

the British Museum, expressed the opinion that the whetstone probably had been used as a razor-strop in the late Bronze Age. It was in the possession of Mr. S. T. Nash of Cubley near Derby, from the time that it was found till October, 1926, when he gave it to me.

W. Storrs Fox.

XIII.

“The See of Derby: being a Souvenir of its Foundation,”—edited by Canon A. W. F. Blunt, Vicar of St. Werburgh’s, Derby, and Rural Dean of Derby.

This little book issued by authority of the Diocesan Committee under the able editorship of Canon Blunt ought to find a place on the shelves of every lover of Derbyshire’s ecclesiastical history. For, though its interest is not mainly archaeological, it is in the light of her past history that the contributors to its pages celebrate the recent achievement and greet the unknown future of the Church in Derbyshire. Three articles in particular should interest the readers of this Journal. The arms of the new see (“*purpure a cross of St. Chad, in chief three fountains,*”) are briefly described and discussed by the Rev. H. Lawrance, who claims that they aptly record the ecclesiastical history of the county; and if the new coat wins his approval we may be sure that it is heraldically all that it should be! In “*Habemus Pontificem*” Canon Scott Moncrieff gives a clear and concise sketch of the history of diocesan organisation in the Midlands, from the days of Diuma the first bishop of Mercia down to Edmund Derby. Finally in a long article, occupying more than half the book, Mr. Thomas L. Tudor, author of “*The High Peak to Sherwood,*” discusses “*Churches and Christian Origins in the See of Derby.*” The writer of this note is unfortunately ill-equipped for the task of coping with the wealth of interesting material that Mr. Tudor has brought together, but he would like to thank him for his

most illuminating map of the *Churches of Domesday*, designed to show how Christianity threaded its way from the banks of the Trent up the valleys of its tributaries, finally piercing the fastnesses of the Peak. For Repton crypt Mr. Tudor claims an antiquity denied to it by the late Dr. Cox, claiming that its outer shell at any rate is seventh century work, originally the mausoleum of Saxon Kings. More than a word is needed in praise of the 'format' of the book: Messrs. Bemrose have spared no pains—and we know what that means—to make it worthy the occasion; it is a delight to handle and read. It is illustrated with photographs and with charming thumb-nail sketches of Derbyshire churches by Mr. Tudor.

A.C.K.

XIV.

GRIFFON VULTURES IN DERBYSHIRE.

Vague talk of two great raptorial birds having been seen in the Ashbourne district was current among naturalists during the summer of 1927, accompanied by the customary scepticism on the part of the well-informed. Two letters from local medical men, Doctors Sadler and Hollick, which appeared in the September number of *British Birds*, removed all doubts as to the correctness of the record, since they contained detailed and independent descriptions by careful observers, the latter of the two, speaking from experience of the bird in its native haunts. Dr. Ernest A. Sadler reported:—

“ On June 4th, 1927, I saw two Griffon Vultures (*Gyps fulvus*) over Ashbourne at about 6 p.m. When first seen they were only a few hundred yards distant and their unusual size was, of course, a characteristic feature, but later they soared away to an immense height when high in the sky they made a N.W. course against a strong wind. They were under