

NOTICES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NUBIA : Report for 1910-11. By C. M. FIRTH.
(Ministry of Finance, Egypt : Survey of Egypt). Cairo : Government Press. 1927.
Price £2.

The new volume of the Archaeological Survey of Nubia has been delayed till 1927 owing to many causes, not least of them the War. It deals with the work of 1910-11, but, though sixteen years have elapsed, we are too well used to such delays in archaeological publication, especially when the War has intervened, to think for a moment of complaining. After the War other work had to be done before the broken thread could again be taken up by Mr. Firth ; and now we have the publication of his very interesting results. It is well known that the Archaeological Survey of Nubia was undertaken in order to rescue for science all the information possible as to the early history of the country immediately south of Philae before the inevitable yearly flooding necessitated by the Aswan dam should sweep away the evidence. Started by Dr. Reisner, and continued by Mr Firth, it has resulted in the publication of a most important series of volumes, which give us all the rescued evidence. We have learnt from them very much of the early history of Nubia and with it much that bears on the early history of Egypt. In the present volume Mr. Firth treats of a number of necropolises in the territory examined of various dates from the pre-dynastic period to Coptic times. He shows that the pre-dynastic people of Upper Egypt and of Nubia were identical, and thinks that as they never penetrated far to the south in Nubia they entered the Nile-valley originally by way of the Wadi Hamamat (to Koptos) from the Red Sea coast, and then spread north and south : a very probable view. Then the " Dynastic Race " entered Egypt from the North, and modified the native culture as far south as Aswan. It was not till the time of Snefru (c. 3000 B.C.), that the newly constituted Egyptian dynastic power passed the First Cataract, finding south of it a people still in the ' pre-dynastic ' Egyptian stage of culture. This Snefru practically destroyed, and introduced Egyptian culture which continued in a colonial form, a good example of which we see as far south as the Third Cataract in the time of Senusret I (c. 2000 B.C.), when Hapzefai the prince of Siut in Egypt ruled as a colonial governor in a distinctly un-Egyptian way (excavations of Reisner at Kerma). The razzias of the Twelfth Dynasty kings in Nubia (where they first came into contact with negroid tribes—partly of negro origin, partly of the same Galla race to which the pre-dynastic Egyptians had belonged—that had pressed forward into lands which the Egyptians had partly deprived of their Nubian population), resulted in the bringing into Egypt of large numbers of captured negroids, who continued to live their own life in their own settlements, and whose culture, still after a thousand years very like that

of the pre-dynastic Egyptians, we call that of the 'Pan-Grave' people. Mr. Firth excavated several cemeteries of the 'Pan-Grave' people, known as those of the 'C' group, the Old Kingdom Nubians being known as the 'B' group. Early cemeteries of the 'C' group, even as far north as Khattara, north of Aswan in Egypt, probably indicate settlements of these negroids due to a real invasion of Egypt during the interregnum between the VIth and XIth Dynasties, before the negro wars of the XIIth Dynasty. At the time of the Hyksos invasion Nubia was hardly bereft of Egyptian rule altogether, as Mr. Firth seems rather to imply (p. 25), since at the time of the war with Apepi the Hyksos ('the Lord of the North'), the Theban king speaks of a Nubian ruler as 'the Lord of the South' who is more likely to have been an Egyptian than a 'C' group negroid, or negro. We know that the kings of the XVIIIth Dynasty warred again beyond Nubia into the Sudan, and it seems probable that, as Mr. Firth says, under them Nubia itself was now practically deserted: the negroes, who had threatened Egyptian dominion as far north as the Second Cataract (Semneh and Kummeh) in the time of Senusret III, of the XIIth Dynasty, were now destroyed or expelled, to form with Nubians the characteristic negroid population of the Northern Sudan; but between Egypt and the Sudan Nubia proper was deserted; little trace was found of any population after the XVIIIth Dynasty. There are temples of the XIXth Dynasty (Rameses II) and a few Egyptian tombs of the XXth; but little trace of any native population. The Egyptianized Nubian princes of the XXVth Dynasty, who conquered Egypt in the eighth century B.C., ruled from Jebel Barkal: their Meroitic successors five hundred years later from south of the Atbara. Of the later inhabitants we have the mysterious negroid people of the 'X' group, who may be the Nobadae: we know too of Blemmyes and other non-Egyptians, probably of eastern desert (Ababdeh, Hadendua) origin, in the district first south of Ibrīm and then as far north as Philae, which they occupied (still heathen) till the time of Justinian. The Coptic cemeteries are of the usual type.

This general sketch gives an idea of the general results of the work, which is admirably published with fine photographs of the graves and all other pertinent antiquities discovered and recorded. Mr. Firth's introduction shows him master of his material, and is useful and suggestive on every page. He gives an excellent description of the development of the tomb in Egypt under the Old Kingdom out of the primitive pre-dynastic grave, which still continued unaltered in Nubia. There are of course a few passages that are now out of date, such as that on p. 46 arguing that the 'pan-grave' people and the pre-dynastic Egyptians are not the same, which is flogging a dead horse in 1927, whatever it may have been in 1911; and the rejection on p. 6 of the old view of a connexion between the pre-dynastic Egyptian and the modern Kabyle pottery as superficial and misleading is, though correct, now equally obsolete. And King Na'rmer or Na'rmerza on the same page is certainly not Mena alone: the Mena or Menes of tradition was a 'conflate' personage, made up of three kings, 'the Scorpion,' first conqueror of the North; Na'rmer, the real uniter of the two kingdoms; and 'Ahai, the third 'Menes,' the consolidator of the united kingdom. Only after him and his duplicated successor Dja (Teti and Atoti, Athothis), do lists and monuments pursue their historical course together. The old-fashioned spelling

'Usertesen' (for Senusret) survives on p. 24. There are some misprints: e.g. 'millenium,' p. 6; 'chronogical,' p. 7; 'Macpelah,' p. 12; 'Neshapetra,' p. 12, n.†; 'hand' for 'band,' p. 23; 'beingt he' for 'being the,' p. 27; 'brecchia' for 'breccia,' p. 38; but these are very few in a book printed in Egypt. Mr. Firth is to be heartily congratulated on his admirable work.

H. R. HALL.

ANCIENT RECORDS OF ASSYRIA AND BABYLONIA.. By D. D. LUCKENBILL,
Ph.D. 2 vols. University of Chicago Press.

The lamented death of the late Prof. Luckenbill has cut short the great programme he had set himself to fulfil in the publication of translations of all the ancient records of Assyria and Babylonia in six volumes. The two which alone we have from his pen contain, however, all the chief royal historical inscriptions of Assyria. The first deals with those from the earliest period of Assyrian history to the time of King Sargon; the second with those 'from Sargon to the end.' That is to say they cover the period from about 2500 B.C. to 609 B.C., from the days of the earliest known local ruler to the Egyptian expedition of Necho in 609 B.C. to succour the lost king of Assyria at Harran after the destruction of Nineveh in 612, a date fixed by Mr. C. J. Gadd's now well-known discovery of a new Babylonian chronicle in the British Museum. The book is modelled on Prof. Breasted's *Ancient Records of Egypt*, which forms part of the same Chicago series planned by the late president of the University, Mr. W. R. Harper, and was the first to appear, now twenty years ago. It is regrettable that the Assyrian volumes, finally begun under Prof. Luckenbill's authorship, should now again be suspended by the death of the writer; and it is to be hoped that before long another scholar will be found to complete the series as planned.

That Prof. Luckenbill did his work admirably needs no saying. He has also prefaced his work with a scholarly and interesting introduction, which well brings out the peculiar characteristics of the cuneiform records and makes clear the differences between them and those of Egypt. There is a useful list of the 'eponym-lists' which give us a fixed chronological scheme for Assyria which is lacking in Egypt, indices of names and Assyrian words, and a selected bibliography for the two volumes. In the index of names we wish that the Egyptian as well as the Greek forms had been given of certain Egyptian names mentioned. 'Necoh' (ii. 293) for 'Necho' or 'Nechoh' (Niku) is unusual. And on p. 297 is a sentence that reads oddly: 'Sandasharme . . . brought a daughter, the offspring of his loins, with a large dot, to Nineveh, to serve as my concubine, and he kissed my feet.' Why not 'dowry,' which is used in a precisely similar passage immediately above?

The two volumes are an indispensable addition to the library of all Assyriological and Old Testament scholars, and we can only conclude with our condolence with the University of Chicago and with American scholarship on the premature loss of so outstanding a representative as Prof. Luckenbill.

H. R. HALL.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT GREECE. By W. J. ANDERSON and R. PHENE SPIERS, revised and rewritten by W. B. Dinsmoor. Pp. xii + 241, lxiv plates, 83 figs. and two maps.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT ROME. By W. J. ANDERSON and R. PHENE SPIERS, revised and rewritten by Thomas Ashby. Pp. xiv + 202, xciv plates, 34 figs. and two maps. B. T. Batsford, 1927.

These two handsome volumes are a new and rewritten edition of the original work of Messrs. Anderson and Phene Spiers, published in one volume in 1902. The volume on Greek architecture has been entrusted to Professor W. B. Dinsmoor of Columbia University, whose connexion with the American School at Athens renders him eminently qualified for the task. The enormous advance in our knowledge of the origins of Greek art has rendered anything written before the beginning of Sir Arthur Evans's excavations in Crete entirely out of date, and the chapter on The Aegean Age is thus entirely the work of Professor Dinsmoor. It is followed by a chapter on the Origins of Greek Architecture, in which is traced the form of the earliest Greek temple. Here again the contribution of our own age has been considerable, but we should have liked to see some discussion of the significance of the remarkable Megaron B. at Thermum with its curved walls and pteron.

The remaining chapters treat of more familiar ground and need not here be particularised.

The numerous illustrations are admirably produced and portray, not only the familiar examples of Greek architecture but also those which recent research has added to amplify or complete the series. The work can be thoroughly recommended to those who desire a scholarly and up-to-date exposition of the subject.

The revision of the volume on Roman architecture is the work of Dr. Thomas Ashby, whose name is a sufficient guarantee of the accuracy and erudition of the new edition. While the study of Roman art has not undergone the revolutionary changes which have befallen the early art of Greece in recent years, the modern scientific study of the monuments themselves has added greatly to our chronological knowledge and modified not a few of the older theories. Dr. Ashby's profession of orthodox faith in the controversy of 'Orient oder Rom' is a refreshing interlude in the whirlwind campaign of the Austrian professor, whose printed attacks succeed one another with such bewildering rapidity.

The first three chapters on the architecture of Etruria, the early architecture of Rome, and materials and modes of construction, are perhaps the most important, though the final chapter on private life, contains much new material drawn from the recent excavations at Ostia. The rest of the book deals with the various classes of buildings—forums, temples, baths, triumphal arches, etc. and follows the arrangement of the earlier edition.

It is to be regretted that no special consideration is given to the evolution of Roman military architecture and fortification but the subject was perhaps considered too purely constructional for inclusion as a separate entity.

The Index is not worthy of the work, thus of the Basilica and the Porta Nigra at Trèves, one is indexed under T. and the other under P. Under

Nimes will be found only two of the monuments described, the others do not appear to be included in the Index.

The volume is even more lavishly illustrated than the companion volume and can be equally recommended to the antiquary and architect.

A. W. CLAPHAM.

GUIDA DI SABRATHA. By RENATO BARTOCCINI.

IL TEATRO ROMANO DI OSTIA. By GUIDO CALZA.

$6\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$, 80 and 32 pp. respectively. Rome: Societa Editrice d'Arte Illustrata. 1927.

These two small 'guides' achieve a considerably higher standard of precision than is the habit of their kind, and might, with minor improvements, serve as models for similar productions in this country. The half-tone illustrations are not well reproduced, but they are numerous and, on the whole, well chosen. The supply of plans, though most of them suffer somewhat from over-reduction, is adequate.

The guide to Sabratha, on the African coast west of Tripoli, begins with a brief history of the town from its foundation in the seventh-sixth century B.C. until its submergence beneath the tide of Arab invasion in the seventh century A.D. It proceeds to outline the general course of the Italian excavations, and then to describe the principal excavated buildings in turn. These include a bath-building, a forum, two temples—one of them of Antonine date, and standing within a peristyle courtyard—a Christian basilica with a western apse, a fourth-century *curia* or council-house, an amphitheatre, and a second Christian basilica (of the sixth century) with very elaborate mosaics representing peacocks, etc., amidst vines. One of the temples produced a good bust of Jupiter, and a torso in the Praxitelean tradition was found in the baths.

The second guide is an excellent summary description of the theatre at Ostia. The remains present no very remarkable features, but the piazza and temple with the heavily paved Roman streets on their flanks form an imposing group. The theatre is still used occasionally for dramatic performances.

R. E. M. W.

MAYA AND MEXICAN ART. By THOMAS ATHOL JOYCE. Pp. 191, 61 plates. Published by 'The Studio,' Ltd., 44, Leicester Sq., London. Price 10s. 6d.

The scientific study of Maya archaeology is in many ways still in its infancy. Begun some fifty years ago by an Englishman, Dr. Alfred Maudslay, it afterwards passed into the hands of American and German archaeologists; and it is only recently that England has begun to take a share once more in the elucidation of its problems. The British Museum is now conducting excavations every season in British Honduras, but until the interest of the general public is aroused and subscriptions to the work become more generous, excavations on a large scale cannot be carried out.

This small volume, although nominally dealing only with the Art of Ancient Mexico and Northern Central America, should be of great use to

any one wishing to begin to study the archaeology of this region. It includes chapters on architecture, sculpture, pottery, painting and draughtsmanship, metalwork, clothing and personal ornament, and stone-flaking and mosaic. The book is splendidly illustrated, most of the objects represented being in the British Museum and therefore accessible to every one.

The origin of the Maya civilisation is still hotly contested and Mr. Joyce is wise in putting forward no rash theories which are impossible to prove. It is remarkable that not only is the origin of the culture unknown but also the place of origin of many of the materials used, such as jade and turquoise. A great quantity of jade ornaments and implements have been found, but no boulders of the precious stone; nor have any mines of the turquoise, so popular and so much used in mosaics, been discovered in the region, the nearest possible source known at present being the mine near Santa Fe, New Mexico, U.S.A.

The book concludes with a short bibliography very useful to those who wish to continue the study of the subject.

LOUIS C. G. CLARKE.

BULLETIN MONUMENTAL, parts 3 and 4. 1927. Paris: A. PICARD. 1927. 9 × 5½. Pp. 220. Illustrations.

The most interesting of the papers in this volume is Dr. John Bilson's study of the crypt of the eleventh century cathedral church of Rouen. The walls and foundations were discovered in 1887, when excavations were made to put in a heating apparatus; the only portion which can be seen to-day is the western bay of the north aisle of the crypt under the north aisle of the eleventh century, and it is quite dark and difficult of access. The crypt was finished some considerable time before 1037 and was therefore contemporary with the eastern part of the abbey church of Bernai. Dr. Bilson compares this Rouen crypt with other crypts of the eleventh century in France and in England. Monsieur Crozet has contributed a study of the numerous Romanesque churches in the neighbourhood of Vitry-le-François (east of Chalons-sur-Marne) in which he traces the varied influences of the geography and geology of Champagne and also of five Cistercian monasteries in that region.

R. GRAHAM.

L'ARCHITECTURE RELIGIEUSE EN FRANCE À L'EPOQUE GOTHIQUE. Par R. DE LASTEYRIE. Ouvrage posthume publié par les soins de Marcel Aubert. 2 vols. Pp. x + 544; iv + 604. Illustrated. Paris: Picard, 1926, 1927.

The preface which Comte Robert de Lasteyrie wrote to this continuation of his great book on Romanesque Architecture in France, tells us how sadly the War interfered with his labours, and how serious a blow he received in the loss of his son, who had aided him in the execution of a task which might well seem too vast for one man. M. de Lasteyrie died before his work was printed, but the manuscript was complete, and his pupil M. Marcel Aubert has with loving care prepared it for the Press and has

selected the admirable illustrations which number nearly 1200. The result is an extraordinarily comprehensive and instructive review of Gothic architecture in France, which is displayed in all its many variations, and examined with a breadth of view and an attention to detail which are beyond praise.

The scheme of the work allows first a general view of the rise of Gothic architecture and its development, followed by a chronological view of the principal churches, a close examination of structural features, and then the discrimination of the various local schools of building. A large part of the second volume is allocated to the ancillary arts of furniture and decoration.

We turn with interest to M. de Lasteyrie's discussion of the respective claims of England and France to the earliest introduction of the ribbed vault, and are not surprised to find him sceptical of Mr. Bilson's date for Durham, for he did not live to read the English savant's latest and convincing dissertation on this subject.¹ The general truth, however, that methods of building and design may occur quite independently at different dates in two countries is well exemplified by his clearly reasoned rejection of the theory of an English origin for French Flamboyant. History would be all the healthier for a little more scepticism regarding "foreign influences," and a little more recognition of the fact that whereas the status of the foreigner is always a stimulus and contributes an enervating force, his method is usually in the form of the country of his adoption.

To English students the contrasts between the architecture of France and that of their own country are always a matter of keen interest. The mason-craft of France is shown in all its superb mastery in the plans and photographs of these volumes. The work of the carpenter appears but little, and among the monuments memorial brasses are rare. Medieval building held a surprising unity, yet it was large enough to allow of definite local developments, and we may be thankful, both as admirers of French skill and lovers of our native art, that the two countries worked out their problems each in their own way. In many things it may be found that England and France are complementary, and our traditional rivalry is no bar to that genuine admiration of the work of either nation, which is to be found among those who like M. de Lasteyrie have sought truth and knowledge for their own sake. In spite of the immensity of the author's task his reputation has been amply sustained by this book, and his devotion and courage win our admiration when we realise that but for a skill and determination above the ordinary this conspicuous study could scarcely have been made complete.

W. H. GODFREY.

THE ANTIQUITY OF MAN IN EAST ANGLIA. By J. REID MOIR. Cambridge: The University Press. 1927. Price 15s.

A history of the antiquity of man in East Anglia is to some extent a history of Mr. Reid Moir's own life-work, a fact which gives a special interest to this book, and places it in a different category from the ordinary pre-

¹ J. Bilson, 'Durham Cathedral, the Chronology of its Vaults,' *Arch. Journ.* lxxix, pp. 101-160.

historic compilation. East Anglia is perhaps the district of all England most favoured in the matter of Stone Age remains, with the additional advantage that we have there a unique succession of glacial and interglacial deposits in direct relation with Palaeolithic industries. It is Mr. Moir who is responsible, in large part, for the discovery and interpretation of this sequence, and the new Pleistocene chronology on which Breuil has latterly been working owes much to his researches.

A few preliminary criticisms suggest themselves. This book is evidently meant primarily for readers with no previous knowledge of prehistory, and a certain number of general explanations are therefore necessary. These Mr. Moir aims at giving as he goes along, but his indications are too slight to be really helpful. A general chapter on the Stone Age, with maps showing the distribution of the various cultures, would have made the rest of the book clearer to the general reader, and would have enabled him to put East Anglia into relation with the rest of the world. Mr. Moir's treatment of certain debateable points is also perhaps a little hard on the beginner. For instance, a chapter is devoted to the Valley Brickfield at Ipswich, which contains two occupation levels considered by Mr. Moir to be Palaeolithic—a view which is not shared by all his colleagues. Yet the only hint of this difference of opinion occurs in a brief sentence buried in the middle of a paragraph, in which it is stated that Professor Breuil regards the site as Neolithic—a statement which might easily be overlooked, especially by a reader unqualified to appreciate its importance.

These criticisms apart, Mr. Moir has written an interesting book. He describes lucidly his discovery of humanly-flaked implements beneath the Red Crag and in the Cromer Forest Bed, and explains their relation to the general Pleistocene sequence of the region. His account of Acheulean and Mousterian finds is also clear, and is illustrated by good diagrams. The chapters on later periods include a discussion of Grimes Graves. This appears under the heading Neolithic Period, but Mr. Moir plainly hesitates as to whether the earlier pits should not be referred to the Palaeolithic.

Unlike too many prehistorians Mr. Moir has made it his business to master the theory and practice of flint-flaking and flint 'behaviour' in general; his pages on the fracture of flint and on patination are therefore written with authority.

D. A. E. GARROD.

WRITINGS ASCRIBED TO RICHARD ROLLE, HERMIT OF HAMPOLE, AND MATERIALS FOR HIS BIOGRAPHY. By HOPE EMILY ALLEN. Published by the Modern Language Association of America, New York, D. C. Heath & Co; London: Oxford University Press. 1927. Pp. xv + 568. 30s. net.

This learned and immensely detailed investigation into all that concerns Richard Rolle, and the writings, some rightly and others, as Miss Allen shows, wrongly ascribed to one of the most remarkable mystics of the Middle Ages, cannot fail to be of the greatest value to students of the religious life of fourteenth century England. The religious history of that period remains to be written, though Dr. Owst in his recent volume on *Preaching in*

Medieval England has made a notable contribution towards it. When it is written, the Lollards will cease to hold the foreground, and we shall see how the seed sown in the thirteenth century proved fruitful in a religious revival which survived the first Franciscan enthusiasm and made the fourteenth century the blossoming time of English and especially of North country mysticism.

But we must not lay too much stress on the Friars as the source of this religious activity. *Spiritus ubi vult spirat*, and also, as Miss Allen is careful to show, Rolle, at least, who was an Oxford man, had read Gregory the Great, and Bernard, and was influenced by the Victorines. John of Hoveden's poems, full of alliterations, conceits, and repetitions of words—*dulcor*, *melos lilium*, etc., as well as of that love of the Name of Jesus associated with Bernard, were also known to Rolle.

There is nothing narrow about Miss Allen's treatment, though, owing to the arrangement of the book, which is planned to allow of successive discussions of each treatise, much valuable historical information is presented in a scattered form. But this is inevitable, and it should be no trouble to the reader, with a proper sense of gratitude for such richness, to note as they come the many important observations which would find their place in a connected narrative of Rolle's life and times.

Miss Allen gives full information about MSS, most of which she has personally examined, and the long extracts, which add greatly to the interest of the book, bear witness to the immense care which she has bestowed on what has been the labour of years.

F. J. E. RABY.

A HISTORY OF THE WILBRAHAM PARISHES. By CANON H. P. STOKES. Cambridge Antiquarian Society. 1926. 9 x 4½. Pp. 180. Illustrations.

We are grateful to Canon Stokes for an exhaustive study of the Cambridge-shire parishes of Great and Little Wilbraham. No scrap of documentary evidence appears to have escaped his searches; he has not only used it in his description but gives extracts from Domesday, the Hundred Rolls, et cetera. The history of the several manors has an interest outside the parishes; the manor of the Templars on which they had a preceptory in the thirteenth century, passed to the Hospitallers in 1309; Dr. Watson who was deprived of the bishopric of St. David's in 1699 nominally for simony, possibly for political reasons, died in 1717 at the manor house, still called the Temple, and was buried at Great Wilbraham by stealth at midnight without a service, because he was still under excommunication for refusing to pay the office fees of the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1699. The Chamberlain manor in Little Wilbraham, was granted by Edward IV to Richard Quartermayn and was given by him for the endowment of the chantry chapel, which he and his wife Sibilla founded close to their manor house at Rycote in Oxfordshire. Canon Stokes has traced the history of the advowsons of both parishes and printed a list of the vicars of Great Wilbraham and the rectors of Little Wilbraham, and the inventories of church goods made late in the thirteenth century and in the reign of Edward VI;

he has described the plate and bells, and the registers which begin at Little Wilbraham in 1538 and are well kept. The antiquary William Cole, whose large collections of manuscript notes are fortunately in the British Museum, used to stay with his friend, Robert Masters, rector of Little Wilbraham (1748-1752) and he made drawings of both churches; the one of Great Wilbraham shows the north transept which fell down 100 years later with a large decorated window at the north end, and a small steeple on the tower. The illustrations in this volume include Cole's two drawings, the brass of William Blakeway, rector of Little Wilbraham, who died in 1521, the Greenway in Little Wilbraham, and the Fleam Dyke.

R. GRAHAM.