. 160). The real fact is that the Holconii provided the funds, as the letters *s(ua) p(ecunia)* after their names show. We have not been able to identify the quotation from Goethe on p. 21, but it makes no sense as it stands.

G. McN. RUSHFORTH.

THE PLACE-NAMES OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. By A. MAWER and F. M. STENTON (English Place-name Soc. vol. I). 8½ × 5½, xxxii + 274 pp. Cambridge University Press. 1925. 18s. n.

The scientific method of the authors in pursuing place-names to their earliest forms, and the great industry which they have bestowed on this search has resulted in lifting the study of place-names to a high level which must command respect equally as the old punning guess-work of the earlier writers brought it into contempt.

The lists of the various forms of names which have been discovered, given with their date and reference to their origin, of themselves constitute most enlightening and fascinating reading. In the matter of splitting the name into its elements very great knowledge and skill is displayed, while the conclusions as to the meanings of the words are given with scientific care and restraint. That the work is not complete is admitted by the authors



in their preface, but their work forms a reliable and sure foundation on which much building may be done in the future.

It is, perhaps, hardly surprising that so many names originated from surnames, and many old fanciful meanings which seemed plausible from the later forms of the words are shown to be groundless in the light of the earlier forms which have now been discovered. In this way Bledlow's 'bloody field' is washed away and is revealed merely as Bledda's hill or barrow. Akeley means simply Aca's clearing, Winchendon, Wincea's hill, etc.

The popular 'Wend-over-the-hill' for Wendover is an extreme instance of the old-time futility, and in this name our authors see 'possibly an old stream-name' which appears fairly obvious. The brook at Wendover has from various causes shrunk into insignificance and become nameless. There are, however, many indications that it was, formerly, much more imposing. As late as 1542 Leland remarks on a causeway between Wendover and Aylesbury, 'els the way in wett tyme were tedious and ill to passe.'

Some alluring and romantic traditions also fail to be substantiated or are entirely dispelled. Cunobeline is not even mentioned in association with Kimble, which, however, is given as 'Royal hill,' and 'some early royal burial or other event' is mentioned as a possibility.

Chadwell is found to be 'ceald-wielle,' cold spring, and several other Chadwells are said to have the same origin. This may come as a shock to many who have regarded the frequent occurrence of this name as due to the early popularity of the saint.

After finding so many fanciful illusions dispelled it is rather surprising to find that Chivery is stated to mean 'a place infested with cock-chafers.' It is true that this pest does at times infest certain spots and cause great destruction, but their occurrence is sporadic and not likely to be of long duration. Under Bishopstone we are told that if it derives its name from the manor being owned by Odo, bishop of Bayeux, 'it is a remarkable example of a place-name created by a very brief tenure of an estate.' Surely a visitation of cock-chafers would be an even more striking example.

Possibly some of the solutions will arouse controversy and some are admitted to be doubtful and obscure, but the reasons given make it clear that the meanings have not been lightly arrived at. It is a work that not only compels our admiration but earns our gratitude.

F. W. R.

THE INDO-SUMERIAN SEALS DECIPHERED, DISCOVERING SUMERIANS OF INDUS VALLEY AS PHOENICIANS, BARATS, GOTHs AND FAMOUS VEDIC ARYANS; 3100-2300, B.C. By L. A. WADDELL (ex-Professor of Tibetan. London University). London: Luzac & Co. 1925. 10s. net.

Since the publication of this work a new interest has been given to the Sumerians by the marvellous discoveries made at Ur by the joint expedition of the British Museum and the University of Pennsylvania. A people whose very existence was questioned but a few years ago are now revealed as prominent pioneers of the culture of mankind. In reading the very stimulating pages of Prof. Waddell, one is a little reminded of the examinee who preferred in speaking of his paper on Euclid to say that he had rendered

highly probable, rather than actually proved, the propositions with which he had been required to deal! A little of that spirit would have improved the present work.

'Proved' strikes one as a rather strong word for the thesis that the Sumerians were the long lost Early Aryans, the ancestors through the Phoenicians both of the British and Teutonic elements in our own population, the founders of Hindu civilisation through an early colony in the valley of the Indus, and that the Sumerian language was the common parent of Sanskrit, English, and in fact the whole group of Aryan tongues!

Much of this has been dealt with in former works; the present book discusses certain seals found at Harappa and other places in the Indus valley, which the author connects both with early Sumerian kings in Mesopotamia and with the heroes of the *Vedas*. The first seal, from Harappa, is taken to prove that the king generally known as Ur-Nina built Edin in the Indus valley as well as Gu-Edin in Mesopotamia and actually ruled an empire, based largely on seapower, that included both countries. In fact 'the Early Aryan kings of the Indian *Vedas* . . . reigned not in India, as was supposed, but in Mesopotamia and Syria-Phoenicia or Hittite Asia Minor and were identical in names, successive order and exploits with well-known historical kings and emperors of the Sumerians and Hittites in Mesopotamia, Syria and Asia Minor.'

Much is made of the Sumerian Sun-fish as identical with the Hindu Vishnu and in fact the origin of a cult that reached even our own shores; 'and the piscina or "Fish-bowl" . . . is evidently a survival of the Sumero-Phoenician Fish shrine of this pagan "Sun-Fish of the Resurrection and the life" invoked in these seals.' This seems to be extraordinarily unlikely.

It is obvious enough that we are merely on the threshold of real knowledge of the Sumerians and all about them. One might wish at the present stage for rather more cautious language than is contained in the following sentence almost at the end of the book: 'and the fact is abundantly established by these seals that their authors were of the same Aryan Sumero-Phoenician race which, as I have conclusively proved, civilised, colonized and Aryanised Ancient Albion, and who were the blood-ancestors of the Britons.'

The work is well produced and furnished with an excellent index. It is not a book to be ignored, though it should be read in a spirit of caution.

IAN C. HANNAH.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BUILDING CRAFTS By MARTIN S. BRIGGS, F.R.I.  
B.A. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1925. 8/6 net.

Mr. Briggs is already favourably known to antiquaries and others for his very satisfactory book on Moslem architecture as also for other works. The present unpretentious volume will add to his reputation. There are useful and very interesting chapters on brickwork, stone masonry, the use of concrete, carpentry, joinery, ironwork, roofing, plaster, external plumbing and glazing, which contain new material, and are well written, largely from the point of view of working architects of the present day. The whole world is surveyed; Egypt and Mesopotamia receive relatively full treat-

ment, but there is very little about other oriental countries, though a study of the buildings of Japan might have supplied much additional material of value for the chapters on woodwork. There is much of interest about Roman methods of construction with abundant quotations from Vitruvius. Nor are the Greeks and the mediaeval builders at all inadequately treated within the available space.

The book displays both wide reading and considerable original study. A few small errors have crept in; in a work of the kind it is not very often they have been entirely avoided. On p. 156, Crowhurst, Sussex, is mentioned, when its Surrey namesake is obviously meant. On p. 266 we are told that in 979 Venetian glass-workers settled at Limoges, only to learn five pages later that the industry was introduced into Venice itself in 1090.

The historical chapter with which the work begins is far less satisfactory. It contains (p. 23) the unaccountable sentence: 'The end of the thirteenth century marks the transition from Romanesque to Gothic architecture.' It repeats the ancient error that the revival of building in the eleventh century was mainly due to the monk working with his own hands, actually introducing it with the sentence 'Scholars are in disagreement as to many aspects of monastic life, but they agree on the main point of interest to us here.' Quite on the contrary, Coulton has shown by a masterly analysis of all the evidence that it was the rare exception for the monk to build with his own hands, while after all the majority of the churches of the period were not monastic at all. It is remarkable that while it would be difficult to exaggerate the good work of the monk in rebuilding civilisation after the collapse of Rome, almost the only things he did not do was to build with his own hands and to found universities (though authors of repute have attributed to him both, and it is for them that he is apt to be given credit by the man in the third class railway carriage).

These defects do not materially reduce the value of a really admirable text-book, whose drawings are singularly practical and useful, whose point of view is eminently sane, whose scholarship is of a really high order. Mr. Briggs has given us a good book full of information not very readily available elsewhere, remarkable for its excellent sense of proportion and absence of any kind of bias. It will interest every antiquary. It should be in the hands of every practising architect.

IAN C. HANNAH.

THE COLOPHONS OF THE ILIAD AND THE ODYSSEY. Deciphered by D. S. MARGOLIOUTH, with a reply to some criticisms of Herr v. Wilamowitz Mollen-dorf. Blackwell: 1925. 21 pp. 1s. net.

Most classical scholars are familiar with Professor Margoliouth's claim to have discovered cipher verses in the opening passages of the plays of the Greek tragedians and of the Iliad and Odyssey. In the present pamphlet we are told that:

"The Colophons of the Iliad and Odyssey are constructed on precisely the same principle; four hexameters are in each case to be rearranged so as to give five iambic trimeters, and the anagram unit is in each case a square of 16 letters."



By this method the last four lines of the Iliad are found to yield the following verses :—

εὐχα δὴ Μοῖσ', αἶ' ὦ σέ γ' ἐς τις ἂν  
 ἐν γ' ἀμφ' ἐν ἔρδ', 'εἰμοὶ το πρὶν ποῖμα μὲν  
 αἰνοῖτο φάς, 'καινὸν δ' αδοὶ πόλει το νῦν.  
 ἔρκτορ τε Φοῖβε, σὺ κράτνυ' ἔπποις πόδας,  
 'Ἀρεα δ' εἰα' διὰ τοῖ' ὁλοὰ μὴ τας λεί.

Professor Margoliouth translates them as follows :—

'Hear, Muse, two prayers, which would have been made to thee, as separate wishes about separate things by one who said : " May my former poem be praised, but may the present new one please the city." And worker Phoebus, do thou strengthen the horses' feet : but leave the War God alone : do not despatch them through such horrors.'

Under similar treatment the last four lines of the Odyssey reveal :—

σμήκρ' ἄφετ' 'Ἀπόλλων' ἀθρόα τ' αὐδῆσάι, θεῶι  
 ἃ κάμον, αἰοῖδην γι τ' ἔθηκ' 'Οδυσσέ' ἐνι,  
 δππη τ' ἐμμυν, ἔρειδε δ' ἡ θεός, ἄχεα  
 δσ' ἀμφὶ τᾶμ' ἔροισι κ' ἐργ'. εἰ δ' ἥδεαι,  
 θεᾶσιν εἰη χυμὸν ἡδύ κ' ὦ θεοί.

Professor Margoliouth renders :—

'Permit me to say to Apollo : Thou seest, small yet complete, what I have wrought, the Lay wherein I have set Odysseus, and how he, sustained by the Goddess, endured troubles, as great as might arise about my works : and, if thou art pleased, that which is pleasing would belong to the goddesses and to you, ye gods.'

The writer defends the Greek of these lines with illustrations from various authors, yet the majority of readers will probably find the poet's cryptic trimeters strangely different from his overt hexameters. Those who are convinced of the validity of Professor Margoliouth's methods will doubtless hear in these verses the authentic voice of the *θεῖος ἀοιδός*. The reviewer would echo the words of Euripides

σώφρονος δ' ἀπιστίας  
 οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν χρησιμώτερον βροτοῖς.

G. F. FORSEY.

PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN WALES. By R. E. M. WHEELER, D.Lit. F.S.A. Oxford University Press, 1925. 18s. net.

In his modest preface the author hopes that his small scrap-book may soon be superseded by a work more commensurate with the material. This is a hope which may of course be fulfilled, but it is far more likely that it will not.

The Keeper of the London Museum has given us a very excellent and in its way singularly complete guide to the early story of man in Wales, before the principality was any kind of political entity.

Of palaeolithic man there is little to be said, and what survives of his work has been found exclusively in caves. The neolithic population, though of more importance, was probably nomadic or at least unsettled and none of the numerous camps and hill-forts can at present be ascribed to a pre-iron age.

An excellent chapter on megaliths gives an interesting account of dolmens,

maenhirs and stone circles which is singularly free from the theories with which lesser writers are so fond of filling their pages, and which really draws our attention to the fact that surprisingly little is known, at least of a definite kind.

The mysterious beaker-folk have left us many burials in Wales. Their arrival (around 2000 B.C.) heralded the introduction of the use of metals into Britain, and some of Dr. Wheeler's most striking pages describe the evolution of the flanged into the socketed weapon-head, with similar developments. It is exceedingly interesting to note that the gradual modifications in the design of motors and railway locomotives has its counterpart in the earliest use of metals. Forms that look simple and obvious took many long years to evolve.

Late Celtic (early iron age) work in Wales, though of great interest, is easily surpassed elsewhere.

With the Roman occupation Wales first emerges into the grey dawn of history. Efforts were made to pacify the country by lines based upon the four great corner fortresses of Caerleon, Chester, Carnarvon and Carmarthen—of course with many outposts.

Dr. Wheeler finds a parallel between Roman Wales and the area of British influence in the mountains immediately beyond the Indian frontier; only a very small district, toward the south-east, was enticed to live in a Roman way. Only one civilian town of Roman date, Caerwent, existed within the limits of the principality, but there were also a few villas with characteristic mosaic pavements.

The work is admirably illustrated, including a most interesting view of the restored Roman north gate at Cardiff, and there are four maps.

The keynote of the work is the marshalling of facts in a scholarly and critical way, and it could not be better done.

I. C. H.

THROUGH THE CHILTERNs TO THE FENS. By GORDON HOME. 7 × 4½,  
x + 180 pp. 18 plates, 37 figs. and map. London: J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd. 1925.  
2s. 6d. net.

This little work is not a book on the Chilterns, as its title seems to suggest, although the Chilterns are briefly dealt with. Little more than a quarter of its space is devoted to the hills and the adjoining valleys. The scenery, architecture and history of the district are all touched upon, even at times with flashes of enthusiasm, but our guide proceeds with modern, motor-car hustle. The traveller is allowed only glimpses of the country through which he passes, without time or opportunity of exploring the many secluded beauties and interesting objects that lie close to his track. We would like to check our impetuous guide and point out that there is but one windmill at Brill. The second he mentions as still standing, was removed in 1906, as Mr. Eland tells us in his excellent book, *In Bucks*.

A brief halt is made at the Buckingham Arms, Great Missenden, where our guide falls into a little 'booby-trap,' and discovers an antiquity which belongs only to the place through having been recently brought there for any potential purchaser who may chance to call.

Although the author says, 'One could linger for weeks in this pleasant country and always find something fresh as an objective for a ramble,' he proceeds, 'but there are attractions further north,' so we are reluctantly whirled off to the Lea valley, and to this district the second part of the book is devoted, dealing with Dunstable, Luton, Hatfield, St. Albans, Ware, Waltham and many other places.

A rather extraordinary statement is made with regard to Hitchin. 'It is an old town, perhaps very old indeed, for not only have Roman objects been discovered, but the neighbourhood has also produced implements of the palaeolithic period.' Are we really to suppose that this town has existed through all the ages from this far-away era?

In the third part of the book we come on the real 'attractions further north,' and in quick succession visit Cambridge, Newmarket, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Ely, Peterborough, Crowland, Lincoln and many other places. With this assortment in view we may perhaps understand the hot haste in quitting the Chilterns, but one wonders why we went there, just to be given a breath of the fresh breeziness and a glimpse of the bright expanses of the hills, and then to be hurriedly dragged away to the cathedral cities of the Fens.

It would have been a more restful book had all its small space been occupied with the Chilterns, and the author would still have had in his hands material enough for two other books. His sketches of the Chilterns are so excellent that had he entirely illustrated it with these, it would have further enhanced the work.

F. W. R.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREHISTORIC SOCIETY OF EAST ANGLIA, vol. iv. part 2 (1923-24). 8½ x 5½, pp. 133-248. Ipswich, 1924: W. E. Harrison. 10s. n.

This part of the *journal* contains some important and interesting papers, notably one by Messrs. W. H. Cook and J. R. Killick on the discovery of some palaeolithic working sites in the Medway valley. Near Frindsbury a site has been explored with greater thoroughness than is usually possible in such matters, and the labours of the explorers have been rewarded with many flint implements, large numbers of untrimmed flakes and massive cores. Several thousands were found lying in small heaps, of which seventeen were uncovered. This working floor was buried beneath a dark brown clayey loam, which the authors think may represent the remains of the flood loam of the ancient 100 ft. river.

Some four miles southward, at Halling, the authors were fortunate in discovering an Aurignacian station yielding not only flint implements, but a human skeleton, fire hearths and bones of *rhinoceros tichorinus*, *elephas primigenius* and other extinct fauna.

The paper is amply illustrated with photographs and well-drawn diagrams, but it is unfortunate that the folding plates are printed on coated paper which is liable to crack and break with use.

The excavation of another important flint-flaking floor is that on Kelling Heath, Norfolk, which is described by Mr. J. E. Sainty. There is some

doubt as to the period represented by the implements discovered, but the author suggests a transitional period when the earliest neolithic is developing into the full neolithic.

There are several other flint and gravel papers, including further exploration at Grimes Graves, reported on by Mr. A. Leslie Armstrong.

Such careful researches as these, carried out in a scientific manner, are certain rapidly to extend our knowledge of this difficult and obscure subject.

As evidence of the recent advances made in the knowledge of early pottery, Dr. Cyril Fox has been able to classify, and, to some extent, date, the large and varied collection, which, together with other objects, have been obtained at intervals during many years, from 'Bellus Hill,' at Abington Pigotts, Cambs. The site, which was a particularly rich one, was unfortunately not scientifically explored, but Dr. Fox assigns the first permanent occupation of the settlement to the early iron age, probably in the La Tène I period, 400-250 B.C. and lasting until the late Roman period, fourth century A.D. Its subsequent occupation is uncertain, but the site bears evidence of some human habitation in Saxon and mediaeval times.

It is very regrettable that a remain, so rich and exceptional, was not systematically examined, but Dr. Fox has skilfully restored much that was lost by this omission.

F. W. R.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM: REVIEW OF THE PRINCIPAL ACQUISITIONS DURING THE YEAR 1922. London, Board of Education: 1925. Paper covers, 6s. net.

When in 1792 Ch'ien Lung, by the way the last really able ruler that China has known, rather superciliously received the embassy of Lord Macartney, he would have heard with horror and blank amazement that in the irony of fate one of his thrones, a glorious example of Chinese lacquer, was destined eventually to find its way to an English museum. This is perhaps on the whole the finest work of art that is illustrated and described in the exceedingly interesting pamphlet before us. Many of the most striking acquisitions came from the east, notably a superb gilt copper image of the Bodhisattva Avalokita from Tibet, believed to have been the work of a Nepalese monk, perhaps in the sixteenth century. The combination of strength and compassion has not often been better expressed, but one is not entirely proud to learn that this beautiful work of art was taken from its convent at Gyantse by our expedition into Tibet of 1904.

In the long list of the museum's acquisitions during 1922 no one with any taste for art at all could fail to find something of special interest. Almost every religion and civilisation that the world has ever known is represented. A lovely series of English alabaster figures of the fifteenth century, representing all the twelve apostles, has come back to the land of its origin from a church in Spain. A singularly fine example of Japanese armour, a very striking Venetian-Saracenic engraved gilt salver, English mediaeval chasubles and chests, some late brasses from Dunstable priory, American silver of the colonial period, some eighteenth century silhouettes, specimens of old English furniture, a fine drawing by Eric Gill of the

cathedral at Chartres, contemporary railway posters, are merely a few other samples taken quite at haphazard from what is in itself a collection of the greatest value, though the acquisitions of but a single year.

On p. 55 is duly acknowledged the gift of a German knife and fork of the seventeenth century with other property from our own institute. The work is admirably produced.

I. C. H.

THE ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY AT GIRTON COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. By E. J. Hillingworth and M. M. O'Reilly.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ , 38 pp. Plan and 12 illustrations. Cambridge: University Press, 1925, 4s. net.

In 1881 and 1886, during building operations at Girton College, part of an extensive Anglian cemetery was found within a few yards of the line of the Roman road from Cambridge to Godmanchester. The 'finds' are now assembled in the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, and are admirably described and illustrated in this small volume. The text is based largely upon the unpublished notes of the late Francis Jenkinson, the University Librarian, who supervised the original excavations.

The site had been used both in the Bronze Age and in Roman times, and the relics found include a Roman glass dish with an unusually well-drawn swan in incised outline on the base. The Anglian settlement was an early one; Roman objects occur in some of the graves, and cremations are nearly as numerous as inhumations. The characteristically Anglian wrist-clasps, girdle-hangers, cruciform fibulae and pottery-types are numerous, but weapons are rare—evidence, doubtless, of a comparatively peaceful occupation. The cemetery is the most north-westerly of the Cam valley group, and it seems probable that 'one section of the group of settlers who entered the district by the Cam, instead of continuing up the river, or settling near it, turned off at Cambridge and went up the Roman Cambridge-Godmanchester road, and made a settlement in the first practicable place they reached—a spot made more attractive, perhaps, by having been cultivated during the Roman period.'

HOW TO LOOK AT OLD CHURCHES. By H. SPENCER STOWELL. London: Methuen. 1925. 5s. net.

This is a good little handbook to English mediaeval architecture which certainly is as clear and as elementary as any one could possibly ask. Nothing that is in the least unusual is mentioned. It is illustrated by fair pen sketches, very many representing features in churches on the maritime plain of western Sussex. The author has little to tell us about cathedrals or important churches, but what he does say is perfectly reliable on the whole. He prefers to use the old terms, Norman, Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular, instead of classifying by centuries as is done by most of us to-day.

The book, within its limits, is quite well done and does not invite criticism, but it is surely rather an exaggerated statement (p. 102) that there



are few Gothic ruins, but many Classic ones, because in the case of the former the destruction of part involves the collapse of the remainder. Rievaulx abbey (among very many others) is a sufficiently impressive proof that what might appear the weakest portions of a great Gothic church may stand for centuries after the fabric has become a roofless ruin.

The statement that mediaeval fabrics are *never* dated is certainly far too sweeping. The list of books at the end is extremely exiguous and rather capricious, but on the whole this little work may be confidently recommended to those for whom it is clearly intended.

I. C. H.

THE HOME OF THE MONK: AN ACCOUNT OF ENGLISH MONASTIC LIFE AND BUILDINGS IN THE MIDDLE AGES. By D. H. S. CRANAGE, Litt.D. F.S.A. Cambridge: University Press, 1926.

This admirable little work displays opposite the first chapter a view of one of the noblest architectural groups of which Christian architecture can boast,—Norwich cathedral as seen from across its cloister. By a rather curious coincidence the author is now its dean.

The work in a series of interesting chapters deals with the different portions of a monastery, beginning with the cloister, and with many quotations from the sources describes the daily life of the monk. While it is intended to be primarily a popular account, there are extremely few students of monasticism who could read it without learning something new. It is very well illustrated by photographs which display virtually every portion of a religious house except (rather curiously) the stalls where the quire offices were said. These are supplemented by four well chosen plans.

The different orders of monks and canons are briefly sketched and the dissolution is succinctly dealt with. Not the least of the many merits of an altogether fascinating little book is that it is likely to make almost any intelligent reader desire further information; for his guidance a good bibliography is appended. At least to some extent the singular charm of the author's personality is reflected in the pages before us.

I. C. H.

THE OLD TOWN HALL, LEICESTER. By T. H. FOSBROOKE, F.S.A. and S. H. SKILLINGTON. Note on stained glass by A. B. McDONALD. Leicester: published for the City, by E. Backus. 1925. 7s. 6d.

This useful little work consists of articles reprinted from *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological Society* about the constitution of Leicester during the middle ages when the borough was entirely dependent upon the earl; about the mediaeval gilds and their relations with the municipalities; about the famous Corpus Christi gild of Leicester and the eventual acquisition of its hall by the town.

In connexion with the last event there is some interesting matter about the unedifying speculation in religious property that went on after the infamous confiscations under Henry VIII and Edward VI, in the course of which, through a certain Mrs. Pickerell of Norwich, the hall was conveyed to the borough in 1563.

The book contains some good photographs, with satisfactory plans and elevations, of the old hall of the Corpus Christi gild, but unfortunately there is no architectural description of the building, which the city has recently repaired. It is separated by a narrow lane from St. Martin's church, in which the gild chapel was situated from the first foundation of the fraternity in 1343. The volume is well written and beautifully printed and bound.

I. C. H.