

## Reviews.

MEMOIRS OF THE BULLOCK FAMILY, A.D., 1166 TO 1905, of Berkshire, Essex and other Counties, with various pedigrees, illustrations of arms, &c., by LI. C.W.B. (privately printed by A. J. Lawrence, Rugby). This valuable work is of great interest to all who are concerned with the records of Berkshire, and especially with the history of the ancient Manors of Arborfield and Barkham. The Bullocks were a prolific race and sent forth their scions into many countries, their principal family seat after leaving Berkshire being the fine old Faulktown Hall, near Wiltam, Essex, where the head of the family lived from 1637 to 1897. But the early chapters of the book will chiefly interest Berkshire readers, as therein is contained a history of the Manors of the two villages of Arborfield and Barkham, which were held by the Bullocks for some centuries. Some romantic details are woven with the dry chronicles of descent. We learn who was the lady whose wooden effigy lies in Barkham Church, Mistress Agnes or Anne de Neville, who married Gilbert Bullock about 1340. The Barkham registers revealed the fact that one of the Family who was imprisoned by order of the Star Chamber and was supposed to have died in prison, was released, as a child was born to him after his incarceration. The writer has spent many years on the study of his family archives, and it must be a satisfaction to him that he has been able to tell their story so perfectly. Perhaps it might have been advisable to acknowledge the help that he received from other antiquaries.

HISTORY OF OXFORDSHIRE, by J. Meade Falkner (Elliot Stock).—This excellent work was reviewed in this Journal when it first appeared, and we gladly welcome this cheap edition. It shows a thorough knowledge of the County, and is written in such a clear style that it is a pleasure to read its fascinating pages. The story of the University in all its periods is told with much charm, and the chief towns and villages, and the many interesting manor houses which abound in Oxfordshire, are not forgotten.

THE HOLY WELL AND OTHER POEMS, by William Moore, M.A. (Kegan Paul and Co.).—The admirers of Mr. Moore's verse will rejoice to welcome a new volume of his poems. They retain their old charm, and have the true ring. The poet has studied Nature in all her moods, and his tender and sympathetic descriptions of country scenes are delightfully fresh and pleasing. Like Mr. James Rhoades, he sings pure Saxon English. We should like to quote examples of his verse, but want of space forbids. We admire the opening poem which gives the title to the book; "The First Night" at Winchester, in blank verse has noble lines. "The Death of Dido," a translation of a small part of Virgil's *Æneid*, runs smoothly, and resembles the style of Mr. Rhoades, who has patiently translated the whole of the *Æneid*. Mr. Moore shows that he has not forgotten his scholarship by his translation into Latin verse of Gilbert's Bab Ballad, *the Rival Curates*. It required some skill and humour to find Latin equivalents for *croquet*, *cribbage* and *backgammon*, to say nothing of *winking* and *smoking*; but it is all done, and the result is satisfying.

THE MEMORIALS OF THE COUNTIES OF ENGLAND. General Editor, Rev. P. H. Ditchfield (Bemrose and Sons).—This series of volumes is rapidly growing in number and seems to have become very popular. Eleven volumes have been published, of which the most recent are *Wiltshire* by Miss Dryden, *Somerset* by F. J. Snell, *Shropshire* by T. Auden, M.A., F.S.A., and *Kent* by the General Editor in conjunction with Mr. Clinch, the Librarian of the Society of Antiquaries. Fifteen other volumes are in preparation. The various chapters are entrusted to authors who are especially qualified to write upon the subjects which they have made their own. An important feature of each volume is the series of admirable illustrations. The subscription price of each volume is 10s. 6d.; after publication 15s.

THE RELIQUARY AND ILLUSTRATED ARCHÆOLOGIST, edited by J. Romilly Allen (Bemrose and Sons).—The XII. volume of this admirable quarterly is concluded, and antiquaries owe a great debt to the learned editor and publishers for this excellent and beautifully illustrated magazine, which abounds in original and carefully written articles by experts and scholars. No archæological library

can be complete without the bound volumes of the *Reliquary*, which in their red covers look as attractive without as they are interesting within. The January number opens with an excellent article on Jugglers by Mr. Arthur Watson, the Buddhist shrine of Buddh Gaza by Miss Trench, an account of the opening of a Bronze Age barrow at Manton, Wilts, which yielded rich treasures, and the notes on Archæology, which are always especially valuable.

THE ANTIQUARY (Elliot Stock) keeps up its usual interest. The Editorial notes at the commencement of each number are always very complete, and nothing of value seems to escape the notice of the Editor. The programme for 1907 is an inviting one. Mr. Chalkley Gould will write on "Types of Early Strongholds," and Mr. Sheppard on "Inscribed Roman Fibulæ." Several papers will appear on Painted Glass, and London signs, Sundials, Bury St. Edmunds, the Roman Wall, Old Ulster towns, are some of the articles to which we shall look forward.

THE HOME COUNTIES' MAGAZINE, edited by W. Pailey Baildon, F.S.A., (Reynell and Son), has recently completed its eighth volume, the first under its new editor, who has infused new life into its pages and made it interesting, amusing and instructive. There is a great variety of subjects, brasses by that eminent authority, Mr. Mill Stephenson, dovecotes, Peter the wild boy, Church Plate of London, an exhaustive account of Paul's Cross by the Editor, and an admirable account of Moor Park by Mr. W. H. Powell, and much else that will interest the antiquary.

THE BELLS OF ENGLAND, by Canon Raven (Methuen and Co.).—This, the latest volume of the Antiquary's Library, possesses a pathetic interest, as it is the last work of the learned Canon Raven, who died soon after its completion. He had made bells the chief study of his life and for fifty years had collected information concerning them. It was fitting, therefore, that this volume should have been entrusted to him, and all that need be known about the subject is contained in this volume. The book is indispensable to all who contemplate writing a work on the bells of any County.

PARISH LIFE IN MEDIAEVAL ENGLAND, by Abbot Gasquet (Methuen and Co.).—This is another volume of the Antiquary's Books, a series which has been heartily welcomed by all students of antiquity. Dr. Gasquet had a fine field for research, his way having been paved by many transcribers of churchwardens' accounts, episcopal registers, guild records and manuals of clerical life. He has made good use of his materials, telling the story of the parish, the Church, clergy and parish officials, the services, guilds and recreations with much fairness, and though here and there controversial matters are touched upon and statements made which might be disputed, the picture of the mediæval parish is drawn with skill and fidelity. There are some admirable illustrations in the book.

THE MAGAZINE OF CHRISTIAN ART appears this month in America. It is an illustrated monthly magazine devoted to current Church Building, American and foreign, and the allied Ecclesiastical arts, with expert discussions of all topics relating to Christian Archæology. The Editor of this journal is the consulting Editor for Great Britain and Ireland, and he will be glad to receive any notes on current work which correspondents may kindly send him.

ELIZABETH MONTAGUE, THE QUEEN OF THE BLUE STOCKINGS.—We congratulate a member of the Berks Society, Mrs. Climençon, on the success of her book written in memory of her great-great aunt.

THE THAMES, by Mortimer Menpes and G. E. Witton.—Messrs. A. and C. Blake have devoted one of their beautiful books to the classic Thames. Everyone knows the beautiful pictures of Mr. Menpes, who from his home at Pangbourne has often wandered to find the most charming spots on the banks of the great river. The text of the book might have been made more interesting, but it is brightly written and perhaps gives information sufficient for those who love to lie in a boat in a pleasant backwater and care not to inquire too deeply.

THE PARISH CLERK, a book by the Editor of this Journal, dealing with the history of the office, and recollections and stories of old clerks with many illustrations, will be issued by Messrs. Methuen and Co. next month.