

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. *The Registers of Kendal, Part III: Baptisms, 1596-9, Marriages and Burials, 1591-9, Baptisms, 1607-31*, transcribed by R. N. Birley, M.A.; 217 pp., 21/- (Parish Register Section, no. xxxvi, obtainable from the General Secretary, 1952).

It is with pleasure, indeed, that we welcome the third part of the Kendal Registers. Parts I and II were issued in 1921-2. So we should all be very grateful to Mr. R. N. Birley for recommending the great task of transcribing these registers. Those who have not got the earlier volumes are now enabled to buy them at 5/- a part, if they subscribe to Parts III and IV. These registers cover not only the borough of Kendal but eleven of its chapelries.

Parish Registers are often gold mines of information for the social historian, but before any gold can be extracted from this particular mine two exploratory shafts must be dug.

The first concerns how the register was kept. A comparison of the entries for the years 1585-7 and 1591-4 show 250 and 115 more burials than baptisms, and these were not plague years. This makes one wonder how accurately the baptismal register was kept. Burials and marriages would only take place at the parish church. For them fees were due which the parish clerk would have to account for—hence the entry after a burial in 1591: “the first corpes deue to our newe vickar.” But baptisms would be taken by the curate of the chapelry and no fee was payable. It would be his duty to keep a record of these and see that they were duly entered up at the parish church. It is not difficult to imagine that he sometimes forgot to do this. If this was so, however, it means that from the statistical point of view these registers lose much of their value.

The second shaft to be dug concerns the evidences for the great plague of 1597-8 upon which there is an excellent article in CW1 xi 158-86 by Dr Henry Barnes. But he does not mention the evidences of the Kendal Register, though he does refer (p. 173) to the famous stone at Penrith. This states that 2,500 died at Kendal. It has been suggested that these figures refer to the deanery and not to the town of Kendal, but all South Westmorland, except Heversham, Beetham, Burton, Windermere, Grasmere and Kirkby Lonsdale, was in this deanery. Now the average for Kendal burials for the six years before 1597 is just under 300 a year. For 1597, the number is 668 and for

1598 238 up to the 25 August, when the entries cease until 25 December. The first recorded death from plague is in June. Of baptisms there is only one entry — 6 September — between 17 August and 7 January; of marriages, there are none between 29 July and 1 January. It seems clear that the parish clerk must have died and that the organization of the parish must have ceased to function. But it is difficult to believe that the mortality was on anything like the scale the plague stone states. The fact that the number of baptisms for 1599 was well up to the average does not suggest that the area was depopulated on such a wholesale scale. It may be said that the figures for Penrith—2,260—are also difficult to reconcile with the entries in parish registers.

On the whole, the Kendal register rather lacks the intimate human touch that one often finds in those of smaller places. It is a very businesslike affair and was probably written up from draft notes. Considering the importance of Kendal and its place on a trade route, there are surprisingly few entries of travellers: visitors from London, Newcastle, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Bedfordshire occur, but such references are infrequent. "A travelling rudman" occurs in 1607; the Dialect Dictionary suggests that this meant he was a traveller in a material used for marking sheep. The daughter of George Dobson "dyed in Kendal with joughndipon" in 1593. What was this disease that required a special note like this? Most of the christian names that occur are the old-fashioned medieval ones, but an "Emanuel" in 1596 suggests Puritan influence.

2. *The Quest Forlorn—the story of the Forty-Five* by Cyril Hughes Hartmann; ix + 302 pp., 8 plates and 4 maps, 18/- net (William Heinemann Ltd., London, 1952).

Any new book on the '45 is of interest to us in these counties, and that is especially so if that book, as this one does, throws new light on the history of the Rising.

The book, which is provided with detailed references to authorities, begins with a brief account of the origins of the event. It then tells the full story of the Prince's adventure from his landing at the little island of Eriska on 22 July 1745 to his departure from Scotland on 20 September 1746. All the famous events from Prestonpans to Culloden are fully described. There are also two interesting chapters at the end in which, under the titles of "Pains and Penalties" and "Exeunt Omnes", a full account is given of the later life of those who took part in it.

While the book is eminently fair, the author, as his title shews,

does not disguise for a moment his belief that it was doomed to failure from the very beginning. And here is where his views are most interesting: it was doomed to fail because the Navy remained loyal to the Hanoverians. Thus the Prince was cut off from his base, except for spasmodic raiders. Even if he had gone on from Derby and reached London, obtaining there a moment of transitory triumph, his fate would have ultimately been what it was at Culloden. The Royal Navy by depriving him of any further help from France, worth having, sealed his fate. It is difficult to gainsay this conclusion.

To turn to the episodes of most interest to us—the capture of Carlisle, the retreat over Shap and the skirmish at Clifton. The book is hardly fair in the statement that “alarmed at the prospect of a direct attack, the citizens of Carlisle . . . resolved on surrender” (p. 95). There was more in it than that—see *Prelates and People*, pp. 320-1, and the article by Mr Jarvis in *The Juridical Review* (pp. 56-7) noticed on p. 215 of this volume.

Mr Hartmann rightly awards the honours of the skirmish at Clifton to the Highlanders. But he does not appear to have seen Chancellor Ferguson's Article in CW1 x and he has not realised what an escape the Highlanders had. The duke of Cumberland's plan was a pincer movement, with Bland's column on the west and Oglethorpe's on the east, converging on Lowther or Eamont Bridge and so cutting off the Highland Artillery train with its escort. The Scottish army first realised its danger, not at Clifton, but on Thrimby Hill when Sgt Dickson saw Bland's cavalry advancing through the Lowther enclosures. The Clifton parish registers show that there were more than two cavalry regiments involved in the skirmish.

This is a book which can be safely recommended to anyone who wishes to read a good account of the Rising and its aftermath of romance and tragedy.

3. *The Public Career of Sir James Graham* by Arvel B. Erickson; vi + 433 pp., 32/- net (Oxford, Basil Blackwell, 1952).

The author, who is professor of History, Western Reserve University, has given us a very readable life of a man who was perhaps the most illustrious parliamentary figure the county of Cumberland has ever produced. The subject of this biography, born in 1792, was the eldest son of James Graham of Netherby, who had been created a baronet in 1782.

The author's thesis that “Sir James Graham, next to Peel,

deserves to be ranked as the ablest man in English public life in the years from Waterloo until his death in 1861" is difficult to accept. During these years, to mention only two names, there flourished the victor of Waterloo himself and the great Palmerston. Graham cannot, surely, be placed in the same rank as such famous men.

But what the author really seems to be claiming is that he was the ablest departmental administrator during that period and that may well be true. It was largely due to his reforms, carried out as First Lord of the Admiralty (1830-4 and 1852-5), that the Senior Service was free from the confusion which cost so many lives in the Crimean War. His period of office as Home Secretary (1841-6) was notable also for the administrative reforms carried through and projected. During these years Acts were passed dealing with the Registration of Voters, the Law of Bankruptcy, the Poor Law, the Church. There were also Acts improving conditions in factories and prisons. But Graham was in some ways ahead of his times and his efforts to introduce a modern educational system and a public health bill were defeated. Above all, in the words of the author, "he saw more clearly than any of his contemporaries that in the efficient management of public office lies the very essence of public administration." This he achieved by increasing the prestige of a civil service recruited by competitive examination.

With all his gifts there were, however, certain limitations. "As a second in command . . . he had no superiors and few equals. At a higher post, he certainly would have failed." Thus he was probably wise in twice rejecting the office of Governor-General of India.

The local reader will find much of interest in the chapter entitled "A Gentleman Farmer" which gives an account of Graham's work in improving the Netherby estates. But, as usual, with increased efficiency there went a decreased tenantry. Between 1821-1850 the number of farms was halved and their size doubled. Many of the tenants became farm labourers; others, assisted by Sir James, emigrated to America. These figures bear out Wordsworth's statement, that between 1770 and 1820 the number of freehold yeomen was halved and the size of their holdings doubled.

It must be said that there seem to be quite a lot of mistakes in the book. Some are just slips: George, 2nd earl of Cumberland (p. 4) should be Francis, 4th earl; Rodillington (*ibid.*) is Randillington; Boucher was vicar of Epsom, not of St James (p. 12); for William Fletcher (*ibid.*) read Walter; and this by no means exhausts the list. Then the author gets himself into

a sad tangle owing to his ignorance of the Graham pedigree and baronetcies. Charles II did not transfer the baronetcy (p. 4) from George Graham to his brother Richard: George was succeeded by his son Richard, as 3rd baronet of Graham of Esk in the normal way; for the brother a fresh baronetcy was created in 1662 as "of Norton Conyers" (which is in Yorkshire, not Northumberland). Robert Graham did not become an "ex-parson" on succeeding to the Netherby estate. The baronetcy of Graham of Esk continued in his elder brother's line, but for his 2nd son, and eventual heir, James, a third baronetcy was created as "of Netherby" in 1783. The author writes of him as being "honoured with the baronetcy" (p. 8) as if there was a family title transferred from one person to another at the whim of the Crown. In fact, there were three quite distinct Graham baronetcies, each of which descended in the normal way to the present day.

But these blemishes should not prevent people using this very readable account of the life of a famous Cumbrian.

4. *Byways in Lakeland* by William T. Palmer; 256 pp. with 33 illustrations and a map, 18/- net (Robert Hale Ltd., 1952).

The author, who has already written some half dozen books on the Lake District, has given us a most entertaining and readable volume with some very delightful illustrations. The book is divided into twelve chapters. Some of these, such as those entitled "Lakeland a Gem" and "More Pages from Lakeland Year", are largely devoted to descriptions of local scenery; others, "Penrith and Ullswater", "Church and Chapel Stories" and "Old-Time Festivals", describe the life and customs of the inhabitants. For the serious historian, the author is most interesting when he tells us of his own memories of customs and ways which, because they are comparatively recent, are in danger of being unrecorded and so lost to history. His account of coaching in pre-motoring days is a good illustration of this, and is a really valuable contribution to our knowledge. So is his description of the Westmorland and Cumberland yeomanry before 1914. In his account of "Old-Time Festivals" he tells us how his material was collected and written down many years ago when such things were not thought worth printing; an example of how popular taste has changed. This chapter is divided into months, and to each, two festivals are allotted. In the church and chapel chapter there are some interesting stories of services in Nonconformist chapels and farmhouses which the author remembers. Furness has a chapter to itself, with a

story of how wild goats were hunted there "sixty years ago", but not very successfully for the "big ones just butted through dogs, and men and women too, where they pleased and got away 'bla-atin' to Wetherlam." No one has written a book without mistakes: On p. 143, in an account of Thornthwaite Hall, it is stated that "Belted Will Howard of Naworth is said to have died there on Oct. 9 1640", but his "Household Books" shew this took place at Greystoke on or about 7 October, p. (lxiv). This is a book full of interesting information, with a fund of good stories, about our district.

5. "Edward I at Lanercost Priory, 1306-7" by J. R. H. Moorman (*English Historical Review*, April 1952, pp. 161-74).

Based largely on original authorities, this article illustrates the great strain on the priory's resources of the king's long stay. It also gives particulars of the wages paid to the workmen, mainly local men, who prepared the place for his sojourn; a lay brother, brought from Furness Abbey to fit a glass window into the king's chamber, received 20/- for his labour. Details are given of how the household was fed and of the royal medicine.

6. "The Lieutenancy and Militia Laws in 1745" by Rupert C. Jarvis, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S. (*The Juridical Review*, April 1952, Vol. LXIV, No. 1, pp. 29-59).

Largely using unpublished material, including the Cumberland Lieutenancy Books and Quarter Session Rolls, our member shews the uncertainty of the Militia's status and the muddles that hindered their mustering. He justifies the behaviour of the local militia at the surrender of Carlisle in November 1745.

7. *Carlisle* by Kenneth Smith; 63 pp. and numerous illustrations, 2/- (The Publicity Committee of the Carlisle Corporation).

A most admirable short Guide with most excellent photographs of the places of historic interest and modern industries. The text has a short history of the city, an account of its principal buildings and its countryside. Sections devoted to education, town planning, etc., and an industrial survey.

8. *Flookburgh and its church* by Rev. J. C. Dickinson, F.S.A.; 16 pp., 5 plates, 6d. (The Vicar, The Vicarage, Flookburgh, 1950).

Contains a brief account of the town and its chapel, first mentioned in 1520, with a good illustration of it before it was "restored".

9. *Durham* by Sir Timothy Eden; xvi + 664 pp., 2 plates and a map, 2 volumes (continuously paginated), 18/- each (The County Books Series, Robert Hale Ltd., 1952).

A detailed review of this book would be out of place in these *Transactions*, but it is most heartily to be commended. All lovers of the North Country must be interested in the history of the Palatinate. And here we have its great story set out in a most readable fashion by an author who, most refreshingly, does not disguise his likes and dislikes. These volumes are not for those who think history should be written with the cold impartiality of a Hallam; they are more akin to the school of Macaulay. But the reviewer can recall few books that he has read with greater enjoyment and he recommends it very strongly indeed.

10. "Beginning in Archæology" by Kathleen M. Kenyon; 203 pp., 9 plates and 14 text-figures, 12/6 (Phoenix House, 1952).

This unpretentious little manual will be of particular interest to school libraries and to those of our members who are contemplating active field-work; there is much of interest in its chapters on excavating, recording, dealing with finds, and field surveys and air photography, and the author rightly stresses that the purpose of the book is "to make the lessons learnt in the field more easily comprehensible", that "All excavation is destruction [of evidence], therefore no inexperienced person should undertake it on his own", and that "Excavation, however well executed, without adequate publication is wanton destruction".

11. *Dumfriesshire & Galloway Transactions*, third series, xxix (1952), includes "The Brigantian problem, and the first Roman contact with Scotland" by Eric Birley (pp. 46-65), who attempts to interpret the relationship between Rome and the north of Britain from the Claudian invasion until the reign of Antoninus Pius, by a fresh survey of the literary and archæological evidence; "The Watch Knowe, Craigmaie" by John Clarke (pp. 132-138), reporting on his excavation of one of the rectilinear earthworks of Galloway, which seems to be assignable to native initiative in the late-Roman period; "Dunragit" by R. C. Reid (pp. 155-164), making out a case for associating a striking hillfort in Wigtownshire with the Dark Age ruler, Urien of Rheged. Medieval archæology is represented by two papers of considerable importance, in "Excavations at Mote of Urr" by Brian Hope-Taylor (pp. 167-172), and "Glenluce Abbey: finds recovered during excavations, part I" by Stewart Cruden (pp.

177-194, noteworthy for its careful study of medieval pottery); attention may also be directed to "The Paton cottage, Torthorwald" by George Bartholomew (pp. 173-176, with a photograph by our member Sir Walter Aitchison), and to Dr T. R. Burnett's "Author and Subject Index" to the first 26 volumes of *D. & G. Trans.*, 3rd series (pp. 1-45).

12. *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, lxxxiv (1952), includes "Excavations at the Roman fort of Newstead, 1947" by I. A. Richmond, with contributions by Eric Birley and J. P. Gillam (pp. 1-38); attention may also be directed to Mrs Piggott's report on "The excavations at Bonchester Hill, 1950" (pp. 113-137, important for the study of native forts in the north of Britain), and Miss Anne Robertson's survey of "Roman coins found in Scotland" (pp. 137-169).

13. *The Antiquaries Journal*, xxxi (1951), includes "Dales ware: a distinctive Romano-British cooking-pot" by J. P. Gillam (pp. 154-164), a further contribution to the study of coarse pottery on which our member has already made such important contributions. For the study of brooches, attention may be directed to "Dragonesque fibulae" by R. W. Feachem (pp. 32-44), which adds a good deal of material to that which William Bulmer discussed in *Antiq. Journ.* xviii, 146 f.

14. *Antiquity*, xxv (1951), includes "Place-names: a review" by O. G. S. Crawford (pp. 60-65), which should be read by all members of this Society with an interest in that subject; in "The Atecotti" by E. R. Townsend (pp. 123-126), an attempt is made to locate that British people (which took part in the "barbaric conspiracy" of A.D. 367, and later furnished a number of regiments to the Roman army) in the district between the two Walls, and it is suggested that they were probably the Selgovae, of the central hills, under a new name; attention may also be directed to "The development of native homesteads in North Wales" by W. E. Griffiths (pp. 174-186), which suggests many points of interest for the study of settlements (such as Ewe Close) in our own district.

15. *Chester Archaeological Journal* 38 (1951) includes "Excavations in Goss Street, Chester, 1948-9" by I. A. Richmond and Graham Webster (pp. 1-38), giving details of the successive headquarters buildings of the legionary fortress, and adding a fresh survey of the evidence for its history.

16. *Proceedings of the Leeds Philosophical Society* vii, pt. 1 (1952) includes "The Roman fort at Bainbridge, Wensleydale" by W. V. Wade (pp. 1-19); in this paper our member describes the results of his excavations at Bainbridge in 1950 and 1951, and holds out hopes of much more to come, for the fort is now leased to the University of Leeds, which holds its annual training courses in excavation there.

17. *Water Power*, August 1952, includes "The origins of water power" by our member Paul N. Wilson (pp. 308-313), who refers to the Roman watermills on the line of the Wall, at Chesters, Haltwhistle Burn and Willowford, and to several medieval and later mills in the Society's territory.

18. "A Roman Reformer and Inventor" by E. A. Thompson; xii + 132 pp. and 8 plates, 15/- (Clarendon Press, 1952).

This is a learned and entertaining study of the "Anonymus de rebus bellicis", of whom Mr C. E. Stevens had something to say in a recent volume of our *Transactions* (CW2 1 70-79, cf. also CW2 xxxix 208 f.); Professor Thompson gives a critical text and a careful translation of the tract, and prefaces it with an introduction in which the anonymous author's ideas are analysed in the light of the conditions and methods and problems of the late Roman world. The resulting book is of far greater importance, therefore, than its title might suggest, adding materially to our comprehension of the "Lower Empire". Incidentally, it has something to say about water power in the ancient world (pp. 50-54), explaining the tract's paddle-boat by reference to two types of ancient mills, and producing an early 19th-century Horse Packet, plying from Great Yarmouth, which worked on much the same principles.

19. *Beiträge zur älteren europäischen Kulturgeschichte* i (Klagenfurt, 1952) is the first of three volumes to be published in honour of Professor Rudolf Egger, the eminent Austrian historian and archæologist, who celebrated his seventieth birthday in April 1952. It includes "Noricum, Britain and the Roman Army" by Eric Birley (pp. 175-188), in which an attempt is made to analyse the epigraphic evidence for men from Noricum (approximately the modern Austria) who served in Britain, and vice versa, and certain aspects of the Roman military system are discussed.

20. *Latomus* xi (Brussels, 1952) includes "The *Bellum Gallicum* as a work of propaganda" by C. E. Stevens (pp. 3-18 and 165-179), an important paper in which our member analyses and discusses the evidence for the date of publication and political purpose of Cæsar's narrative of the Gallic war; in the same volume, Eric Birley reviews a notable recent book by H. G. Pflaum, *Les procurateurs équestres sous le Haut-Empire romain* (Paris, 1950), and has occasion to discuss various aspects of the Roman administrative machine (pp. 91-98).

21. *Durham University Journal*, June 1952, contains "Britain under Nero: the significance of Q. Veranius" by Eric Birley (pp. 88-92), reconsidering the evidence for the career of the first Roman governor of Britain to make a serious attempt to conquer Wales.

22. *Archæologia Aeliana*, fourth series, xxx (1952), includes the following articles by members of our Society: "Manor of Simonburn and Warks park" by W. Percy Hedley (pp. 80-105); "A Roman site on Dere Street" by E. J. W. Hildyard (pp. 223-228); and "Further exploration of the Antonine fort at Corbridge" by I. A. Richmond and J. P. Gillam (pp. 239-266).

23. *Journal of Roman Studies*, xlii (1952), includes "A Roman (?) head at Dumfries" by J. M. C. Toynbee (pp. 63-65); "The Aldgate potter: a maker of Romano-British samian ware" by Grace Simpson (pp. 68-71); and "Roman Britain in 1951" by M. V. Taylor and R. P. Wright (pp. 86-109).

24. *History To-day*, June 1952, includes "Crossing the Rubicon" by C. E. Stevens (pp. 373-378).