

Barlows of this county take their family name from the village of Barlow near Chesterfield, the spelling of both family and place-name being Barley until the 16th century. The first appearance of the spelling Barlow is on Saxton's map of Derbyshire of 1574. It is this circumstance that makes a connection between the Derbyshire and Lancashire Barlows very improbable, for the latter took their name from Barlow in the hamlet of Withington, Manchester, and it appears as "Barlowe" as early as 1253, and was never known as "Barley."

Naturally in a book of this description, containing a mass of detail, there must be mistakes, but evident ones are remarkably few. The supposed reference to Eckington in a charter at Lincoln dated 1093, would not be the earliest, even if it did refer to this place, for Eckington is named in Wulfric's will of 1002. On p. 8, Crick should be Crich; p. 9 Falconer Madan surely ought to be Sir Fredk. Madden; p. 10 Withington should be Wittington.

The book is well printed, nicely illustrated, contains many pedigrees, and a map of the Barlow country. Derbyshire readers will find it a mine of useful facts about the county families.

F.W.

#### DERBYSHIRE BRIDGES.<sup>1</sup>

This is the third of a series of volumes issued for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, probably to be completed by a fourth, all dealing topographically with all the surviving bridges of England built up to the end of the eighteenth century, a survey of ancient structures in its completeness of which I know no parallel over so wide an area. It has involved an immense amount of research, Mr. Jervoise having in addition to visiting all these erections consulted court-rolls, manorial and local

<sup>1</sup> *The Ancient Bridges of Mid and Eastern England*, by E. Jervoise, A.M.Inst.C.E. Architectural Press, 1932, 5/6.

records, special surveys and regional histories, road books, archaeological societies' transactions and all the available large scale maps issued to the end of his period. The record is set out in a strictly business-like way, there are "no flowers" facts only with no leanings towards the romantic aspect of the subject. The cool dry atmosphere in the treatment of the theme may disturb the seeker of the picturesque but is stimulating to those who in such a survey want the bare truth, and I note in an earlier volume—for they have all been read with pleasure and profit—that the rather numerous "Roman" bridges of the North are sternly reduced to 17th or 18th century dates. Each bridge dealt with is described concisely and its history—when known—set out briefly; if nothing is known to the author of the particular example we are told so.

I gather there are very few bridges retaining much of their original construction. Early foundations are rebuilt or drastically reconditioned time after time (its continuous service is to me the principal charm of an old building!) and in the case of the oldest bridges our author often concludes they began as timber structures. These volumes are an illuminating commentary on the civil life and activities of the middle ages, with their haphazard irresponsible treatment of communications. Again and again we read "much decayed," "utterly broken down," "built of so and so's charity—no one is responsible for repairs," etc., etc. Drownings and destruction of all kinds are taken as a matter of course and vested interest will even resent and destroy newly erected bridges, one complainant here quoted stating a bridge has been raised where none should be and cattle have crossed it and damaged his corn. The present volume opens with our own district, the Trent basin, the substance of which Mr. Jervoise gave us at the 1932 Annual Meeting recorded elsewhere in this issue. Lincolnshire and Rutland follow,

with the Nene, Ouse, East Anglian and Essex streams, concluding with the Northern tributaries of the Thames. An admirable record, which cannot but be of permanent value.

W.H.W.

#### ADDRESSES AND EXCURSIONS.

“Derbyshire Bridges,” by Mr. E. Jervoise.

On the completion of the business programme at the Annual Meeting (29th Jan., 1932), Mr. E. Jervoise, A.M.Inst.C.E. gave an address on the ancient bridges of Derbyshire and its borders, comprising part of the material collected for his forthcoming volume on “The Ancient Bridges of Mid. and Eastern England,” subsequently issued, and reviewed elsewhere in this *Journal*. He told his audience his survey was made for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and in a very light car which could penetrate narrow lanes and field tracks he and his wife had travelled some 14,000 miles in its pursuit, and inspected over 4,000 bridges. This had happily resulted in the scheduling of 180 examples as Ancient Monuments. For their history he had consulted Patent Rolls, Leland’s “Itinerary,” Calendars of Wills, Indulgences, and from Elizabethan times Records of Quarter Sessions, twelve pages of those for Derbyshire, edited by Dr. Cox having proved very useful. His guides were the excellent eighteenth century large scale maps issued between 1750 and 1790, every road crossing shown thereon being examined. He said dating a bridge of any considerable age involved much detective work, generally speaking the presence of ribs under the arches was a trustworthy indication of medieval date [Cavendish bridge is an exception], the arches might be round, segmental or pointed and here again early features might survive very late.