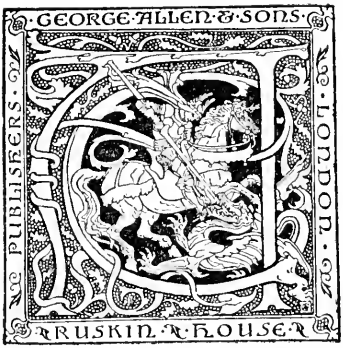
HOW TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF A PARISH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HOW TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF A PARISH

AN OUTLINE GUIDE TO TOPOGRAPHICAL RECORDS, MANUSCRIPTS, AND BOOKS

BY

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"Every man's concern with the place where he lives, has something more in it than the mere amount of rates and taxes that he has to pay."
—TOULMIN SMITH.

FIFTH EDITION, REVISED

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In Memoriam

M. C.

June 3, 1909

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION (1879)

SOME of the clergy of the diocese of Lincoln are responsible for the issue of this booklet. A much-needed county history of Lincolnshire is now being projected, upon the basis of separate parochial histories. A circular put forth in one of the rural deaneries was good enough to refer in laudatory terms to the introduction to the first volume of my "Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire." This led to my being asked to republish that introduction; but it applied so peculiarly to Derbyshire that I felt it would be of small avail to those outside the county. Hence I decided to put together some hints that might prove a help to those who may be desirous of undertaking parochial history in any part of the kingdom, whether manorial, ecclesiastical, or both. In the first part of these pages I am indebted to Thomas' "Handbook to the Public Records," and more especially to Sims' invaluable "Manual for the Topographer and

Genealogist"; but I have not referred to any class of documents with which I am not in some measure personally conversant.

Those who have been engaged in any literary work are well aware how large a portion of time is often spent in merely learning the titles and somewhat of the contents of those books that treat of the different branches of the subject selected. Various books connected with parochial history, especially those that have been proved by experience to be the best handbooks, are therefore mentioned in these pages to facilitate reference. Space only has prevented me from considerably adding both to their number and description, but any further knowledge that I may have gleaned on topographical literature is heartily at the disposal of any *worker* who may privately apply to me. [This offer is now withdrawn through lack of time, 1909.]

I shall be grateful for any correction of errors, or for any suggestion as to deficiencies.

PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION

IT is a pleasure to find that a fifth edition of this little work (the fourth edition came out in 1895), originally published thirty years ago, is now demanded, as it is a proof of the remarkable and continued growth of local interest in local history. The publication of the previous editions of this handbook brought me into correspondence with a large number of either actual or prospective local historians throughout the country. Much of such correspondence has been pleasurable and interesting, and I am grateful for various hints that have been given me with respect to the improvement of these pages, many of which have been adopted. Not a few of my correspondents have issued local histories since the publication of my first edition. The number of such histories has increased in a remarkable way during the last twenty years. Martial's threefold verdict on his own epigrams may be accepted as a general criticism on these efforts.

Certain of these parochial histories are distinctly bad; not a few show moderate ability, but would have been more appropriately confined to the pages of a parochial magazine, or printed as a privately issued record; whilst others are well worthy of separate publication, and are of far more than mere local interest.

This small book has received a far kinder reception, and experienced a much wider circulation, than was anticipated. It has now been once again re-written throughout, so that I trust it may be yet more useful in its own humble way; several fresh sections have been inserted, and the whole is so corrected and expanded that it is practically a new book. In the last edition I acknowledged my indebtedness to Lord Dillon and to Mr. St. John Hope. In again bringing it up to date, with regard to sterling works of reference and in other particulars, I have received valued help from several friends, more especially from Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, F.S.A., Mr. Aymer Vallance, F.S.A., Mr. G. Clinch, F.S.A.Scot., and the Rev. Dr. Gee, F.S.A.

When this book was first issued, it was the only one of its kind; now there are several of varying degree of merit that cover part of the ground, but none that attempt the whole. One

that was published in 1888, which shall be nameless, had the effrontery to steal the title of this book for one of its sections, and the amusing impertinence of adding in a note that this little work was altogether unknown to the writer! If a better book for the purpose had been brought out by any one else, I am quite sure that I should never have taken the trouble to write this new edition; but as those of independent judgment whom I have consulted think it is demanded and will be useful to many, I have bowed to their opinion.

The courtesy that students may always expect from the present officials of our various libraries and places of research is spoken of afterwards in the introductory chapter; here I desire to say with gratitude that it has always been extended to myself.

J. CHARLES COX.

October 1909.

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ABBREVIATIONS

P. R. O.—For the Public Record Office. Almost the whole of our national records, which were until recently in upwards of half-a-dozen different buildings, are now under one roof in Fetter Lane, Fleet Street. All documents mentioned in the following pages must be understood to be at the Public Record Office, unless it is otherwise stated. Some of the earlier folio publications of the Record Commissioners, to which reference is herein made, are out of print, but they are to be found in most of our public libraries.

B. M.—For the Library of the British Museum.

B.—For the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

C.—For the University Library, Cambridge.

HOW TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF A PARISH

INTRODUCTION

IN writing the history of a parish for either local or general use, it is necessary to know where to look for information. In these pages will be found attempts to give some brief hints under various heads, together with specific information as to records, manuscripts, and printed books which bear upon the particular branch of the question.

It seems, however, right that two or three general directions should first of all be given.

There are but few counties without a fairly good old county history, wherein some particulars of the parish are sure to be recorded. Among the best are G. Lipscombe's "Bucks," 4 vols. (1847); G. Ormerod's "Cheshire," 3 vols. (1819), revised by T. Helsby in 1875–82; John Hutchins' "Dorset," 2 vols. (1774); Robert Surtees' "Durham," 4 vols. (1816–40); P. Morant's "Essex," 2 vols. (1768); R. Clutterbuck's "Herts," 3 vols. (1815–27); Edward Hasted's

"Kent," 4 vols. (1778–99); Edward Baines' "Lancashire," 5 vols. (new edition, 1788–93); John Nichols' "Leicestershire," 4 vols. (1795–1815); Francis Blomefield's "Norfolk," 5 vols. (1739–75); George Baker's "Northants," 2 vols. (1822–41); Robert Thoroton's "Notts," 3 vols. (1790); R. W. Eyton's "Salop," 12 vols. (1854–60); Owen Manning and William Bray's "Surrey," 3 vols. (1804–14); W. Dugdale's "Warwickshire," 2 vols. (late edition, 1730); R. C. Hoare's "Wilts," 6 vols. (1822–43); and T. R. Nash's "Worcestershire," 2 vols. and supplement (1781–99).

A County Committee began an admirable history of Northumberland in 1893; the eighth volume appeared in 1907.

In 1900 the first volume of a great national scheme, termed the "Victoria History of the Counties of England," appeared, dedicated by special permission to the late Queen, and under her express sanction. The plan of the work assigns a number of large volumes to each county, in accordance with its size, varying from Rutland and Huntingdon with two each to Yorkshire with eight; the average number for each shire is four. A company of experts deal with all the branches of the natural history of the county, followed by a series of comprehensive essays on the political, ecclesiastical,

and economic histories, and on early man, Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains, earthworks, forestry, agricultural industries, and the Domesday Survey, &c. This is followed by a detailed account of each parish. All the leading reviews and every competent judge are loud in their praises of this noble work so far as it has as yet proceeded. A particular feature is the cartography or supply of maps of all kinds, as well as of general illustrations.

The following is a list of the volumes already issued :—

Bedfordshire,* 2 vols.
Berkshire, 2 vols.
Buckinghamshire,* 2 vols.
Cornwall, 1 vol.
Cumberland, 2 vols.
Derbyshire, 2 vols.
Devonshire, 1 vol.
Dorsetshire, 1 vol.
Durham, 2 vols.
Essex, 2 vols.
Gloucestershire, 1 vol.
Hampshire,* 3 vols.
Hereford, 1 vol.
Hertfordshire,* 2 vols.
Kent, 1 vol.
Lancaster,* 3 vols.
Leicestershire, 1 vol.
Lincolnshire, 1 vol.
Norfolk, 2 vols.
Northamptonshire, 2 vols.
Nottinghamshire, 1 vol.
Rutland, 1 vol.
Shropshire, 1 vol.
Somersetshire, 1 vol.
Staffordshire, 1 vol.
Suffolk, 1 vol.
Surrey,* 2 vols.
Sussex, 2 vols.
Warwickshire, 2 vols.
Worcestershire,* 2 vols.
Yorkshire, 1 vol.

* An asterisk implies that a portion of the second volume is devoted to topography or the history of individual parishes; in the cases of Hampshire and Lancashire the third volumes are exclusively topographical.

Another good scheme, the volumes of which may quite possibly prove useful to the parochial historian, is the handsome series of "Memorials of the Counties of England," under the general editorship of the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, F.S.A., published by Messrs. G. Allen & Sons. The following volumes have been already issued: Derbyshire, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Essex, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire (2 vols.), London (2 vols.), Middlesex, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Somersetshire, Suffolk, Sussex, and Wiltshire.

A good many of the English counties have more or less complete bibliographies of the local books, both small and great, which have been printed up to the time of their issue. The following is, we believe, a complete list of such bibliographies, with the date of publication. They are all to be found among the reference books in the Round Room of the British Museum :—

Buckinghamshire—*Bibliotheca Buckinghamiensis*, by H. Gough (1890).

Cambridgeshire—*A Catalogue of Cambridgeshire Books*, by Robert Bower (1894).

Cheshire—*Bibliotheca Cestriensis*, by John H. Cooke (1904).

Cornwall—*Bibliotheca Cornubiensis*, by G. C. Boase and V. P. Courtney, 3 vols. (1872–84).

Devonshire—*Bibliotheca Devoniensis*, by James Davidson (1852).

Dorsetshire—*Bibliotheca Dorsetiensis*, by C. H. Mayo (1885).

Essex—*Catalogue of Essex Books*, by Augustus Cunnington (1902).

Gloucestershire—*Manual of Gloucestershire Literature*, by F. A. Hyett and W. Bazeley, 3 vols. (1895–97).

Kent—*Bibliotheca Cantiana*, by J. Russell Smith (1837).

Lancashire—*The Lancashire Library*, by Henry Fishwick (1875).

Lincolnshire—*Bibliotheca Lincolniensis*, by A. R. Corns (1904).

Norfolk—*Bibliotheca Norfolciensis*, by J. J. Colman (1896), and Index to *Norfolk Topography*, by Walter Rye (1881).

Somersetshire—*Bibliotheca Somersetiensis*, by Emanuel Green, 3 vols. (1902).

Surrey—*Catalogue of Works relating to Surrey*, by W. Minet and C. J. Courtney (1901).

Staffordshire—*Bibliotheca Staffordiensis*, by Rupert Simes, (1894).

Worcestershire—*Bibliography of Worcestershire*, by J. R. Burton and F. S. Pearson (1898).

Yorkshire—*The Yorkshire Library*, by William Bayne (1869).

John P. Anderson's thorough work, "The Book of British Topography" (1881), arranged under counties, may also be consulted with advantage. After that date G. K. Fortescue's invaluable subject indexes of printed books in the British Museum (4 vols., 1871–1906) will be found to contain references under the parish or county to all works of importance.

The county town or the cathedral city of the diocese will probably contain some accessible

library wherein there will be a general collection of county topographical books.

The publications of any county or local archæological society should be thoroughly scanned, as well as those of a national character. This may be a tedious labour, as several of our provincial archæological societies are yet without any general indexes.

General indexes for a series of volumes are such an immense saving of time and temper that no apology is necessary for giving a list of the indexes that we know to have been printed for such archæological societies :—

Archæologica (Society of Antiquaries).—Vols. I. to L. (1704–1889).

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries.—Vols. I. to IV. (1843–1858); second series, Vols. I. to XX. (1859–1905).

Archæological Journal (Royal Archæological Institute).—Vols. I. to XXV. (1845–1868).

Journal of the Archæological Association (British Archæological Association).—Vols. I. to XXX. (1846–1874), and Vols. XXXI. to XLII. (1869–1886).

Archæologia Cambrensis (Cambrian Archæological Association).—First four series (1846–1884); fifth series (1884–1900).

Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society's Proceedings.—Vols. I. to XX. (1849–1875), and Vols. XXI. to XL. (1876–1894).

Sussex Archæological Collections (Sussex Archæological Society).—Vols. I. to XXV. (1853–1874), and XXVI. to XL. (1875–1896).

Archæologia Cantiana (Kent Archæological Society).—Vols. I. to XIX. (1858–1892).

Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian and Archæological Society Transactions.—Vols. I. to XVI. (1874–1900).

Transactions of Essex Archæological Society.—Vols. I. to V. old series (1858–1878), and Vols. I. to X. new series (1879–1895).

Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society Journal.—Vols. I. to XXV. (1879–1903). In the press.

Wilts Archæological and Natural History Magazine.—Vols. I. to VIII. (1854–1864); Vols. IX. to XVI. (1865–1876); Vols. XVII to XXIV. (1877 to 1889); and Vols. XXV. to XXXI. (1890–1900).

Associated Architectural Societies of York, Lincoln, Northampton, Bedford, Worcester, and Leicester.—Vols. I. to VIII. (1850–1866); Vols. IX. to XIV. (1867–1878); Vols. XV. to XIX. (1879–1888); and Vols. XX. to XXV. (1889–1900).

Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.—Vols. I. to LI. (1848–1900).

Norfolk Archæology (Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society).—Vols. I. to X. (1846–1890).

Transactions of the Devonshire Association.—Vols. I. to XVII. (1862–1885).

Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.—Vols. I. to IX. (1867–1902).

Woolhope Club, Herefordshire (1851–1884).

Yorkshire Archæological Society.—Index of Papers and Excursions.—Vols. I. to XVII. (1867–1903).

In 1891 the Congress of the Archæological Societies, in union with the Society of Antiquaries, directed the annual preparation of an

index of archæological papers published during the previous year. Seventeen of these invaluable annual pamphlets have been already issued; they are, for the most part, bound up with the various transactions of the Societies in Union, but can, we believe, be still obtained separately from the Secretary of the Congress of Archæological Societies, Burlington House. The following publications are now, under this scheme, jointly indexed year by year: Anthropological Institute, Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, Proceedings of Royal Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and of Ireland, Archæologia, Archæologia Æliana, Archæologia Cantiana, Archæological Journal, Berks, Bucks, and Oxon Archæological Journal, Society of Biblical Archæology, Birmingham and Midland Institute Archæological Proceedings, Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society Transactions, British Archæological Association Journal, British Numismatic Journal, British Architects' Transactions, Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society, Cambridge Antiquarian Society, Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historical Society, Transactions of Royal Institution of Cornwall, Cumberland and Westmoreland Architectural and Archæological Society, Devon Association Transactions, East Herts Archæological

Society, East Riding Antiquarian Transactions, Essex Archæological Society Transactions, Folk-lore Society, Hampstead Antiquarian Society, Publications of Huguenot Society, Kildare Archæological Society, Lancashire and Cheshire Archæological Society Proceedings, Leicestershire Archæological Society Transactions, Norfolk Archæological Society Transactions, Numismatic Chronicle, Oxfordshire Archæological Society Publications, Royal Irish Academy Proceedings, St. Paul's Ecclesiological Society Transactions, Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society Transactions, Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society Transactions, William Salt Archæological Society for Staffordshire, Suffolk Institute of Archæology Transactions, Surrey Archæological Society Transactions, Sussex Archæological Collections, Thoresby Society Transactions, Thoroton Society (Nottinghamshire), Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine, Woolwich Antiquarian Society, and Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Journal.

This annual index has been continued down to 1907. Its plan is to give the full titles of the papers under the author's name, with an additional index of places and subjects. In 1907 a big book of 900 pages was brought out

under the like auspices purporting to be an "Index of Archæological Papers, 1665–1890"; but as it is solely arranged under authors' names, it is practically useless.

Such journals as the many volumes of *Notes and Queries*, *The Reliquary*, and *The Antiquary* should be searched, and, above all, the old *Gentleman's Magazine*, of which many volumes of most usefully arranged excerpts have been issued under the editorship of Mr. G. L. Gomme; eighteen of these are devoted to English topography arranged under counties.

Here it may be remarked that a good plan to pursue is to copy out all printed matter into a roughly bound MS. book, leaving a wide margin, writing on only one side, and never beginning a second extract on the same page. This book can be unstitched and pulled to pieces for future use and arrangement, and the rewriting for the press will thus be saved.

Note all references, particularly to records and manuscripts, given in printed books, and, if possible, eventually verify them. Labour of this kind will often be rewarded by finding much fresh matter overlooked by others, to say nothing of the satisfaction of occasionally correcting previous writers.

Remember that it is highly dishonourable to

appropriate another writer's references without independent verification, for this is nothing more nor less than obtaining the reader's credit under false pretences. Moreover, such a practice (which we regret to say is by no means uncommon) can readily be detected by an acute critic, and then the author need expect no mercy.

It will be essential to consult some, or all of the great storehouses of records, MSS., and books. We here give short accounts of the ways and methods to be adopted in making use of the Public Record Office, British Museum, Somerset House, Lambeth Library, College of Arms, Guildhall Library, Bodleian, and Cambridge University Library. The real student will be almost sure to find the greatest courtesy and help at all of these London institutions, and at Oxford. We thought of particularising their chiefs and leading lieutenants by name, but that might be unintentionally invidious to some accidentally omitted. Very occasionally underlings are rude, and intensify official requirements, of which we have had personal knowledge in the past at Somerset House. When this is the case, the truest kindness is at once to lodge an unexaggerated complaint.

The Public Record Office in Fetter Lane,

where almost all classes of national documents are now brought together, is open daily to those who desire to inspect or search documents, from 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M., and on Saturdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. It is closed on Sundays, Christmas Day to New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Eve to Easter Tuesday, Whitsun Monday and Tuesday, and the Queen's Birthday and Coronation Day. It is necessary to apply for a ticket of admission to the Secretary, Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, stating the general object of the search, whether historical, antiquarian, or genealogical, and enclosing a letter of recommendation from a responsible householder or other person of recognised position. No one is allowed to have more than three documents or records out at a time. Ink may not be used in the search rooms for making copies or notes. The places of the calendars and indexes and all general information will be readily and courteously given by the gentlemen in charge of the two search rooms.

The British Museum has "the largest and best arranged library in Christendom." The Reading Room is open every week-day, except Good Friday and Christmas Day, and the first four week-days of March and September, when the Museum is closed for cleaning. The hours

are from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M. throughout the year. As electric light is only used in the great Reading Room, books other than those on the reference shelves cannot be supplied after 3.30 in January, February, November, and December; after 4.30 in March and October; after 5.30 in April and September; and after 6.30 in May, June, July, and August. A kindly provision has, however, been made for late readers who are not able to reach the Museum before the specified hours. Such readers may apply to the Superintendent of the Reading Room by letter, to be delivered some hours in advance, for books (not exceeding five in number) to be held ready for their use, such application, when possible, to be accompanied by the usual official ticket duly filled up.

Any one desirous of admission to the Reading Room must apply in writing to the Director, stating profession or business, residence, and the purpose for which he seeks admission. Application to be made at least two days before admission is required, and must be accompanied by a written recommendation from a householder (not hotel or lodging-house keeper) of recognised position, with full signature and address, stated to be given on personal knowledge of the applicant, and certifying that he or she will make proper use of the Reading

Room. The Trustees decline to accept the recommendation of hotel-keepers or of boarding-house or lodging-house keepers in favour of their lodgers. A ticket will then be forwarded in due course, which, under ordinary circumstances, has to be renewed at the end of six months; it must be produced when required. Save under special order by the Trustees, a reader's ticket is not issued to any one under twenty-one years of age. The tickets are not transferable, and must be produced if required.

The Manuscript Room is in another part of the building, and will be pointed out to any student desiring to use it who has obtained a ticket after like application for one for the Reading Room. An ordinary reader's ticket used to also give admission to the MSS., but separate application for a special MS. ticket is now required. Opposite the door of the Students' Room are the great MS. catalogues; the topographical section is well arranged alphabetically under counties, so that the references to particular parishes can be readily found. Many of the MSS. have been re-paged, but the older paging is not obliterated; the catalogues, for the most part, refer to the older paging, so that both sets of page or folio numerals had better be consulted before the

reader troubles an attendant about a supposed faulty reference. The MS. Room is open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. every week-day, excepting Good Friday and Christmas Day, and the first four week-days of March and September. There is no restriction in copying MSS. Tracing is not allowed, except by permission of the keeper of the department.

The Print Room is open to students above eighteen years of age for the like hours and seasons as in the MS. Room, after the obtaining a ticket by due application. The chief topographical collections of prints, brass rubbings, and drawings are to be found in the MS. Department.

Photographing from books, MSS., prints, drawings, &c., is permitted under certain restrictions. The proper form for application, to be addressed to the Director, can be obtained at the Museum. The scale of fees to be paid to the attendant at the Photographic Studio is: For one negative, 2s.; for more than one negative the fee is a time-fee, viz. 2s. for the first hour or part thereof, and 1s. for each succeeding hour or part thereof.

The Newspaper Room is also quite distinct from the Reading Room; the ordinary reader's ticket covers admission, but a separate newspaper ticket is obtainable. The room is open

from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. all the year round on every week-day, excepting Good Friday and Christmas Day, and excepting also the first four week-days of March and September. London newspapers are bound available for use one year after date, and country newspapers two years after date. The former papers are to be found in the room at the British Museum, but the provincial as well as Scottish and Irish newspapers are stored at the recently acquired repository at Hendon. Applications for the use of these latter papers (not exceeding four volumes at one time) have to be addressed to the Superintendent of the Reading Room, and must reach the Museum not later than 2 P.M. on Mondays. The papers thus ordered will be available in the Newspaper Room on the following Wednesday and until the end of the week.

As newspapers occasionally contain interesting items as to the later incidents of parish history, it may here be very briefly stated that the first London daily paper, the *Daily Courant*, was started in 1713. The *Morning Post* dates from 1772, and the *Times* from 1775. Among the earliest of provincial weekly papers may be mentioned the *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury* (1695), the *Warwick Postman* (1706), the *Nottingham Courant* (1710), the *Newcastle*

Courant (1711), the *Hereford Journal* (1713), and the *Leeds Mercury* (1718).

It would be a good thing for a new reader at the British Museum to purchase two small pamphlets in the Entrance Hall, at the cost of 1d. each, viz. "Description of Reading Room," and "Explanation of the Catalogue of Printed Books." There are those who from time to time raise cheap sneers at the cataloguing and general service of books at the British Museum, but those who know best the catalogue systems of the great continental libraries and other large libraries, both English and American, are unanimous in giving the palm to the grand national collection at Bloomsbury. Those who desire to thoroughly understand the system adopted should purchase, price 1s., "Rules for Compiling the Catalogues in the Department of Printed Books in the British Museum" (1906).

Somerset House. — A "Literary Inquiry Order" for free search at the Probate Registry, Somerset House, without payment of the usual fees, can be obtained by a written application, addressed to the President of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice, Principal Probate Registry, Somerset House, London, with "Department for Literary Inquiry" in the corner of the envelope. The

applicant is required to state name, address, profession or description, object of research, and period for which he proposes to attend. Though not required in the first instance, it is better to give some reference with the application, such as the clergyman or squire of the parish, or any well-known literary friend.

The Literary Inquiry Department is in the basement, on the south side of the great court. It is open from 10 A.M. to 3.30 P.M. on week-days, save on Saturdays, when it closes at 1.30 P.M. It is closed for a period of six weeks during August, September, or October, of which due notice is given year by year. Only two registers can be produced for one reader at the same time, and not more than eight altogether in one day. The free reader is allowed to search the calendars, and read and make notes from the registered copies of any wills, from the earliest recorded down to within a hundred years of the particular year of his visit. The later ones can be consulted at a charge of 1s. each. The reader must, on each occasion of his attendance, sign his name in a book provided for that purpose.

Similar orders for the District Probate Registries can also be obtained from the Principal Registrar, Principal Probate Registry, Somerset House. The following is a list

of the District Registries established by the Act of 1857:—

Bangor, G. H. Reid, Carnarvon and Anglesey. Birmingham, W. G. Middleton, Warwickshire. Blandford, H. F. C. de Crespigny, Dorsetshire. Bodmin, W. H. E. Shadwell, Cornwall. Bristol, John Henry Clark, Bristol and Bath, present County Court Districts. Bury St. Edmunds, Ronald Southey, Suffolk, West. Canterbury, H. Mapleton Chapman, Kent, East, and Canterbury. Carlisle, W. C. Butler, Cumberland and Westmoreland. Carmarthen, W. Morgan Griffiths, Carmarthen, Cardigan, Pembroke, with the Deaneries of East and West Gower. Chester, H. A. Jenner, Chester. Chichester, W. B. B. Freeland, Sussex, West. Derby, C. T. E. Wilde, Derbyshire. Durham, W. J. Maynard, Durham. Exeter, W. H. Bailey, Devonshire. Gloucester, R. Fuller, Gloucestershire (except Bristol County Court District). Hereford, T. C. Paris, Herefordshire, Radnor, and Brecknock. Ipswich, G. Pritchard, B.A., Suffolk, East, and Essex, North. Lancaster, Baldwin Dacres Adams, County of Lancaster, except the Hundreds of Salford and West Derby, and the City of Manchester. Leicester, H. Pickering Clarke, Leicester and Rutland. Lewes, J. W. Heisch, Sussex, East. Lichfield, H. G. Faussett-Osborne, Staffordshire. Lincoln, G. L. Simpson, Lincolnshire. Liverpool, J. C. Bromfield, West Derby Hundred. Llandaff, Charles H. Wilkinson, Glamorgan (except Deaneries of East and West Gower), Monmouth. Manchester, R. S. O. Mais, Manchester and Salford Hundred. Newcastle-on-Tyne, H. E. Edwards, Northumberland. Northampton, C. C. Becke, Northants, South, and Beds. Norwich, L. D. Powles, Norfolk. Nottingham, Dr. F. Oswald, Nottinghamshire. Oxford, T. M. Davenport, Oxon, Berkshire, and Bucks. Peterborough, C. S. Magee, Northamptonshire, North, Huntingdonshire,

and Cambridgeshire. St. Asaph, J. P. Lewis, Flintshire, Denbigh, and Merioneth. Salisbury, H. Elliott Fox, Wiltshire. Shrewsbury, R. K. A. Green, Salop and Montgomery. Taunton, E. T. Alms, Somerset, West. Wakefield, G. Bridgeman, Yorkshire, West Riding. Wells, J. R. Holligan, Somerset, East (except Bath C. C. District). Winchester, C. Wooldridge, Hampshire. Worcester, G. F. Adams, Worcestershire. York, H. A. Hudson, Yorkshire, North and East Riding.

Lambeth Library (30,000 vols., and 14,000 MSS.) is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., and also from April to July (both months inclusive) until 5 P.M. during the forenoon of Tuesdays. It is closed during Easter Week, for seven days from Christmas Day, and for a period of six weeks from the 1st of September. The records and MSS. of this library are specially valuable to the ecclesiologist. It is usual for the student to present his card, and state the object of his visit to the courteous librarian, but no previous written application is required; it is the only London library of primary importance that is emphatically "open to the public."

The College of Arms records and collections, in Queen Victoria Street, are not in any way a public library, as the establishment is entirely supported by fees. Nevertheless, it is not difficult for the student or inquirer to visit the

College, and to profit by its great store of heraldic and genealogical manuscripts. It is usually open, day by day, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. The applicant should present himself at the office in the centre of the building, where he will find the herald and pursuivant who happen to be in waiting that month (they have terms of residence like cathedral canons), who have the sole right to transact his business. Any one, however, who has any personal knowledge or letter of introduction to any individual officer of the Heralds' College, can visit him in his rooms, and there make his application. The writer of these pages spent many happy days at the College, between 1869 and 1879, at the rooms of the ever-courteous Messrs. Planché and Tucker (both now deceased), when reading and copying from Pegge and Bassano's Derbyshire MSS., and from the valuable Talbot papers.

The ordinary search fee on personal application is 5s.; a general search through the records is £2, 2s.; and a general search through the records and collections is £5, 5s. Transcripts of pedigrees are charged 5s. for each generation. It is only by special favour of individual officers that any personal copying or note-taking can be done, and then not from pedigrees. There is no catalogue of the library in print. Sir

Charles Young had a catalogue of the Arundel MSS. printed at his own expense, but it can only be seen at the College. There are, however, two manuscript catalogues of the library in the British Museum, viz. Lansdowne MSS., 689, and Hargrave MSS., 497.

The Guildhall Library (about 150,000 vols.) is most generous in its arrangements. It is open daily to every one over sixteen, on writing their name in a book, from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M., save on Saturdays, when it closes at 6 P.M. It is also closed on Bank Holidays, and for about ten days at the beginning of November. This large library, though meagre in MSS. or particular features of value, has a fine collection of books and pamphlets illustrative of the history and topography of London, and of British topography in general. The extensive collection of works on archæology, architecture, costume, genealogy, and heraldry all tend to make this library desirable for antiquarian or topographical students, particularly as the books are supplied more rapidly than at the British Museum.

The Bodleian Library (500,000 vols., and 30,000 MSS.), Oxford, is open at 9 A.M. throughout the year, closing at 3 P.M. in January, 4 P.M. in February and March, 5 P.M. from April to July inclusive, 4 P.M. in August,

September, and October, and again at 3 P.M. in November and December. It is closed on Sundays from January 1st to 6th, from Good Friday to end of Easter Week, on Ascension Day, on Whitsun Monday and Tuesday, on Commemoration Day, from October 1st to 7th, on November 7th and 8th, and from Christmas Eve to the end of the year. On the days on which it is closed, other than Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Ascension Day, one room may be kept open for the use, under certain restrictions, for persons *studia severiora prosequentes*. There is also a special convenience for hardly pressed students paying a brief visit to Oxford, which is not generally known. The closely adjoining reading-room of the Radcliffe Camera is open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M., except on Saturday evenings. Any one working at the Bodleian can, as a favour, have his books or MSS. carried across to the Radcliffe, where he can work up to ten o'clock at night.

Every graduate of Oxford has the right of entry; but any other person is willingly admitted on a satisfactory letter of recommendation. The privilege, once granted, continues for life. Most of the MSS. have now printed indexes, and the arrangements have of late materially improved.

The Cambridge University Library (300,000 vols., and 5000 MSS.) is not nearly so liberal in its management as that of the sister University. The library is only open from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Saturdays, and from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. on other week-days. It is closed on Sundays, on Christmas Eve and the four following days, and on Thursday before Easter and the five following days, also "on the day next after the September quarter-day, and remains closed until the 23rd of September inclusive for the purpose of an annual inspection." Any one not a member of the University has to present to the Syndicate letters from two members of the Senate, certifying that the applicant is known to them as a student in some specified subject, and is a fit and proper person for admission to the library. Applications are considered by the Syndicate at two successive meetings. If the application is granted, payment has to be made at the rate of £1, 1s. for the year, or 10s. 6d. for the quarter. Notwithstanding this payment, the reader can never remain after 2 P.M.! The ticket of admission expires on October 20th of each year, when the process has to be gone through again. Fortunately the Cambridge MSS. are not nearly so numerous nor so interesting to the local annalist as those of Oxford.

Library of the Society of Antiquaries.—We have received no permission, nor have we asked for it, to make mention of the admirable topographical and archæological library of the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House (nearly 50,000 vols.); but under the new and generous government of the Society, there is practically no doubt that any genuine worker, provided with a suitable letter of introduction from a Fellow, would be welcomed with kindly help by the Assistant Secretary (Mr. St. John Hope), and by the clerk (Mr. Clinch). As, however, this is essentially a Library for the Fellows, nothing is here said as to times and seasons for opening.

Before proceeding to definite sections, certain books of general utility may here with advantage be mentioned, viz. J. J. Bond's "Handbook of Rules and Tables for verifying Dates in the Christian Era" (Selby's edition, 1887); Godwin's "English Archæologist's Handbook," of some value, though much out of date (Parker, 1867); "Wilde's Illustrated Catalogue of the Antiquities in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy" (Gill, Dublin, 1857–61), a book of 642 pages, divided into stone, earthen, vegetable, mineral, and metallic remains; "Catalogue of the National Museum of Antiquities," excellently illustrated, and issued by the Society

of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1893; the admirable "Guide to the Mediæval Room," British Museum, of 300 pages (1907) and 200 illustrations, price 1s. 6d.; "A Key to English Antiquities," E. G. Armitage (1897); and "Handbook to English Antiquities," by G. Clinch (1905).

Another hint that will probably be found useful is to carefully study local antiquities whenever accessible; an object-lesson is often more instructive than the closest reading of literature. Some counties and districts of England are fortunate in their museums; but others are distinctly unfortunate, and a long way behind France, Germany, Switzerland, and other parts of the Continent. The *Antiquary* began a useful series of "Notes on Archæology in Provincial Museums," in Vol. XXIII. (1891). Up to the beginning of 1895, when the series was discontinued, the following museums had been described: Bath, Brighton, Bristol, Caerleon, Callaby Castle, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Cirencester, Denstone, Derby, Driffield, Durham, Farnham, Gloucester, Hereford, Ilkley, Leicester, Lichfield, Ludlow, Northampton, Reading, Salisbury, Sheffield, Shrewsbury, South Shields, Sunderland, Warrington, and York.

There has been a most marked improvement

in provincial museums since the date of the last edition of this book (1895); at that time we ventured to instance Northampton and Leicester as two of the best for local arrangement, but they have been by now at least equalled, if not rivalled, by several others.

In 1904 Dr. David Murray produced a most valuable and comprehensive work, in three volumes, entitled "Museums, their History and Use," which will long remain the standard work on the subject. At the end of the first volume is a full list of museums in the United Kingdom, with brief observations on each as to their contents and bibliography.

A Museum Association was formed in 1890, which continues to hold annual meetings at different dates. It may sometimes be useful to consult the Journal of the Association, which is edited by Mr. E. Howarth, of the Sheffield Public Museum.

Here, too, may be mentioned a book of infinite value to the student in connection with a great variety of antiquarian and historical subjects. We refer to "The Sources and Literature of English History" (1900), by Charles Gross, a Professor of Harvard University. A new edition is in course of preparation.

ETYMOLOGY AND MAPS

NOT only should the etymology of the name of the parish be carefully considered, and its various forms of spelling be collected, from Domesday Book downwards, but a list should be made of the whole of the names of physical features, such as hills, streams, and lanes, and especially of the field-names. Field-names—which will often establish the sites of disused chapels or manor-houses, of Celtic burials or Roman roads, as well as help to decide the nationality of the later colonists that predominated in the district—can be sometimes gleaned from old private estate maps, or other exceptional sources, but the "Award" maps of Inclosure Commissioners from 1710 downwards, or the Tithe Commutation maps of about 1840, are the chief and most reliable sources. In almost every instance the Inclosure Award directs that a copy of the award and plan shall be deposited in the parish chest, another with the Clerk of the Peace for the county, and a third at some court of record at

Westminster now (P. R. O.). As a rule, however, these maps have often illegally strayed into the private hands of solicitors, estate agents, churchwardens, &c., and are hopelessly lost. Out of 147 awards that ought to have been in the parish chests of Derbyshire, we found that only 31 were there preserved. The whole, however, of these awards, and most of the plans or maps, are in the hands of the Derbyshire Clerk of the Peace. Many of the Tithe Commutation maps are also missing from like causes. When lost or difficult of access, the original maps can usually be seen at the offices of the Copyhold Inclosure and Tithe Commission, 3 St. James's Square, on payment of 2s. 6d.

The Local Government Act, 1894, gives the custody of Inclosure Awards to the Parish Council or Meeting, but the Tithe Maps still stay with the incumbent and churchwardens.

The best handbooks on local etymology are Isaac Taylor's "Words and Places" (3rd edition, 1873) and his "Names and their Histories" (1896) and Flavell Edmund's "Names of Places" (1872). Heinrich Leo on "The Local Nomenclature of the Anglo-Saxons" (1852), R. S. Charnock's "Local Etymology and Derivative Dictionary" (1859), and R. Ferguson's "River Names" (1862)

and "Teutonic Name System" (1864), may also be consulted with advantage. There were also a variety of papers and small books of greater or less value, dealing with the place-names of a single county; the two best of these are by W. W. Skeat on "Hants" (1904), and by W. H. Duignan on "Staffordshire" (1902).

No parish history should be produced without a map. Now that the new Ordnance Survey has been completed on so generous a scale for the whole of the United Kingdom, a map can generally be produced without the cost of any special survey. It should be of size sufficiently large to mark all field-names. It would be well, too, if all obsolete names were marked in a different type; whilst disused footpaths or bridle-roads, as well as any changes of the physical characteristics, might also be noted.

It might also be an advantage to make use of the symbols recently adopted by the Society of Antiquaries in their archæological surveys of Kent, Hertfordshire, Cumberland and Westmoreland, Herefordshire, Lancashire, Essex, and other counties. These valuable surveys, consisting of maps and descriptive letterpress, can be obtained of the Society by the public at 5s. each.

The still more definite surveys of the Victoria County History scheme should also be carefully studied, for in those schemes separate maps are given to illustrate the respective remains of prehistoric times, of the Roman occupation, and of the Anglo-Saxon period.

PREHISTORIC REMAINS

IF there are any so-called "Druidical" or megalithic remains in the parish, it would be well to carefully digest James Fergusson's "Rude Stone Monuments" (1872), a most comprehensive work, though his conceptions as to the comparatively recent origin of the greater part of them meets now with but little approval.

The best work on tumuli, or barrows, is Canon Greenwell's "British Barrows" (1887); see also T. Bateman's "Ten Years' Diggings in Celtic and Saxon Grave Hills," and L. Jewitt's "Grave Mounds and their Contents." Of more modern books, by far the most valuable is J. R. Mortimer's "Forty Years' Researches in the Burial Mounds of East Yorkshire" (1905). Barrows are divided into two classes, the long and the round. The former were the work of the earlier short-statured long-skulled people; whilst the latter, which are far more numerous, were the burial-places of the succeeding round-skulled race of taller stature. On the craniology of the prehistoric and succeeding periods, Thurman and

Davis's *Crania Britannica* (1865) should be consulted. "Prehistoric Times," by Sir John Lubbock, now Lord Avebury (5th ed., 1890), and Professor Boyd Dawkins' "Early Man in Britain" (1880), are the standard general works on the subject of our more remote ancestors. The two last essays of Sir John Lubbock's "Scientific Lectures" give a popular account of that branch of prehistoric archæology which deals with the palæolithic and neolithic periods, *i.e.* with the races who respectively used the chipped and ground weapons of stone. "Prehistoric Europe," by James Geikie (1884), may also be read on the same subject. Sir John Evans' "Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain" (1872) and "Ancient Bronze Implements of Great Britain" (1881) are authoritative works. A handbook was published by Swan Sonnenschein, in 1892, entitled "The Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages." It is fairly well illustrated, but gives no references, and must not be accepted as in any way authoritative or up to date. "The Story of Primitive Times," by Mr. Edward Clodd, a thoroughly accurate outline of the subject, is a wonderful shillingsworth (1895). "The Origins of Invention: a Study of Industry among Primitive Peoples," by Otis T. Mason (1895), is another most desirable book; the chapters on tools and

mechanical devices, on stone working, and on the early potter's art are admirable.

Later works of value on the same subjects are H. N. Hutchinson's "Prehistoric Man and Beast" (1896) and Dr. R. Munro's "Prehistoric Problems" (1897). Three recent Guides put forth by the Trustees of the British Museum are excellent, most fully illustrated, and remarkably cheap; they are "The Antiquities of the Stone Age," 1s. (1902); "The Antiquities of the Bronze Age," 1s. (1904); and "The Antiquities of the Early Iron Age," 1s. (1905). These three Guides are, of course, in the first instance, descriptive of the collections in the great Museum, but they are also of much value as general handbooks. Edwin Guest's work entitled *Origines Celticæ* (1883), in two volumes, will not be readily superseded; but by far the best recent comprehensive volume is Professor B. C. A. Windle's "Remains of the Prehistoric Life in England" (1904), wherein lists of the remains in different counties are for the first time classified; a second edition is now in the press. "Celtic Art in Pagan and Christian Times" (1904), by Mr. J. Romilly Allen, is also of much value. There is so much forgery in prehistoric antiquities, as well as crass ignorance, that it is not amiss to read Dr. R. Munro's "Archæology and False Antiquities" (1895). These last three volumes form part

of Methuen's Antiquary's Books series, under the editorship of the writer of this manual.

If the parish contains any bone caves, or deposits of that character, Professor Boyd Dawkins' "Cave Hunting" (1874) should be read.

The new and highly interesting branch of early archæology, which concerns itself with "Lake Dwellings," not only appertains to Switzerland and other parts of continental Europe, but is now found to have left its traces in Yorkshire and Somersetshire, as well as in parts of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. As the subject is more closely investigated and understood, it may confidently be expected that many a low-lying English parish will yield traces of these singularly contrived dwellings of our forefathers. The best books on the question are Lee's translation of Keller's "Lake Dwellings" (2 vols., 1878), and Dr. Munro's masterly work on the "Lake Dwellings of Europe" (Cassell, 1890). "The British Lake Village near Glastonbury" is the title of an excellent illustrated shilling pamphlet (Barnicott and Pearce, Taunton, 1895), which contains papers by Messrs. Munro, Dawkins, Arthur Evans, and Bulleid.

Before ever the conquering Romans covered England with a network of military or quasi-military roads of five different types, the later

inhabitants of early Britain gradually formed great intertribal roads, which formed the main lines of communication through the island. Earthworks were grouped to defend these roadways, or to hold the tribal boundaries. As the popular idea confuses these British main roads with those of Roman origin (though the Romans frequently utilised the older roads), and hence has no grasp on the pre-Roman history of a large portion of our country districts through which these ancient ways passed, it will be as well here to give, in the most condensed form, the names and routes of the five old main roads undoubtedly used by the British.

I. *The Watling Street* started from Richborough, and proceeded by London and Worcester to Festiniog; thence it branched in two directions—the left leading to Ireland by Carnarvon, and the right to Scotland by Chester, Manchester, and Corbridge.

II. *The Ikenield Street*, from the coast of the country of the Iceni, near the Wash, by Newmarket and Dunstable, to Streatley; thence it divided into two—the right branch to Avebury, by the Berkshire ridgeway, and the left to the Land's End by Newbury, Old Sarum, Dorchester, Honiton, Exeter, and Totnes.

III. *The Akeman Street*, from the eastern counties, through Bedford, Buckingham,

Alcester, Woodstock, Cirencester, Aust (where it crossed the Severn), Caerleon, Cardiff, Caermarthen, to St. David's.

IV. *The Ryknield Street*, from the Tyne, by Bruchester, Boroughbridge, Aldborough, Ribston, Bolton, Chesterfield, Derby (Little Chester), Burton, Wall, Birmingham, Tewkesbury, Gloucester, Chepstow, and so by Abergavenny and Caermarthen to St. David's.

V. *The Ermyn Street*, from Scotland, by Berwick, Brampton, and Corbridge to Catarick, where it divided; the western branch used the Ryknield way to Aldborough, and thence to Doncaster, Southwell, and Staveley, where it rejoined its own eastern branch, which had proceeded from Catarick by Northallerton, Stamford Bridge, Lincoln, and Ancaster. Thence the road ran by Stamford, Chesterton, Royston, and Enfield to London. At London it again divided, the western branch going by Dorking and Pullborough to Chichester; and the eastern branch by Bromley, Tunbridge, Wadhurst, and Eastbourne to Pevensey.

With regard to Early Man, it would also be well to consult the recent special essays on this subject for the various counties under the Victoria County History scheme; most of them have been contributed by Professor Boyd Dawkins or by Mr. George Clinch.

EARTHWORKS

A BRANCH of antiquities to which much systematic attention has been paid during recent years, since the issue of the last edition, is that of early Earthworks, which are to be found in all parts of England. It will be the duty of the parish historian to examine carefully all artificial raisings of the ground, whether small or great, never to rest content with accepting wild guesses as to their origin, and, if possible, to test their nature by driving trenches through them, minutely noting all remains. Some will prove to be mere refuse heaps from lead mining, or from stone or gravel getting, and not infrequently of comparatively modern date; other hillside trenches or terracing may be mere accumulations of earth caused by old methods of cultivation or tillage, usually termed lynches or linchets. But in very many instances earthworks are of great interest, and more pertain to prehistoric times than to the Roman or Anglo-Saxon and Danish periods.

In 1903 a competent committee, appointed

by the Congress of Archæological Societies, drew up a scheme for the investigation and classification of old earthworks, other than those which are boundary banks or prolonged entrenchments and burial mounds. This scheme recommended the classification of defensive earthworks under the following heads :—

A. Fortresses partly inaccessible, by reason of precipices, cliffs, or water, additionally defended by artificial banks or walls.

B. Fortresses on hilltops, with artificial defences, following the natural line of the hill.

C. Rectangular or other simple enclosures, including forts and towns of the Roman-British period.

D. Forts consisting only of a mound, with encircling ditch or fosse.

E. Fortified mounts, either artificial or partly natural, with traces of an attached court or bailey, or of two or more such courts.

F. Homestead moats, such as abound in some lowland districts, consisting of simple enclosures formed into artificial islands by water moats.

The Victoria County History Syndicate has already published in its numerous volumes comprehensive essays on the earthworks of various counties, based upon this scheme of classification. One of the best experts in such matters, the late Mr. T. Chalkley Gould, contributed the accounts and lists for Durham, Essex, Hereford, and Kent; Mr. George Clinch those for Bucks and Suffolk; Mr. J. Charles Wall those for Devonshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, and Shropshire; Dr. Cox for Derbyshire; and other writers for those of Berks, Beds, Herts, Lancashire, Northants, Oxfordshire, and Warwickshire.

Meanwhile two distinctly valuable works on the science of Earthworks have been recently issued by the press, both in 1908—the one an authoritative work (though with some blunders) of 700 pages, by Mr. A. H. Allcroft, entitled "Earthworks of England, Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, Danish, Norman, and Mediæval"; the other an admirable, trustworthy manual of 150 pages, well illustrated by Mr. J. Charles Wall, called "Ancient Earthworks." The latter small book cannot fail to be of much use to those who cannot afford to purchase an expensive volume; its price is only 2s. 6d.

ROMANO-BRITISH PERIOD

THERE is abundant room for a handbook entirely devoted to this period, so extensive has been the fresh information gained in the last half-century, and particularly during the last decade, on the Roman occupation of Britain. This want will soon be supplied, for Mr. John Ward, F.S.A., the Curator of the Welsh Museum and a first-class authority, has two volumes in the press, covering the whole field, which will be issued as part of the Antiquary Books series during 1910. As it is, there is nothing of a popular character that has been published to surpass or to supersede the late Thomas Wright's "The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon" (5th edition, Kegan Paul). The great roads, the stations, the camps, the towns, the villages, the manufactures, the coinage, the religion, the modes of sepulture, and the domestic life of that period are well and graphically described. It must, however, be remembered that this book is quite out of date with regard to the Bronze Age.

The late General Pitt-Rivers brought out four grand quarto volumes, nobly illustrated (1887–98), which are chiefly concerned with the Romano-British villages that have been upturned on his estates on Cranborne Chase, at Rushmore, Bakerly, &c., on the confines of Wilts and Dorset. These volumes are privately printed, but can be seen at most libraries of any degree of archæological repute, through the author's generosity. Since his death a few sets are at the disposal of Mr. Batsford, 94 High Holborn.

What General Pitt-Rivers accomplished for village life during the period of the Roman occupation, the Society of Antiquaries have accomplished for town life, as opposed to camp or military settlement, during the same era. In 1890 the Society of Antiquaries published the first of their careful and excellently illustrated reports on the systematic excavation of the site of Silchester. A succession of annual reports have been printed; they are admirable of their kind, and can be obtained by the general public at 2s. 6d. a part, on application to the assistant secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House. This excellent work has been brought to a conclusion, after twenty years of summer labour, this year (1909).

If any discovery of Romano-British pottery or other relics is made in the parish, it is far better to see and study like objects, as well as to read about them, before attempting their description. It may be as well, then, to mention that, in addition to what can be seen at the British Museum and at the Guildhall Museum, London, the best provincial collections of objects illustrative of this period are to be found in the museums of Reading (where the Silchester finds are deposited), Colchester, Leicester, York, and Cirencester; York is exceptionally rich in all that pertains to methods of interment.

The late Mr. Thomas Morgan, F.S.A., published a good book on "Romano-British Mosaic Pavements" in 1886 (Whiting & Co.).

General Roy's "Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain" (1793) is the best work on the military side of the question, though additional and more accurate information has been obtained since its publication.

If there is any trace of Roman or other early mines in the parish, a careful digest on the subject, entitled "Mining Operations of the Romans in England and Wales," should be consulted. This paper was read by Dr. Cox, as president of the historical section of the Royal Archæological Institute meeting at

Shrewsbury, in July 1894, and appears in the *Archæological Journal* for 1895.

With regard to inscriptions, if information is desired as to any in the parish, or if there should be the good fortune of discovering a new one, the great work to be consulted in the largest libraries is Professor Hübner's *Inscriptiones Britanniæ Romanæ. Lapidarium Septentrionale* gives a noble description of the monuments of Roman rule in the North of England. It can be obtained of the secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne, at the price of seven guineas. The same society issue a good illustrated catalogue of the "Inscribed and Sculptured Stones of the Roman Period" in their museum, at the modest price of 2s. 6d. The Black Gate Museum, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, are far the best for Roman inscriptions; there is a good description of the latter in "Roman Remains in Chester" (A. Ireland & Co., 1888), by the late J. G. Earwaker, F.S.A.

J. C. Bruce's "Handbook to the Roman Wall" (1895) and H. M. Scarth's "Roman Britain" (1883) are small books that well maintain their original value, though in parts superseded.

Two of the best of the more recent books on

the roads of Roman construction are U. A. Forbes and A. C. Burmester's "Our Roman Highways" (1902), and T. Codrington's "Roman Roads in Britain" (1905).

Professor Haverfield, F.S.A., is admittedly the best-informed all-round exponent of the four centuries when Britain was under the rule of the Roman Empire. His recent detailed papers on Romano-British remains in the counties of Derby, Hants, Norfolk, Northampton, Somerset, Warwick, and Worcester, which have appeared in the Victoria County Histories, are models of research and accurate information. The counties of Berks, Bucks, Hereford, and Leicester have been treated after a like exhaustive fashion by other writers in the same scheme.

ANGLO-SAXON REMAINS

IN addition to Anglo-Saxon dykes, and the not infrequent remains of Christian architecture from the eighth to the eleventh centuries, the various races of invaders that are usually summarised under this generic head left abundant traces of their settlement throughout England in connection with their interments. The sepulchral urns of this period differ altogether from those of preceding epochs. Mr. Godwin, in his "Archæologist's Handbook," was able in 1867 to draw up a list of 106 Saxon cemeteries, pertaining respectively to the East Angles, Mid Angles and Mercians, West Saxons, North Angles, and Jutes, scattered throughout the counties of Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Cambridge, Derby, Durham, Essex, Gloucester, Kent, Leicester, Lincoln, Norfolk, Northampton, Nottingham, Oxford, Suffolk, Warwick, Wilts, and Yorks. Since then, at least fifty other cemeteries have come to light, and there are, undoubtedly, many more awaiting discovery. With the remains of men are generally found war spears

and knives, and the umbos of shields; and with the women fine fibulæ, glass and amber and earthenware beads, tweezers, and other small bronze objects.

The two best books on the subject, both finely illustrated, are Neville's "Saxon Obsequies," illustrated by ornaments and weapons (1852), and Akerman's "Remains of Pagan Saxondom" (1855).

The *Inventorium Sepulchrale* of Bryan Faussett, written between 1757 and 1773, was published in 1856, with an introduction and notes by Mr. Roach Smith, F.S.A., and chiefly relates to Anglo-Saxon interments. Between 1843 and 1868 Mr. Roach Smith produced, under the title of *Collectanea Antiqua*, a series of seven volumes, in which Anglo-Saxon archæology plays a very important part. The same may be said of Mr. George Payne's *Collectanea Cantiana* (1893).

If but a single volume on the Anglo-Saxon period be desired, we can cordially recommend "The Industrial Arts of the Anglo-Saxons" (Swan Sonnenschein, 1893), by Baron J. de Baye, which has recently been translated. It has seventeen plates as well as many cuts in the text. This fine work is thoroughly comprehensive and reliable. It deals with the invaders of Great Britain in the fifth century,

divided into Jutes, Saxons, Angles, Frisians, and Anglo-Saxons; with Anglo-Saxon arms, the sword, spear, augon, scramasaxe, battle-axe, bow and arrows, and shield; with Anglo-Saxon fibulæ (radiated, S-shaped, bird-shaped, cruciform, square-headed, saucer-shaped, annular, and Kentish circular) and cloisonné jewellery; with chatelaines or girdle-hangers; with necklaces, glass beads, and crystal balls; with earrings, hairpins, and combs; with buckles and steels; with buckets or situlæ; with glass vases; with pottery; and with the general subject of Anglo-Saxon graves.

In April 1891 Dr. Cox described to the Society of Antiquaries the uncovering of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Saxby, Leicestershire. The rich variety of patterns on the cinerary urns are illustrated in the Leicestershire Archæological Society's *Transactions*. Side by side with the ashes of those who had been cremated were the extended interments of others, who were probably Christians. In the same year other interments of this period were discovered at Castleacre, Norfolk. A richly furnished Anglo-Saxon grave came to light in 1894 at Teynham, Kent. Certain highly interesting discoveries of this period were made in the borough of Croydon in 1895, during the construction of Eldridge

Road. In 1899 Dr. Cox uncovered thirteen interments, accompanied by an interesting series of weapons and ornaments, at Coneybury Hill, Holdenby, Northants; an account of these discoveries appeared in the *Athenæum* of 11th November. In the same year excavations in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Northfleet, Kent, brought to light some gold ornaments. Further gold ornaments were found by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon in a cemetery of this period in 1901, at North Luffenham, Rutland. There have been a few more recent finds of minor importance.

Particular attention is given to this period in the Victoria County Histories, accompanied in each case by a map and numerous illustrations. Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, the best general expert on the subject, has contributed the letterpress. Special articles from his pen have so far appeared with regard to the Anglo-Saxon remains of the counties of Beds, Bucks, Devon, Essex, Hants, Herts, Kent, Leicester, Norfolk, Northants, Notts, Rutland, Somerset, Suffolk, Surrey, Warwick, and Worcester. Other contributors have written on the counties of Derby, Durham, and Lancaster.

THE NORSEMAN AND THE DANE

THE rule of the Saxon settlers in England was threatened at the end of the eighth century by armed fleets under Jutish or Danish leaders, and before the middle of the ninth century the whole of our coast-line and most of the adjoining low-lying districts along the English Channel and St. George's Channel had been ravaged by the invaders. At first they sought only slaves, horses, and general plunder, but soon began to make permanent camps for winter quarters on headlands. Methodical settlement began in 876. The Northumbrian kingdom was in the hands of the Northmen, the East English in those of the Danes, whilst the eastern half of Mercia was also overcome by the Scandinavians. The West Saxons at that time alone held their own.

The areas settled by the Northmen and the Danes can easily be settled by the place-names on the maps and the field-names on parochial surveys. Those parts, such as Derbyshire, where the new invaders only partially established

themselves, present a most interesting variety of names in closely contiguous valleys.

It is highly important, for various reasons, for the parochial historian to recollect the fifteen shires that composed the Danelagh or parts subject to Dane law, so that he may know what was once the condition of things in his own district. It will, therefore, be useful to give the following list of these shires, taken from Dr. Traill's "Social England" (1893), vol. i. chap. 2.

Middlesex and Essex.—Saxon land, settled chiefly by Danes.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—East English land, settled chiefly by Danes.

Bucks, Bedford, Herts, Northampton, Cambridge, and Huntingdon.—Land of English of the March, settled chiefly by Danes, but also by Northmen.

Lincoln, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, and Stamford districts.—Land of English of the March, settled chiefly by Northmen.

Yorkshire, and part of Durham.—North English land, settled chiefly by Northmen. Within these shires were many English or Saxon districts, but they all followed the Dane law instead of their own Saxon, Mercian, or Northumbrian laws. Contrariwise, there were considerable settlements of Northmen and Danes in Northumberland and Holderness.

A line drawn from Ness's mouth to Rugby, from Rugby to Skipton, and from Skipton to Preston, would be the southern line of the country where the English hundred division is represented by the Northmen's wapentake.

This irruption of Norse invaders did much to check building and other arts, with the result that the distinctive archæological remains of that period are but comparatively few, and somewhat difficult to identify. Worsaae's "Primeval Antiquities of Denmark," translated and applied to the illustration of similar remains in England, by W. G. Thoms, is of value, though it mainly relates to prehistoric times; but the same learned professor's work, entitled "An Account of the Danes and Norwegians in England, Scotland, and Ireland" (1852), is of much interest, and of special value with regard to those parishes that were within the Danelagh district. "Lincolnshire and the Danes" (1883), by Rev. G. S. Streatfield, is also worth studying. R. Ferguson wrote a good treatise on "The Northmen in Cumberland and Westmoreland," in 1856, chiefly based on the treatises of Worsaae. In a delightful book, published in 1892, by the Rev. M. C. F. Morris, rector of Nunburnholme, called "Yorkshire Folk-Talk," the strong resemblance between the East Riding dialect and the Danish language is pointed out.

THE MANOR AND THE RECORD OFFICE

THE ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE, and other old English chronicles, should be consulted for possibly early mention of the parish. Most of these have been cheaply printed in an English dress in Bohn's Antiquarian Series. In J. M. Kemble's "Saxons in England" (2 vols., 1849) will be found a good list of the old tribal divisions into "marks"; but all that Kemble advances with regard to the mark, shire, and hundred has to be received with caution in the light of later knowledge. Thorpe's *Diplomatarium Anglicum Ævi Saxonici* is an admirable collection of early charters (with translations); some of the wills contain many place-names; the volume is indifferently indexed. Mr. Walter de Gray Birch has since published a series of Anglo-Saxon Charters (*Chartularium Saxonicum*, 3 vols.), which yield much additional information.

THE DOMESDAY BOOK, the survey for which was completed in 1086, is now preserved at the Public Record Office. It gives particulars of all the different manors throughout the shires

of England, excepting those of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham. Lancashire does not appear under its proper name; but Furness and the northern part of Lancashire, together with the south of Westmoreland, and a small part of Cumberland, are included within the West Riding of Yorkshire. The part of Lancashire which lies between the Ribble and the Mersey, and which then included nearly seven hundred manors, is joined to Cheshire. Part of Rutland is described under the counties of Northampton and Lincoln. A small part of Derbyshire is given at the beginning of Nottinghamshire. The Survey was printed in two large volumes in 1783, and a third volume of indexes and introductory matter added in 1811. A valuable "General Introduction" was published in 1832, in two volumes, by Sir Henry Ellis. "Domesday Studies" (2 vols., 1888) contains the papers read at the meeting of the Domesday Commemoration held in 1886; but the best essays on the Survey are undoubtedly those contained in Round's "Feudal England" (Sonnenschein, 1895).

The Ordnance Survey in 1863 completed a *fac-simile* edition of the Domesday Book, produced by photo-zincography, which can be obtained in separate counties. The extended

text and translation of most counties can also be procured.

The Book of Exeter and the Book of Ely are of the same date, and no doubt copied from the same returns as Domesday Book itself, but they contain many more details. The former, preserved at Exeter Cathedral, comprises the counties of Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall; the latter, now in the British Museum, relates to Cambridge, Hertford, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Huntingdon. The Book of Winchester (Society of Antiquaries) relates to that important borough; it was compiled between 1107 and 1128. The Bolton Book is a survey of the county palatinate of Durham taken in 1183; there are three copies, two at Durham and one at the Bodleian. These four minor surveys were printed by the Record Commissioners in one volume in 1816.

The best Domesday student of last century was the Rev. M. W. Eyton, the Shropshire antiquary and historian. He produced "A Key to Domesday, showing the method and exactitude of its measurements . . . as illustrated by the Dorset Survey" (1878), "Domesday Studies . . . Somerset" (2 vols., 1880), and "Domesday Studies . . . Staffordshire" (1881).

It is difficult, however, to exaggerate the flood of light that has been thrown upon the value and interest of Domesday during the last few years by Mr. Round in the long and lucid introductions to the Survey which he has written for several of the Victoria County History series. Mr. Round's essays have appeared in the first volumes of the counties of Berks, Beds, Bucks, Essex, Hants, Hereford, Herts, Northants, Somerset, Suffolk, Warwick, and Worcester. The like essays in other volumes have undergone Mr. Round's revision.

By far the best single volume on this subject, which is, as a rule, the initial stage of manorial history, is the recent book termed "The Domesday Inquest" (1906), by Mr. Adolphus Ballard.

KNIGHTS' FEES.—When England was subdivided by the Conqueror among his vassals, the feudal custom of supplying the crown with a certain number of knights was imposed upon them. The number of knights that had to be furnished was specified in the infeoffment. These knights, in their turn, held lands from the immediate tenants of the crown, which were owned by homage, fealty, and a great variety of tenures, as well as by direct payments in money. Some tenures were merely nominal, such as a grain of cummin, or a red

rose; others were of more or less value, such as a pair of white gloves, a tun of wine, a gold spur, or a silver salver; and others by such service as holding the lord's stirrup, keeping a pack of hounds, &c., &c. See Blount's "Ancient Tenures." The lands of these knights were termed "Fees," and composed the barony of a crown vassal. A knight's fee was supposed to be so much land as would suffice to maintain him, and to enable him to present himself and his retainers ready equipped for the field in times of emergency. Hence a "Knight's Fee," as applied to land, represents no definite quantity, but a variable amount, generally between one and five hundred acres of cultivatable land. In Staffordshire, the "Knight's Fee" averaged 3000 acres, but this was inclusive of wood and waste. The term is also sometimes used for the rent paid to the lord for the fee. The essay on Knight's Service in Round's "Feudal England" (1895) is full of information and careful deductions.

It is easy, then, to see that it became essential to the Crown, both for monetary and judicial purposes, as well national as local, to know from time to time the exact position of their vassals and sub-vassals. Hence, inquisitions were made up and down the country before local sworn juries, and the barons made

returns of that which they held, and which was held under them. These returns are among the earliest of our national records ; and, though brief, are invaluable, from their absolute authenticity, to the genealogist and local historian. The chief documents of this class are the *Black Book of the Exchequer*, *temp.* Henry II., the original of which (a small quarto of eighty-five folios of vellum) is in the P. R. O. ; but three manuscript copies are in the B. M., C., and B. respectively, and it was published (but imperfectly, and not from the original) by Hearn, in two vols. 8vo, in the eighteenth century. *The Red Book of the Exchequer*, containing the scutages levied between 1155 and 1211 ; the *Scutage* and the *Marshall Rolls*, *temp.* Edw. I. & II., P. R. O.; *Kirby's Quest*, giving an account of the knights' fees held from the King *in capite* or from others, according to inquisitions taken by John de Kirkeby, the King's treasurer, in 1296; various lists of tenants *in capite* in our different public libraries; and, most important, the *Testa de Nevill*, or Liber Feodorum. The last mentioned of these documents consists of two ancient volumes, compiled *temp.* Edw. II., now in the P. R. O. They consist of inquisitions, taking *temp.* Henry III. and Edw. I., respecting the fees held immediately or otherwise of the King,

throughout the whole of England, excepting the counties of Cambridge, Cheshire, Durham, Lancashire, and Monmouthshire. These records were officially printed in one vol., folio, in 1807 ; there are many errors in the spelling of place-names, but these can for the most part be readily detected by any one having local knowledge. Another folio volume, printed in 1802, is the *Nonarum Inquisitiones;* it is of some value, and may, perhaps, be fairly included under the head of knights' fees. It consists, in the main, of the finding upon oath by the parishioners, of the value of the ninth lamb, fleece, and sheep, and in cities and boroughs of the ninth of goods and chattels, which by an Act of 14 Edw. III. were to be levied as a tax for two years towards the expenditure in the Scotch and French wars. The rolls abound in the names of jurymen, commissioners, and landowners. The published volume only contains the returns from twenty-seven counties, but the Nona Rolls for most of the missing ones, *e.g.* Derby, Hertford, Northumberland, and Warwick, have since been found. MS. indexes of these will be found in the small books lettered "Exchequer Subsidies" in the search room of the P. R. O.

A detailed account of the Nona Rolls, both

printed and unprinted, is contained in the "Inventory of Accounts," printed in the Second Report, P. R. O., App. II., pp. 132–189.

There are four bundles of Returns of Knights' Fees (*Exchequer K. R.*), extending from Henry II. to Charles I.; there are also three bundles of like returns among the Duchy of Lancaster records, extending from Henry III. to Charles I.

Revenue Rolls.—Under this head some of the more important of our national documents have to be briefly considered. They are the rolls by means of which the Crown revenue was accounted for at the Pipe Office of the Court of Exchequer. The title of this office was derived from the fancied resemblance of its functions to those of a pipe or conduit. "For as water is conveyed from many fountains and springs by a pipe into the cistern of a house, and from thence into the several offices of the same, so this golden and silver stream is drawn from several courts (as fountains of justice and other springs of revenue), reduced and collected into one pipe, and by that conveyed into the cistern of his Majesty's Receipt."

The Great Rolls of the Exchequer, otherwise called the *Pipe Rolls*, are all but perfect from 2 Henry II. to the present time; and there is one roll of 31 Henry I., the oldest

national document now extant after the Domesday Book. They relate to the revenues of the Crown, digested under the heads of the several counties, and contain the yearly charge against the sheriffs as drawn up and engrossed by the Clerk of the Pipe. They are of much interest and utility in early pedigrees, and relate to a far wider range of subjects than Crown lands, as the Crown revenues come from so great a diversity of sources. An interesting paper, which conclusively proves the supreme importance of the Pipe Rolls to the local historian, was contributed to the eighth volume of the *Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological Society*. The originals are in the P. R. O., but most of the rolls are in duplicate at the B. M. Several volumes of transcripts are in the B. M. and B. The rolls for the 31 Henry I., 2, 3, and 4 Henry II., 1 Richard I., and 3 John have been published by the Record Commissioners. A "Pipe Roll Society" was established in 1883, for privately continuing the printing of these rolls, and other early records up to 1200. It has already issued twenty-nine volumes, and well deserves support. The last volume gives the Pipe Roll for 26 Henry II. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. C. T. Martin, of the Public Record Office. The subscription is £1, 1s. The

Society published in 1884 a useful introduction to the study of these rolls, with a full list of abbreviations, and a glossary.

The *Originalia Rolls* are described in the Public Records Report as "the Estreats transmitted from the Court of Chancery into this (Exchequer) office, of all grants of the Crown enrolled on the patent and other rolls, whereon any rent is reserved, any salary payable, or any service performed." These rolls begin early in the reign of Henry III., and extend to 1837. An abstract, in two folio volumes, of the *Originalia* from 20 Henry III. to the end of Edward III., was published by the Record Commissioners in 1805. Similar abstracts from 1 Richard II. to end of James II. were prepared for printing, but never published; the MS. of this work is in the B. M. An index to the *Originalia* was published in 1793, by Mr. Edward Jones, in two folio volumes. Those who have had occasion to use Mr. Jones' index know that the judgment, "very useful, but very imperfect," is true in each particular. There is a fairly accurate and full MS. calendar to these notes, from Edward I. to Elizabeth, entitled "References to Originals."

Other Revenue Rolls are the *Chancellor's Rolls*, 36 Henry III. to 5 William IV.; *Ex-annual Rolls*, Edward I. to 4 George III.;

Foreign Account Rolls, Henry III. to Charles II.; and *Reversion Rolls*, Edward III. to Henry VIII.

CHANCERY ROLLS.—Under this head are included all those various and important classes of documents, relative to both home and foreign affairs, of which the Lord Chancellor had official cognizance. Its chief subdivisions are the Close, Patent, Charter, and Fine Rolls.

The difference between the documents entered on the Close Rolls and the Patent Rolls is that royal letters patent were delivered *open*, with the Great Seal appended, and were supposed to be of a public nature and addressed to all the king's subjects; whilst the Close Rolls contain entries of such instruments as were despatched *closed* or sealed up, and were of a more private nature.

The *Close Rolls* begin in 1204. From that time to 11 Henry III., they have been printed in full in two folio volumes, fully indexed, and with an admirable introduction by Sir Thomas Hardy. The Latin text in full has recently been printed in three volumes from 1227 to 1237. An inventory of these rolls from John to Elizabeth has been printed—Second Report, App. II., pp. 17–24; Third Report, App. II., pp. 148–151; and Fourth Report, App. II., pp. 99–103. There are eighty-four

manuscript volumes of indexes, from John to 1848.

Excellent Calendars of the Close Rolls, from the beginning of Edward I.'s reign onward, continue to be printed year by year. At the present time (October 1909) the following have been issued :—

Edward I., 1272–1307, five vols.
Edward II., 1307–1327, four vols.
Edward III., 1327–1360, ten vols.

These rolls are of infinite variety and importance. Among the subjects treated of are—Royal Prerogatives, Homage, Fealty, Knight's Service, Treasure Trove, Gold and Silver Mining, Bail and Pardons, Livery of Lands, Assignment of Dowers, Wardship of Minors, Repairs of Bridges, &c., &c. They often, therefore, contain unexpected fragments of local history connected with apparently insignificant parishes, and are even more fruitful than the better known Patent Rolls.

The *Patent Rolls* begin with 3 John, and are fairly perfect up to the present time. On them are entered all grants of lands, offices, honours, pensions, and particulars of individual or corporate privileges, &c., &c. These invaluable rolls are as yet only partially indexed or calendared. A folio calendar of those from John to 23 Edward IV. was printed in 1802,

but it is a somewhat capriciously made selection. Those from the 3rd to 18th John have since been printed in full, with an admirable introduction, and a useful itinerary of that ever-restless king. An inventory from 3 John to 45 Eliz. has been printed in the Second, Third, and Sixth Reports. There are fifty-six volumes of manuscript indexes. The Record Office has, however, been busily engaged with thorough calendars for some years. The following have been already issued :—

Henry III., 1216–1258, four vols.
Edward I., 1272–1307, four vols.
Edward II., 1307–1327, five vols.
Edward III., 1327–1354, five vols.
Richard II., 1377–1399, six vols.
Henry IV., 1399–1413, four vols.
Henry VI., 1422–1446, four vols.
Edward IV. to Richard III., 1461–1495, three vols.

In the B. M. are many volumes of selections and extracts for particular periods. Manorial grants of "free warren" in these rolls will often supply a missing link in the history of a manor.

The *Charter Rolls* contain a good deal of duplicate matter to that on the Patent Rolls. They chiefly consist of grants of privileges to religious houses, cities, and towns, and grants of markets, fairs, and free warren to individuals. Charters, like Letters Patent, passed under the

Great Seal; but a charter differed from a patent inasmuch as the former was witnessed by the Council, or by such persons as were present at its execution, and the latter was solely executed by the king. The Charter Rolls extend from 1 John to 8 Hen. VIII. A calendar of these rolls, well indexed, but consisting only of selections capriciously made, from John to Edward IV., was published in 1803, and the rolls themselves of the reign of John were also published by the Record Commissioners in 1837, with an introduction and general index. Three volumes of official Calendars of Charter Rolls have recently been issued, extending from 1226 to 1326.

The *Fine Rolls* contain accounts of fines paid to the Crown for licences to alienate lands, for freedom from knight service, for being knighted, for renewals of various charters, &c., &c. They extend from John to 23 Charles I. An inventory of the whole of these rolls has been printed in the Second and Third Reports. The Fine Rolls of John, and extracts from those of Henry III., have been published by the Commissioners in three 8vo volumes. They are to be distinguished from the important *Pedes Finium*, subsequently explained.

Other much less important Chancery Enrolments are Coronation Rolls, Confirmation Rolls,

Extract Rolls, Pardon Rolls, Protection Rolls, and Staple Rolls.

HUNDRED ROLLS.—These Rolls will often prove to be of the greatest interest for one period of manorial history. During the turbulent reign of Henry III. the Crown revenues had been much diminished by the tenants *in capite* alienating lands without licence, and by powerful ecclesiastics and laymen usurping the rights of holding courts, and committing other encroachments. The people, too, had been greatly injured by exactions and oppressions at the hands of sheriffs and other officers, and by false claims to free warren and illegal tolls. One of the first acts of Edward I., on his return from the Holy Land, at his father's death, was to remedy these abuses. The circuit of the itinerant justices was only usually made once in seven years, therefore the king appointed special commissioners for inquiring into these grievances throughout the realm. These rolls are the result of the inquisitions taken in pursuance of this commission. They afford evidence, upon the oath of a jury, of each hundred and town, of all demesne lands and manors then or formerly in the hands of the Crown; all tenants *in capite* and tenants in ancient demesne; alienations to the Church; rights of free warren, fisheries, wreck of the

sea, &c.; oppressions of nobility and clergy; exactions of excessive tolls in fairs or for murrage and pontage, unlawful trading, encroachments on highways, &c. The whole of these rolls were published by the Record Commissioners in 1812–18, in two large folio volumes, but are now seldom to be purchased. When in the market they realise about £5. "The genealogist may estimate the assistance these volumes are capable of affording when it is mentioned that the Indices of Names contain references to about 70,000 persons." The misspelling of place-names is sometimes a little misleading, but ordinary care will rectify this, as the returns are arranged in counties. The rolls, as printed, may be fairly relied on for historical purposes, without the trouble of collating the originals.

In addition, however, to the Hundred Rolls proper, there are a large number termed *Extract Hundred Rolls*, from which the deficiencies of the former can in many cases be supplied; the portions relative to Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertford, Dorset, and Northumberland have not been printed, and must be inquired for at the P. R. O. The Hundred Rolls of both series have now been placed together, in county arrangement, in eight boxes. An exact list of their contents is set forth in

Mr. Scargill Bird's "Guide to the Public Records" (1908 ed., pp. 140–2).

PLACITA.—The pleadings of our several courts, with the judgments thereon, have been for many centuries entered on Rolls. The greater part of these are termed Placita, or Pleading Rolls. Their important bearing on manorial history is obvious. There is scarcely a manor in the kingdom that had not occasion, on an average of at least once a century, to put in an appearance in one or other of the courts on some matter involving litigation.

Under our Norman kings, all pleadings were originally heard *Aula sive Curia Regis*, in the hall or court of the king's palace. In aid of the King's Court, itinerant justices were first appointed *temp.* Henry I., and were finally established 22 Henry II. Towards the end of the reign of Richard I., the Curia Regis was subdivided into Courts of Exchequer and Chancery, whilst the King's Court still retained pleas immediately touching the Crown, and also common pleas, both civil and criminal. The Magna Charta, 17 John, separated the Common Pleas from the Royal Court, after which the Curia Regis continued to be the superior court of law for criminal matters, and early in the reign of Edward I. lost its more ancient title and became known as the Court of King's Bench.

Those who have access to the publications of the William Salt (Staffordshire) Archæological Society's publications, will find a most excellent and intelligible account of our varying judicial system before and after the Great Charters, in the introductions to the Plea Rolls of volumes III. and IV., from the capable pen of General the Hon. G. Wrottesley. It would save an infinity of trouble to intending searchers of the Pleas at the P. R. O. if they would first read these introductions. It is to be wished that they were published separately, with slight additions; they would then fulfil a much-needed requirement — a Handbook to the Pleas. In default of this, Reeve's "History of the English Laws," with notes by W. F. Finlason, should be consulted. One of the important changes made by the Great Charter was the provision restraining assizes to their respective shires, so as to save the unfortunate suitor from following the Curia Regis from one end of the kingdom to the other, as was the case during King John's itineraries. But it must be remembered that this provision was so far modified as to enable Justices Itinerant to adjourn suits to another day and place on the same subject. Pleas, therefore, have sometimes to be followed in adjacent counties. Thus Staffordshire Pleas are to be

found under Salop, Hereford, Warwick, Hunts, Bucks, Oxon, Gloucester, Cambridge, Lincoln, Derby, Notts, Northampton, Berkshire, and Worcester. Two publications of the Selden Society may with advantage be consulted, both by the late Mr. F. W. Maitland, "Select Pleas of the Crown" (1863) and "Civil Pleas" (1890).

The *Rotuli Curia Regis* have been printed in full, from 6 Richard I. to 1 John, by the Record Commissioners, in two 8vo volumes. The same Rolls, in addition to those of the King's Bench (or *Coram Rege Rolls*), down to the end of the reign of Edward II., were in 1811 elaborately calendared and indexed by the Commissioners in a folio volume of some value under the title *Placitorum in Domo Capitulari Westmonasteriensi asservatorum Abbreviatio;* but the Rolls are now in the P. R. O. The abstract has been made after a fickle fashion; some pleadings are given in full, whilst many others of more importance are condensed into a couple of lines; and there is nothing in the volume to tell the student whether they are abbreviated or not. From 6 Charles I. to 1843, references to enrolled Crown causes can be found by means of the "Great Doggett Books," which consist of seventeen manuscript volumes.

The earliest provincial courts were those of

the Itinerant Justices, or Justices in Eyre (from the Norman-French word *erre*, a journey); they held criminal and common pleas, and also pleas of the forest. These justices afterwards gave way to Circuit Judges, and the Justices in Eyre then became only another name for the Justices of the Forest.

These Rolls that may properly be termed *Records of Assize* commence 6 Richard I., and end with the reign of Edward IV. In the B. M. are many manuscript volumes of *Placita Itinerum*, pertaining to different reigns and different counties.

Add. MS. 12,269, at the B. M., contains abstracts by Bracton, the great lawyer of the thirteenth century, of more than a thousand cases decided by the judges between 2 and 24 Henry III. Many of the Plea Rolls, from which these contemporary extracts were made, are now missing.

In 1818 the Record Commissioners published an important folio volume, entitled *Placita de Quo Warranto temporibus Edw. I., II., III.*, which forms an interesting sequel to the Hundred Rolls. This volume is sometimes for sale, and realises from £2, 10s. to £3. The Hundred Rolls, as already mentioned, yield a great mass of sworn information as to abuses. Those persons thus charged were

summoned to answer "*Quo Warranto*" such and such things were done or left undone? or by what right such and such manors, &c., were held? This volume contains a full transcript of the Roll of the pleadings in answer to these summonses, and the judgments thereon. Its utility in manorial history cannot be exaggerated, as the descent of the manor is often traced back in these pleadings to the time of John, or even earlier. The Rolls are arranged under counties, and include the whole of England, with the exception of the palatinate of Durham.

The earliest records of the COURT OF CHANCERY are of the seventeenth year of Richard II., the previous documents having been destroyed in the Wat Tyler rebellion. There are no petitions extant to the Chancellor of the reign of Henry IV., and but few of Henry V., but from the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. they seem to have been kept with much regularity. Calendars of the Chancery proceedings of the reign of Elizabeth were published in three volumes folio, 1827–32. In the introduction to this work are many examples of the earlier proceedings of that court from Richard II. downwards. It is hardly necessary to add that the bills of complaint, and their answers, filed in this

court, often contain abundant information as to manorial descent. Numerous MS. volumes of indexes to Chancery proceedings are at the service of the searcher in the P. R. O.

The volumes known as the YEAR BOOKS contain reports in Norman-French of cases argued and decided in the Courts of Common Law. They form the basis of the *lex non scripta* of English jurisprudence, and are worthy of attention on account of the historical information and the notices of public and private persons which they contain. The frequent disputes about heirship cause them often to be of value in manorial history. These reports begin in 1220, and an account of the different books, their dates, &c., may be found in Worrall's *Bibliotheca Legum Angliæ*, 1788. Serjeant Maynard published an edition of early Year Books, in eleven volumes, in 1679. Eighteen volumes of Year Books have now been issued under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, extending from 20 Edward I. to 19 Edward III. Lincoln's Inn Library, and the University Library, Cambridge, have a great number of MS. Year Books. A work of much research, by Mr. Bigelow, was published in 1880 (Macmillan), entitled "History of Procedure in England"; it is a history of the litigation and legal procedure

of the temporal courts during the period from the Norman Conquest to the middle of the reign of Richard I. Another book by the same author, *Placita Anglo-Normannica* (Sampson Low, 1881), deals with cases during the same period from monastic records. If there has been any early dispute about the manor or manorial rights, these volumes should certainly be consulted.

INQUISITIONES.—*Inquisitiones post mortem* are not infrequently termed "Escheats," from the writs being directed to the county official called the Escheator; but the term is incorrect, and should never be used, for there is a class of documents correctly called *Escheat Rolls*, which differ altogether from these inquisitions, and refer to the Escheator's accounts of lands and property escheated to the Crown from various causes, and the profits and value of the same at different periods. The *Inquisitio post mortem*, on the contrary, was an inquiry held on oath by a jury of the district, summoned by virtue of a writ directed to the county Escheator, on the death of every tenant *in capite*. The jury had to inquire (1) of what lands the person died seized, (2) by what rents or services the same were held, and (3) who was his next heir, and of what age; they had also to ascertain whether the

tenant was attainted of treason, or an alien, in which case the lands reverted to the Crown. The return of the jury, together with the writ authorising the inquiry, was returned to the King's Chancery, whence a transcript was sent to the Exchequer, so that the proper officers might be able to levy the duties and services thereupon due; for on the death of each tenant *in capite*, a tax termed a "relief" was due to the Crown, and the heir could not take possession until the relief was paid, and homage done. Moreover, if the heir was a minor, the Crown administered the estates until he could make proof of his legal age, and perform homage. The Exchequer transcripts of these inquisitions, together in most cases with the writ, are still extant from the time of Henry III. down to the end of the reign of Charles I.; that is, until the feudal land system was finally overthrown. Calendars, or short abstracts of these inquisitions, carefully indexed, have been printed in four folio volumes by the Record Commissioners, 1806–1828, up to the end of the reign of Richard III. These calendars, which are invaluable for reference, must be used with caution, and should never be quoted as proving the death of any person by a particular date, for unfortunately not a few inquisitions that are not *post mortem*, but *ad*

quod damnum, are included amongst them. There are also many errors in nomenclature, and in assigning manors to special counties; it is therefore wisest to make the rule of never quoting these inquisitions, unless the original has been seen, or a full transcript obtained. The inquisitions subsequent to the time of Richard III. have not been calendared. There are nine volumes of manuscript indexes to these inquisitions at the P. R. O., covering the period from Richard III. to Charles II.

The Record Commissioners have also published a Calendar to the Inquisitions of this class, pertaining to the Duchy of Lancaster, from the time of Edward I. to Charles I.

Extracts and abstracts from these Inquisitions, covering particular periods, or for particular counties, are numerous in our public libraries; for lists of such MSS., see Sims' "Manual," pp. 125–8.

Another form of inquisition was the *Inquisitio ad quod damnum*, which was a judicial inquiry, held by virtue of a writ directed to the Escheator of the county, when any licence of alienation of lands, or grants of a market, fair, or other privilege was solicited. A local jury was sworn to inquire whether, if the claim was granted, it would interfere with any vested right, or be to the detriment of the Crown or some of

its subjects—hence the name *ad quod damnum*. These inquisitions, especially with relation to alienating lands to religious houses, are often very valuable to the local historian, for the jury in such cases had to state the amount, value, and nature of the remainder of the lands of the intended donor. A calendar of these records from 1 Edward II. to 38 Henry VI. was officially published in 1803, and is bound up with the previously mentioned calendar of the Charter Rolls. It should be remembered, as already stated, that many inquisitions *ad quod damnum*, particularly the earlier ones, are wrongly catalogued and arranged among the *post-mortem* inquests.

During the last few years the rearrangement and reclassification of the large number of documents of the Inquisition type have been actively undertaken. They have now been subdivided as follows:—

A. Inquisitions *post mortem*, including proofs of all assignments of dower, and inquisitions on idiots and lunatics.

B. Inquisitions *ad quod damnum*.

C. Inquisitions respecting felonies and homicides, entitled Criminal Inquisitions.

D. Miscellaneous Inquisitions, including those formerly described as "Inquisitiones de Rebellibus" and "de Forisfacturis."

Five volumes of Inquisition Calendars have now been printed, viz. 20–56 Henry III., 1–19 Edward I., 1–9 Edward II., 1–9 Edward III., and 1–14 Henry VII.

Feudal Aids.—In 1898 the Deputy Keeper began the printing of a series of volumes designed to illustrate the succession of holders of land in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, based on certain books of precedents, and extending from 1284 to 1341. They are arranged under counties, and demand the attention of all parochial or municipal students. Five of these volumes—termed "Inquisitions and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids, with other analogous Documents preserved in the Public Record Office"—have now been issued, extending from Bedford to Worcester.

Pedes Finium.—The *Pedes Finium*, or "Feet of Fines," must be clearly distinguished from the previously mentioned Fine Rolls, which are quite a different class of record. The Fine here signified is no mulct of money, but is so called because it is the *final* agreement between persons concerning any lands or

rents or other matters whereof there is any suit between them. The fine, or solemn contract recorded before a competent judge, is described as having five parts: (1) the original writ taken out against the cognisor; (2) the licence of the Crown giving the parties liberty to accord; (3) the concord itself; (4) the note of the fine, which is an abstract of the original concord; and (5) the *foot of the fine*, which always began thus—"Hæc est *finalis* concordia facta in Curia Dom. Regis apud Westm.," &c. This foot of the fine, which was the official summary of the concord, was cut off in an indented line (hence the word *indenture*), so as to tally with the part delivered to the suitor and prove its authenticity, and retained by the court. There is no class of documents that has been so continuously preserved in uninterrupted succession as these Feet of Fines. No manorial history can be considered satisfactory until these records have been carefully consulted, for they contain the proceedings which have been adopted to convey estates, as well as to free them from their entailment to issue, or from the dower of wives. The earliest of these documents, from the counties of Bedford to Dorset inclusive, from 7 Richard I. to 16 John, have been officially published in two 8vo volumes, under the title

Fines, sive Pedes Finium; sive Finales Concordiæ in Curia Domini Regis.

Those from Ebor to Warwick, for the like period, are transcribed at the P. R. O. in seven MS. volumes. There are also thirty-seven MS. index volumes to the Feet of Fines from Richard I. to Henry VIII., and fifty-six similar volumes from Henry VIII. to 5 George III.

The Feet of Fines from Richard I. to 6 William IV. have now all been arranged in counties.

The "Fines" for several counties (such as those of Kent and Derbyshire) have been gradually printed in abstract by county archæological or record societies.

The following abstracts of Feet of Fines, which have been printed by county societies or for subscribers, will be found in small bound volumes on an upper shelf in the Circular Search Room:—

Cambridgeshire.—From Richard I. to Edward IV.
Lancashire.—From 1196 to 1377.
Lincolnshire.—Richard I., John, and Henry III.
London and Middlesex.—From Richard I. to Queen Elizabeth.
Norfolk.—From Richard I. to Richard III.
Somersetshire.—From 1196 to 1307.
Suffolk.—From Richard I. to Edward IV.
Surrey.—From Richard I. to end of Henry VII.
Yorkshire.—From Richard I. to end of Elizabeth.

Ancient Deeds.—Excellent service has been done to all local and parochial students by the printing of a descriptive catalogue of some of the vast quantity of detached ancient deeds that have accumulated in the Public Record Office. They are mostly conveyances of land, but there are also many agreements, bonds, acquittances, wills, and other documents of private persons from the 12th to the 16th centuries. The first of these five volumes, averaging upwards of 700 pages, was issued in 1890, and the last in 1906. Each volume is most thoroughly indexed.

Domestic State Papers.—These fine series of well-indexed calendars of collected papers ought to be carefully searched for later parochial information. As a rule, it is best to consult the originals. If only the printed calendars are consulted, this should be made clear in the reference or foot-note; it is not honest to find references to the volumes and numbers of the originals unless they have been studied. Moreover, the person who does this runs the risk of being caught by the critic; for though in the main the abstracts in the calendars are carefully done, and correct, there are a few instances of bad faults and grave omissions. The most valuable of the series are "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII.," which

have now reached to twenty-one volumes, and extend from 1509 to 1546. The calendar of the Domestic State Papers from Edward VI. to Charles II. are contained in seventy-two volumes. They are all thoroughly indexed.

PALMER'S INDEXES.—Special mention should be made of 153 particularly useful MS. indexes purchased from the executors of Thomas Palmer, formerly Chief Clerk of the old Record Office at the Rolls Chapel. They consist of calendars and indexes to the Patent Rolls, Close Rolls, Inquisitions *post mortem*, and other records of the Court of Chancery, arranged principally with reference to names of manors and places. A list of these volumes, and the contents of each, are printed in Mr. Scargill Bird's Handbook (1908), pp. 62–73.

Having thus run through the chief classes of documents bearing, with more or less directness, on manorial, and therefore on parochial, history, it may also be well to mention that those who require accurate transcripts of any of the records in Fetter Lane, need not apply for officially certified copies; for reliable transcribers can readily be met with who will do the work for less than half the sum required for certified copies. If the amateur searcher does not know any transcribers, the courteous gentlemen in charge of the Search Rooms

will probably make no difficulty about giving their addresses. From our own experience, and from the testimony of many friends and acquaintances, Messrs. Hardy and Page, of 21 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, can be most unreservedly recommended.

Those who may be desirous of gaining some knowledge of the character or handwriting of ancient records, which can only be efficiently learnt by practice, are recommended to consult Wright's "Court Hand Restored." The best edition is the ninth, edited by Martin in 1879. It not only gives numerous alphabets and plates, illustrative of the different styles in vogue at different periods, but has valuable lists of abbreviations, of ancient place-names, and of debased Latin words that are only to be found in legal or monastic documents. Mr. Martin has now much amplified his appendix to Wright's ninth edition, and has brought it out as an independent volume, under the title of "The Record Interpreter" (Reeves and Turner, 1892). It merits the highest praise, and is in some ways indispensable to the novice among records. Each of the earlier reigns appears to have had a set or uniform character or handwriting of its own; but in the reign of Elizabeth, and subsequently, this clerical mode seems to have been to a great extent

abandoned, and each scribe to have written after his own fancy. It is hence very noticeable that, as was remarked by a late Keeper of the Records, "The English Records of the 16th and 17th centuries are in general more difficult to be read than the Latin Records of preceding ages."

MANOR COURT ROLLS AND CUSTOMARIES

THERE remains, however, another highly important class of documents for the historian of the manor, which are indeed, when they can be met with in any degree of fulness, of far greater local value than anything that can be found among the national stores of the Public Record Office. They demand a short section to themselves. Manor Court Rolls, or the annual record of the transactions of the Court-Baron, or of the Court-Leet, used to be carefully kept on every manor.

These local records of the surrenders and grants of tenancy, of encroachments and enclosures, together with a certain amount of civil and criminal jurisdiction, used often to be kept in the general parish chest within the church, or in a special coffer for that purpose. In the *Plompton Correspondence* occurs the following passage: "The cofer wherein four said court rowles lieth is nought and the lock thereof not worth a pene, and it standeth in the church

at Sacomp, wheare every man may come at his pleasure." They may occasionally even now be found in church chests, as is the case at Kingsthorpe, Northants, and at Alrewas, Staffs, from the 14th century downwards. At other places they still remain in the custody of the lord of the manor, but more frequently in the hands of old firms of county solicitors. Several series of these Rolls are known to be complete from the time of Edward I. down to almost modern days, as is the case with those of the episcopal manor of Longdon, which we have consulted, and which are now in the strong room of the Marquis of Anglesea, at Beaudesert. If the parish is or has been within the limits of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Manor Rolls may very possibly be found among the Duchy Records now at the P. R. O. Five Court Rolls of Great Cressingham, Norfolk, of the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries, have been printed by H. W. Chandler, Oxford (1885), and are useful examples of the nature of such rolls. The Court-Leet Records of the Manor of Manchester were published by J. P. Earwaker in twelve volumes (1884–90). Extracts from the Court Rolls of the manor of Wimbledon, extending from 1 Edward IV. to 1864, were published by the Wimbledon Common Preservation Society in 1866, and

are useful as examples, inasmuch as the Latin and the translation are given side by side. They were edited by P. H. Lawrence. Among various other printed records of this class may be mentioned Rev. Charles Kerry's "Court Rolls of Barlow and of Holmesfield," in vols. xx., xxi., and xxii. of *Derbyshire Archæological Journal;* W. Farrer's "Court Rolls of the Honour of Clitheroe" (1897); G. E. Bartlett's "Court Rolls of Crondal and of Chipping Camden," in vol. ix. of *Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Transactions;* and Rev. W. O. Massingberd's "Manor of Somerby and Tetford," in vol. xxiii. of *Associated Architectural Society's Transactions.*

A bundle of the orders, presentments, and pains of the jurors of the Derbyshire manors of Elvaston, Thurlston, and Ambaston, between 1687 and 1697, are preserved among the county records. As descriptive of the business done at these ancient manorial gatherings of the freeholders (some of whose powers have recently been restored by the Parish Councils Act), and of what searchers may expect to find in such rolls, it may be well to give a brief account of the contents of these documents. The assembly is variously termed the "court leet," "great leet," "court baron," and "court leet of view of frank-pledge" (together

with the occasional use of their Latinised equivalents); it was presided over by the steward of Sir John Stanhope, who was lord of the manor. Two courts were held every year, namely, in April and October. The number of the jury was thirteen; they were sworn from the freemen of the manor. They presented annually for the acceptance of the court two names as field-reeves, two as pinners of straying cattle, and one as parish constable. The jury made "pains" or penalty-bearing bye-laws almost every court day. These pains for the regulation of the common husbandry, &c., varied slightly from time to time in the nature of the offence as well as in the penalty imposed, and they occasionally dealt with new and transient offences. The pains, except in the case of broad, well-established precedents, which were regarded as common law, only remained in force till the next court day. The "presentments" of the jury were equivalent to the actual imposing of fines on those who had infringed the rules. Among them are the following: Fences left open, 1*s.* to 10*s.*; breaking hedges, 3*d.* to 1*s.*; ploughing up the footpath, 1*s.*; tenting beasts in the fallow when the offender had no pasture rights, 1*s.*; tenting or tethering horses on commons under similar circumstances, 1*s.*; encroaching on

highway, 6*d.*; not scouring out ditches and watercourses, 6*d.* to 10*s.*; cattle straying at night, 10*s.*; not attending the court, 1*s.*; turning horses out to pasture a day too soon, 2*s.*; and not gathering stones in the common field, 1*s.*

These presentments and bye-laws also establish the following interesting regulations and customs of these manors: Notice was given by the field-reeves when any common work had to be done, when every freeholder had to be present or provide a substitute, usually under a pain of 1*s.* for every day's neglect. All those putting beasts into the fields or commons were to pay towards the herdsman's wages, in default, 3*s.* 4*d.* for each beast. No cattle were to be put out till the herdsmen called for them, under pains varying from 1*s.* to 5*s.*; on another occasion it was ordered that no cattle were to be put out before the herdsman's call, "except the sun bee risen"; from another paper we find that the picturesque custom prevailed of the herdsman's call being given on a horn. The repair of the pinfold was done annually in the spring; on one occasion the pinners were threatened with a pain of 3*s.* 4*d.* if it was not repaired within ten days after May Day. At the April court, it was usual to order all to fence their part of the meadow rails within a

brief specified time, under a 3*s.* 4*d.* pain ; the field-reeves had, at the same time, to see to the proper hanging of the gates. The jury also decided the dates and places when and where sheep, cattle, horses, mares, foals, and swine might be put out, tented, or tethered, as the case might be, each decision being enforced by a pain.

The thoroughly popular or democratic character of these courts is shown in the fact that the lord of the manor was just as amenable to the pains, and that the jury were just as ready to enforce presentments in his case as in the case of the humblest freeholder or tenant. Sir John Stanhope was fined on several occasions for not making his part of the fence, and for not scouring his watercourse or ditch. For further particulars as to these presentment rolls and the "suite rolls," or full record of all composing the courts, see Dr. Cox's "Three Centuries of Derbyshire Annals" (Bemrose & Sons), vol. ii. pp. 275–280. Every free tenant was bound to attend these courts, whether summoned on the jury or not; the full roll was called each court day, and a fine imposed upon all those who were absent without lawful excuse.

Among general books of service in studying manorial records are the following: "The Court Baron" and "Select Pleas in Manorial

Courts," printed by the Selden Society, and jointly edited by F. W. Maitland and W. P. Baildon; Frederic Seebohm's "English Village Community"; G. L. Gomme's "The Village Community"; and more especially Paul Vinogradoff's "Villainage in England" (1892) and "The Growth of the Manor" (1905).

The one much-needed and absolutely indispensable book on the subject came out in 1906; it is entitled "The Manor and Manorial Records," and is the praiseworthy work of Nathaniel J. Hone. The origin of the manor and all its customs are fully and learnedly discussed, and yet after a simple fashion, and an excellent series of illustrative rolls are set forth in detail, chiefly from a group of Berks manors, and also from those of Taynton, Oxon, and Gnosall, Staffs. Lists, covering some sixty pages, set forth for the first time the names and dates of many hundreds of court rolls in various depositories, such as the Ecclesiastical Commission, the Land Revenue Office, the British Museum, Lambeth Palace, and the Bodleian. The originals of the first two of these lists are at the Public Record Office, but they are separate collections, and have at present only MS. calendars. There is also at the P. R. O. a large collection of court rolls from every county in England and

Wales, including that of the Duchy of Lancaster. These have been well calendared, and published in No. VI. of "Lists and Indexes" (1896).

Another valuable feature of Mr. Hone's work is an explanatory list of certain elliptical phrases of general occurrence in court rolls.

A Manorial Society was formed in 1907, the registrar of which is Mr. Charles Greenwood, 1 Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, E. It has already done good service by printing two brief lists of manor court rolls which are in private hands.

FORESTRY

IF the parish under consideration is or has been within a royal forest or a chase, it requires special study, and search should be made among the records. Until quite recent years there has been much misunderstanding as to England's old forests and forest law, and even some of our best historians have made bad blunders in their allusions to the subject. Much of this has arisen from the faulty statements in Manwood's "Lawes of the Forest" (1598), for that writer has usually been accepted as an almost infallible authority; but he wrote chiefly from a late Elizabethan standpoint, when the old forest laws and customs were for the most part in abeyance.

Four reliable modern books may be named. In 1887 Mr. W. R. Fisher published a 4to volume on "The Forest of Essex"; it is based chiefly on documentary evidence, and illustrates in many ways forest law and procedure in other counties besides Essex. Mr. R. B. Turton, between 1894 and 1897, printed a considerable amount of original record information, particularly of the 14th century—

sufficient to fill four volumes of the North Riding Record Society—relative to the important and interesting Yorkshire forest of Pickering.

In 1901 the Selden Society issued Mr. G. F. Turner's "Select Pleas of the Forest," the one masterly work on English forest law and procedure, more especially of the 13th century.

This was followed in 1905 by the more popular "Royal Forests of England" by the writer of this manual. In its pages are chapters on early forests, forest courts, forest officers, the beasts of the forest, the forest afistments, hounds and hunting, the trees of the forest, and later forest history. These chapters are followed by accounts of the old forests of all the counties of England, with the exception of Bedford, Cambridge, Cornwall, Hertford, Lincoln, Middlesex, Monmouth, Norfolk, and Suffolk, in whose confines there was little or nothing pertaining technically to royal forests.

It must always be remembered that the present-day use of the term "forest" differs considerably from the signification that it bore in earlier times. A forest did not originally mean a district covered with trees or underwood. The English word "forest" signified

in Norman, Plantagenet, and early Tudor times a portion of territory consisting of extensive waste lands, but including a certain amount of both woodland and pasture, circumscribed by definite metes or bounds, within which the right of hunting was reserved exclusively to the king and his nominees, and which was subject to a special code of laws administered by local as well as central ministers. From the fact that so many wastes were covered with wood or undergrowth, it gradually came about that the term "forest" (which has no etymological connection with timber, but means a waste) was applied to a great wood. Such a consideration as this at once explains the application of the name "forest" to districts like Dartmoor, Exmoor, or the High Peak of Derbyshire, where it is idle to pretend that anything more than mere fragments of these great tracts were ever wooded in the time of man. Taking one with another, there is little doubt that by far the larger part of the area of the various Yorkshire forests was never tree-covered, and so too with Essex, the whole of which was at one time under forest law.

The popular idea as to the cruel sternness of the forest laws seldom takes into account that this early severity was greatly modified by the Forest Charter of 1217. King John had been

compelled to agree, by one of the articles of Magna Charta, to the disafforesting of all the great tracts of country which he had made forest during his own reign ; the child-king, Henry III., who was made to issue his Forest Charter two years later, covenanted by that ordinance, in consideration of a grant to the Crown of one-fifteenth of all movables of the kingdom, to disafforest all lands that had been made forest by Henry II. It was not, however, until March 1274–75 that the last of the special perambulations of forests, by twelve knights elected for the purpose, were made in order to carry out the disafforesting provisions of the charter.

Forests were under the rule of frequently held courts, usually termed swainmotes, presided over by local officials, and also under the fitfully held eyres or forest pleas for graver offences, presided over by the Crown-appointed justices in eyre.

Forest offences were divided into two main classes : *venison*, concerning all matters relative to hunting, destroying, or interfering with the game ; and *vert*, concerning all matters relative to the due preservation of the timber and underwood.

Much of the property within a forest district, including woods and forests, was often private

property, but in such cases the private rights were decidedly limited. Thus the owner of a wood within a forest might not fence it in so high as to exclude the deer, nor might he fell or sell its timber without royal sanction.

Manwood's statements as to the beasts of the forest and the beasts of the chase are quite faulty. The following is the truth as to the king's game within his forests, as ascertained from a study of the eyre rolls, and other original forest proceedings. The beasts of the forest were four in number, namely, the red deer, the fallow deer, the roe deer, and the wild boar. The beasts of the chase, a term without any legal signification, may be held to include, in addition to the deer and boar, the wolf, hare, fox, and other vermin, such as the wild cat, marten, badger, and otter, and even in some cases the squirrel.

According to a mid-fifteenth-century statement, the forests contained three groups of animals. First came four beasts of venery—the hart, wolf, boar, and hare, which were termed *sylvestres;* that is, they spent their days in the woods and coppices, and were taken by what was considered true hunting, being tracked and roused by the lymer hounds, and afterwards pursued by the pack. But the fallow and roe deer, with the fox and marten, were

beasts of chase—that is, they were *campestres*, or found in the open country by day, and therefore they required none of the niceties of tracking and harbouring in the thickets, but were roused straight away by the packs of hounds. The third group, neither of venery nor chase, were the badger, wild cat, and otter.

It may be helpful to state the chief classes of documents whence forest lore is to be obtained in the vast national depository in Chancery Lane :—

(1) *Placitæ Foresta*, or Forest Proceedings, Chancery—John to Charles I.—consisting of presentments, claims, perambulations, &c., before the Justices in Eyre of the Forests. They are contained in 156 bundles, and an inventory of their contents will be found in the Deputy-Master of Rolls Reports, v., App. ii., 46–96.

(2) Swainmote Court Rolls of Windsor, 2 Edward VI. to 14 Charles I. Inventory in Report, App. ii., 57–9.

(3) Forest Proceedings, Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt, Henry III. to Charles II. To these documents there are three volumes of MS. Calendars.

(4) Miscellaneous Books of Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt, vol. 75, Edward I. ; assarts and wastes in diverse forests, vol. 76 ;

pleas and presentments of Sherwood, Henry III. to Edward III.; vol. 77, game in all forests north of the Trent, 30 Henry VIII.

(5) A Book of Orders concerning Royal Forests, 1637–1648. State Papers, Domestic, Charles I., vol. 384.

(6) Records of Duchy of Lancaster. A great variety of forest presentments, attachments, perambulations, pleas, &c., Henry III. to James I., pertain to Lancashire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, &c. A printed list of all the Duchy Records was issued in 1901; those relating to forests are on pp. 39–47. Among the maps and plans (pp. 76–80) are many relating to the Forest of the High Peak.

(7) Lists of Minister Accounts, with thorough indexes, were issued in 1899; much royal forest information occurs in many of these accounts.

(8) Occasionally Court Rolls of Manors, &c., yield information; these also have printed lists and indexes, issued in 1896.

(9) Both Close and Patent Rolls for the 13th and 14th centuries abound in royal forest incidents; they have been well calendared (printed) for almost the whole of this period, as already stated.

A good deal of fresh information with regard to forestry has recently been published in the

volumes of the Victoria County History scheme. Dr. Nisbet, the best authority on modern arboriculture, has written the essays for the counties of Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Hants, Northants, Surrey, and Worcester; whilst Dr. Cox, with greater attention to early forest records, has written on the counties of Berks, Bucks, Derby, Dorset, Durham, Kent, Leicester, Lincoln, Notts, Oxford, Rutland, Suffolk, Warwick, and York.

For knowledge as to particular trees, Dr. Nisbet's "Our Forests and Woodlands" (1900) is a good book to consult. Mr. J. Lowe's monograph on "Yew Trees of Great Britain" (1897) should be consulted as to the size and growth of the largest examples.

CIVIL OR DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

ALL description of civil or domestic architecture, of the Norman or subsequent periods, should be deferred until after the history of the manor has been written, because that history will very likely throw light on any such architectural remains.

If there is a CASTLE, or its relics, within the parish, the probability is considerable that it has already been described by a county historian, or in one or other of the numerous journals of our archæological societies. But it is equally probable that its history has not been thoroughly written, and special search should be made with that object at the P. R. O., beginning with the indexes to the printed calendars already enumerated. If the castle was in the king's hands in early days, entries pertaining to its repairs are sure to be found in the Pipe Rolls. Mr. George T. Clark's "Medieval Military Architecture in England," 2 vols. (Wyman & Sons, 1884), is an excellent work, and is indispensable for the due understanding of English castle arrangement. "The

Castles of England," by J. D. Mackenzie, 2 vols. (1897), is more comprehensive, but not so reliable.

Very few county histories, and hardly a single guide-book, deign to give ground-plans, accurate measurements, or indeed any careful details of military architecture. This should be invariably done. The mound upon which a keep has been erected, as well as other earthworks in the vicinity of a castle, should be carefully examined and trenches driven through them, for the sites have usually been occupied by earlier inhabitants than the stone castle builders. The Normans almost always built their castles in situations that had previously been held for defensive purposes. Thus, the careful examination of the site of the massive Norman keep of Duffield Castle, uncovered in 1856, has proved that the same ground was previously held by the Celts, Romans, and Anglo-Saxons. It is quite possible, as suggested by Mrs. Armitage in her "Key to English Antiquities" (1897), that the Normans, in the first instance, when requiring speedily formed defensive works, threw up earthworks, but this theory has been hastily seized upon by some as implying the Norman origin of almost all moated mounds.

Viollet-le-Duc's "Military Architecture of the

Middle Ages," of which a translation has been published by Parker, is also well worth reading.

Every effort should be made to identify the old MANOR HOUSE, or its site (often marked by a grass-grown moat), and this should of course be done with each manor, where, as is often the case, the parish has contained more than one. Oral tradition in this, as in other particulars, will often be found a useful handmaid. A medieval or detached dovecot may almost invariably be taken as a proof of the site of a manor-house. Should the exterior of the reputed manor-house be altogether unpromising, that should not check further investigation. Several instances are known to us in which modern brick casing or sash windows are but a screen to some of the oldest domestic architecture extant, which may be found in the back premises or outbuildings, or they may contain fine old chimneypieces, carved oak panelling, or ceilings of elaborate pargeting.

The comparatively modern-looking house termed "King John's House," near Tollard Royal, Wilts, when carefully examined and opened out by General Pitt-Rivers, proved to be to a great extent of early 13th century date, with Tudor additions (see the General's privately printed and well-illustrated monograph on this house, 1890).

Nor should attention be only directed to manor-houses. All old domestic work is worth chronicling, so rapidly is it disappearing both in town and country; and the annalist of a parish should not be above transcribing all the initials and dates so frequently seen on lintel stones. As a rule, every house or cottage, not obviously modern, that has stone buttresses, a moulded wall-plate or string-course, or bevelled stone mullions to the windows, is worthy of careful examination; and this, too, is the case with all half-timbered or timbered cased work. Many interesting details, such as the site of chantry houses, may be thus brought to light, and the history in stone and the history on parchment be found to tally in unexpected ways.

The third and much enlarged edition of Mrs. Gatty's "Book of Sundials" (Bell & Sons, 1890) should be consulted wherever these interesting dials form a feature of the buildings.

Domestic architecture should always be described by the century, and not by the "period" into which ecclesiastic architecture is usually divided. The best book to purchase on the subject is the somewhat costly but admirable four-volume edition of Parker's "Medieval Domestic Architecture"; see also Dolman and Jobbin's "Analysis of Ancient

Domestic Architecture in Great Britain" (2 vols., Batsford, 1886), and Banister Fletcher's "History of Architecture on the Comparative Method" (4th ed., 1901, Batsford).

There has been a remarkable growth in good English literature dealing with architectural history, especially domestic, since the last edition of this manual came out in 1895, which is evidence of an increased intelligent appreciation of the value of old fabrics.

In 1900 Mr. Reginald Blomfield produced his "Short History of Renaissance Architecture in England" (George Bell); and the following year Mr. A. Gotch brought out a guinea volume on "Early Renaissance in Architecture in England" (Batsford). A noble work on "Domestic Tudor Architecture" by Messrs. Garner and Stratton is now in progress. Within the last three or four years Mr. Batsford has published four most delightful guinea volumes on old English cottages and farmhouses, each containing 100 photographic plates, as well as descriptive notes and numerous sketches—(1) Kent and Sussex; (2) Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Cheshire; (3) the Cotswold district, including parts of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Northants, and Worcestershire; and (4) Surrey (1908). Other volumes are in course of preparation.

Many other recent works on English Domestic Architecture might be named, great and small, but we must here be content with drawing very special attention to a most charming, useful, and instructive small work by Mr. G. D. Addy, entitled "The Evolution of the English House," with 42 illustrations (Sonnenschein, 1898).

In corners of the former manor-house and in cottage homes, the greedy eye of the dealer or amateur collector may have left interesting bits of OLD-TIME FURNITURE, chests, settles, bedsteads, tables, chairs, &c. If so, we can with confidence recommend the last edition of Litchfield's "Illustrated History of Furniture from the Earliest to the Present Time" (Truslove and Shirley, 1908). Mr. Batsford's lists will be found to have various more expensive works on old English furniture of different periods, as well as books on lead work, on parge work or plaster decorations, both external and internal, and on iron work. As to old iron work, Mr. J. S. Gardner's South Kensington text-books should be consulted. Another cheap but thoroughly good work is Mr. Arthur Hayden's "Chats on Old Furniture" (5s.; Fisher Unwin, 1909).

PERSONAL HISTORY

THE pedigrees and brief particulars of the NOBILITY can be readily found. The most useful standard works are Dugdale's "Baronage," Collins' "Peerage and Baronetage," Banks' "Dormant and Extinct Baronage," and the *Baronagium Genealogicum*, or pedigrees of English Peers, in five folio volumes, by Joseph Edmondson. The eight volumes of G. E. C. (Cockayne's) "Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Great Britain, and the United Kingdom, Extant, Extinct, or Dormant" (1887–1898), is by far the most reliable genealogical work of its kind. "The Complete Baronage" (1900–1906), by the same venerable author, is equally trustworthy. Burke's "Landed Gentry" gives much information with respect to the principal families of commoners, but the earlier genealogical statements that he prints are often purely mythical. Several indexes to the many thousands of printed pedigrees that are scattered up and down topographical and other works have been published, of a more or less faulty and

incomplete description; but the standard work of this class, which has passed through several editions, is the "Genealogist's Guide," by Dr. George W. Marshall (Billing & Sons, 1903); it is arranged alphabetically, and covers nearly nine hundred pages. The advice to the reader—"Read the preface before you consult the book," should certainly be followed.

Phillimore's "How to Write the History of a Family" (Elliot Stock, 1887), with a supplement (1897), is the best compendious genealogist's guide that has yet been published, and deals specially with the sources of family history. The writer obviously owed something to our own handbook for the suggestion of his title and for his general plan, and he might as well have acknowledged his indebtedness.

A large portion of family history and pedigree, which will often be essential to the elucidation of the monumental history of a parish, to completing the links in lists of the lords of the manor, or furnishing particulars with regard to smaller landholders, yet remains in MS. The most accurate of such MSS. are at the College of Arms, and are not ordinarily accessible except on payment of fees; but there is a fine collection of heraldic visitations at the B. M., the chief of which are among the Harleian MSS.

The private *cartæ antiquæ* of so many of our old families are, of course, where obtainable, invaluable as to the history and descent of manors. It is the exception—at least such is the happy experience of the writer—to find the custodians of old private records unduly jealous of their contents.

HERALDS' VISITATIONS are said to have commenced in the reign of Henry IV., but it was not until 20 Henry VIII. that a Commission proceeding from royal authority was issued. From then until the latter half of the seventeenth century, visitations were made every twenty-five or thirty years. The register books, kept by the heralds and their assistants, contain the pedigrees and arms of the gentry of the respective counties, and are often also illustrated by copies and excerpts from charters and private documents. Many of these books are lost, and the rest scattered throughout public and private libraries. The archives of the College of Arms have the most important collection, and next comes the B. M. There are a large number at the B., fifty-four volumes in the library of Caius College, Cambridge, and forty in that of Queen's College, Oxford. The earliest heralds' registers for the counties of Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucester, Hampshire, Kent, Notts, Oxford, Surrey, Sussex, Wilts,

Worcester, and Yorks are of the year 1530; for Berks, Devon, and Somerset, 1531; for Cheshire and Lancashire, 1533; for Essex and Herts, 1552; for Suffolk, 1561; for Lincoln, 1562; for Leicester, Norfolk, Stafford, and Warwick, 1563; for Hunts and Northampton, 1564; for Beds and Bucks, 1566; for Derby, Hereford, and Salop, 1569; for Middlesex, 1572; for Cambridge, Durham, and Northumberland, 1575; for Cumberland and Westmoreland, 1615; and for Rutland, 1618. The last visitation of several counties was taken in 1634, but the majority were visited in 1662–64; and the last of all was that of the county of Southampton, made by Sir Henry St. George, in 1686.

The following Visitations have been printed: Bedford, 1566, 1586, 1634 (*Harleian Society*); Berks, 1532, 1566, 1623, 1665-66 (*Harl. Soc.*); Bucks, 1566 (*Geneal.*); Cambridge, 1575, 1619 (*Harl. Soc.*), and 1684 (*Geneal.*); Cheshire, 1533, 1566–67, 1580 (*Harl. Soc.*); Cornwall, 1530, 1573, 1620 (*Harl. Soc.*); Cumberland, 1530 (*Surtees Soc.*), 1615 (*Harl. Soc.*); Derby, 1662–64 (*Geneal.*); Devon, 1531, 1564, 1620 (*Harl. Soc.*); Dorset, 1565 (*Geneal.*), 1623 (*Harl. Soc.*); Durham, 1530 (*Surtees Soc.*), 1575, 1615, 1666 (*J. Foster*); Essex, 1552, 1558, 1570, 1612, 1634 (*Harl. Soc.*); Gloucester,

1623 (*Harl. Soc.*); Hereford, 1569 (*F. W. Weaver*); Herts, 1572, 1634 (*Harl. Soc.*); Hunts, 1613 (*Camden Soc.*); Kent, 1619 (*Kent Arch. Soc.*); Lancashire, 1533, 1567, 1613, 1664–65 (*Chetham Soc.*); Leicester, 1619 (*Harl. Soc.*); Lincoln, 1562–64, 1592 (*Geneal.*); London, 1568, 1633–34 (*Harl. Soc.*); Middlesex, 1663–64 (*J. Foster*); Norfolk, 1563, 1589, 1613 (*Harl. Soc.*); Northampton, 1564, 1618–19 (*W. C. Metcalfe*); Northumberland, 1615 (*Geneal.*); Notts, 1569, 1614 (*Harl. Soc.*); Oxford, 1566, 1574, 1634 (*Harl. Soc.*); Rutland, 1618 (*Harl. Soc.*); Somerset, 1531, 1573, 1591 (*F. W. Weaver*), 1623 (*Harl. Soc.*); Stafford, 1583, 1614, 1663–64 (*W. Salt Soc.*); Suffolk, 1551, 1577, 1611 (*W. C. Metcalfe*); Surrey, 1530, 1572, 1623 (*Harl. Soc.*); Sussex, 1530, 1633–34 (*Harl. Soc.*); Warwick, 1619 (*Harl. Soc.*); Westmoreland, 1530 (*Surtees Soc.*); Wilts, 1623–77 (*Geneal.*); Worcester, 1682–83 (*W. C. Metcalfe*); Yorks, 1530 (*Surtees Soc.*), 1563–64 (*Harl. Soc.*), 1584–85, 1612 (*J. Foster*), and 1665–66 (*Surtees Soc.*).

R. Sims' "Index to the Pedigrees and Arms" contained in the Heralds' Visitations in the B. M. is an accurate and useful book of reference. The "Manual for the Topographer and Genealogist," by the same author, has not been altogether superseded by later works of

reference. Careful lists of family histories, of all the principal topographical works, and of all MSS. of worth in public libraries, are therein classified under the different counties.

WILLS are too obvious a source of information to need a word of comment. At Somerset House is the most important and largest collection, viz. those of the prerogative court of Canterbury. The original wills in this office begin in 1404, and the transcripts in 1383. They are complete only from December 1660. In the office at York, for that province, the wills begin in 1590, and the transcripts in 1389. Owing to the probate privileges enjoyed by the various ecclesiastical courts, there were not only registries for wills in every diocese, but numerous peculiar and exempt jurisdictions in each diocese. The dates at which wills begin in the different minor registries are so very varied, and their condition and facilities, or even possibilities, of search so multifarious, that it is impossible to give any useful abstract. The Report on Public Records for 1837, and Sir Harris Nicholas' *Notitia Historica*, should be consulted. The power of probate was taken away from the ecclesiastical courts by the Act of 1857.

Various county and other societies have from time to time published partial indexes or

abstracts of local wills. The "Index Library," amongst other good work, has printed for its subscribers indexes to the Northamptonshire and Rutland Wills (1510–1652); Lichfield Diocesan Wills (1510–1652); Berkshire Wills (1508–1652); Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 4 vols. (1383–1604); Gloucestershire Wills (1541–1650); Bristol Wills (1572–1792), and Great Orphan Books Wills (1379–1674); Dorset Wills (1568–1799); Sussex Wills (Henry VIII. to Commonwealth); Worcester Wills (1451–1600); Lincoln Wills (1320–1600); Leicestershire Wills (1495–1649); and Devon and Cornwall Wills (1540–1799). These indexes are of somewhat uncertain value. We believe the great majority are quite reliable; but of two with which we are acquainted, Northants is distinctly good, and Lichfield as distinctly inaccurate.

The little-known RECUSANT ROLLS of the time of Elizabeth give information as to the humblest as well as the wealthiest parishioners who refused to attend the services of the Established Church. These, and many other similar class of documents relative to the fining and other grievous penalties attached to profession of the Roman Catholic faith, are to be found at the P. R. O. They extend from 34 Elizabeth to 1 and 2 William and Mary. The "Records

of the English Province of the Society of Jesus," in eight closely printed volumes (Burns and Oates, 1867–1883), contain much genealogical information relative to the recusants.

Records of ATTAINDERS (Dep. Keeper's Reports, xxxviii.), FORFEITURES (49 Henry III., 14–20 Edward II., 11–12 Richard II., &c.), SEQUESTRATIONS, and PARDONS (Patent Rolls, Supplementary), some from the time of Henry III., will also be found at the P. R. O., and may be consulted with advantage by those tracing personal history, if there is any cause to suspect their complicity in any of the multitude of baronial feuds, rebellions, or religious persecutions that led to the existence of so large a class of offenders. Sims' "Manual" or Thomas' "Handbook" should be consulted for exhaustive lists of this class of documents, as well as for numerous lists of GENTRY and FREEHOLDERS of different dates, pertaining to their respective counties.

MUSTER ROLLS, which give the names, rank, dwelling, and often other particulars, of those able to bear arms in each county, may be of interest to the local historian. The earliest of these returns, now at the P. R. O., are of the reign of Henry III.; there are great deficiencies up to the time of Henry VIII., but from that reign to the time of Charles II. they

are very voluminous. The names of officers from 1705 to 1755 are in the *Angliæ Notitia*, and afterwards in the regular Army Lists, a perfect series of which is in the B. M.

The LAY SUBSIDY ROLLS are a series of much value to the parish historian and genealogist. They have of late been carefully rearranged under counties, and demand close attention. The Rolls show the rate of taxation in different townships, with the names of the householders, levied on removables such as cattle and crops in the country, and on money and stock-in-trade in the boroughs. This great change from the old feudal levies on land first came about in 1188, at the time of the Second Crusade, when the nation granted a tenth of the value of both rents and movables to be paid by all except actual crusaders.

Among the national stores of the P. R. O. are various portions of Lay Subsidy Rolls with respect to the grants of the reigns of Edward I. and Edward II.; but the 1327–28 Subsidy Rolls are by far the most perfect for the country at large. These returns for some counties are absolutely complete, and in admirable preservation. This is the case with those for the large county of Suffolk. The whole of it was printed, with an introduction, as one of the "Suffolk Green Books," in 1906.

The twenty-two membranes of the full return for Derbyshire are complete, though illegible in parts. These were printed by Dr. Cox in 1907 in the *Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological Society*. Dr. Cox also printed in the *Journal of the East Riding Society* in 1908 the poll-tax return for that part of Yorkshire for 1378–79. The Subsidy Rolls of the Exchequer extend from Henry III. to William and Mary.

Lists of SHERIFFS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, and MAYORS OF BOROUGHS have been printed for almost every county from an early date, and can readily be found at public libraries. All summonses to Parliament for the reigns of Edward I. and II. are printed in Palgrave's "Parliamentary Writs," issued by the Record Commissioners in four folio volumes in 1827–34. Beatson's "Political Index" (3 vols. 8vo) contains lists of "all hereditary honours, public offices, and persons in office from the earliest period to 1806." The names of lords of the manor, or other individuals connected with the special parish treated of, should always be collated with such lists, in order to see if they held any of these important offices.

COUNTY RECORDS.—The various documents that are or ought to be in charge of the Clerk of the Peace, relative to all the multifarious

business transacted at Quarter Sessions, contain much that is of value relative to personal and local history. But it is almost tantalising to enumerate the different class of records that should be in the custody of the county officials, for in the majority of cases they are in so much confusion as to be practically useless for any literary purpose. Among the exceptions may be mentioned Derbyshire, Devonshire, Essex, Middlesex, and the North and West Ridings of Yorkshire. "Three Centuries of Derbyshire Annals, as illustrated by the Records of the Quarter Sessions from Queen Elizabeth to Queen Victoria," by Dr. Cox (2 vols., Bemrose and Sons, 1890), gives full details of the various groups of county documents, and aptly illustrates local government in all its branches. The salient points of the Devonshire Records are given in "Quarter Sessions from Queen Elizabeth to Queen Anne," by A. H. Hamilton.

Quarter Session records do not, as a rule, extend further back than the time of Elizabeth. The Historical Manuscript Commissioners have reported on the county records of Essex, beginning in Philip and Mary, on those of the North Riding, 4 Elizabeth, of the West Riding (Wakefield), 1657, and of Somerset (Taunton and Wells), 28 Henry VIII. The Middlesex County Record Society have issued two volumes

relative to documents from 3 Edward VI. to the end of Elizabeth.

Among County Records there ought to be muster and militia rolls; sessions rolls; sessions books, and books of indictments; oath rolls of allegiance, supremacy, and adjunction; registers of Papists' estates; presentments of Recusants and Nonconformists; conventicle convictions; sacramental certificates; statutory wages; licences for drovers, badgers, swailers, and hucksters; alehouse recognizances; deeds enrolled; enclosure awards and plans; assessments; tax on leather; hearth money and window tax returns; hair powder certificates; early poor law returns; land tax returns; apprentice indentures; and a great variety of petitions to Quarter Sessions. On this and kindred subjects, see a useful little handbook, "The Literature of Local Institutions" (Elliot Stock, 1886), by G. L. Gomme, F.S.A.

Boroughs Records.—These are in many instances of great antiquity; some charters going back to the time of the early Norman kings, but their condition and value are much varied.

Vol. XV. of the General Reports from the Commissioners on the Public Records, issued in a large folio in 1837, contains brief reports

on the records of the following towns: Altrincham, Andover, Ashburton, Axbridge, Banbury, Basingstoke, Beccles, *Beverley, Bishops Castle, Bodmin, *Bradeninch, Bridgnorth, Bridgwater, Bridport, Burford, Callington, Cardiff, Cardigan, Carlisle, Carnarvon, Chard, Chesterfield, Chippenham, Christchurch, Cirencester, Cockermouth, Colnbrook, Cowbridge, Cricklade, Crowcombe, Dartmouth, Deal, Devizes, Dover, Dudley, Dunmow, *Dunwich, Durham, Falmouth, Farnham, *Folkestone, Garstang, Glastonbury, Godalming, Grampound, Grantham, Greenwich, Grinstead, Guildford, Harwich, Hastings, Hemel Hempstead, Hereford, Holt, Honiton, Horsham, Huntingdon, *Hythe, Knaresborough, Lampeter, Longport, Llanidloes, Leeds, Leominster, Lydford, Lincoln, Liskeard, *London, Looe East, Looe West, Loughor, Louth, Lynn, Maidenhead, Maldon, Marazion, Monmouth, Morpeth, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newport, Newton, Oswestry, Penryn, Plymouth, *Pontefract, Portsmouth, *Preston, Queensborough, Radnor, Reigate, Retford, Saffron Walden, St. Germains, Salisbury, *Sandwich, *Scarborough, *Southampton, Southwold, *Tenterden, Thornbury, Tiverton, Totnes, Usk, *Wareham, *Warwick,

* Those marked with an asterisk are longer and of more importance than the remainder.

Watchet, Wenlock, Weobley, Westbury, Weymouth, Wisbeach, Wokingham, Woodstock, Worcester, Wycombe, and Yarmouth.

Reports have already been issued by the Historical Manuscripts Commission on the archives of the following English boroughs: Abingdon, Aldeburgh, Axbridge, Barnstaple, Berwick-on-Tweed, Beverley, Bishops Castle, Bridgnorth, Bridgwater, Bridport, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Canterbury, Carlisle, Chester, the Cinque Ports, Coventry, Dartmouth, Eye, Faversham, Folkestone, Fordwich, Glastonbury, Gloucester, Great Grimsby, Hastings, Hereford, Hertford, High Wycombe, Higham Ferrers, Hythe, Ipswich, Kendal, King's Lynn, Kingston-on-Thames, Launceston, Leicester, Lincoln, Lydd, Morpeth, New Romney, Newark, Norwich, Nottingham, Orford, Oswestry, Petersfield, Plymouth, Pontefract, Reading, Rochester, Rye, St. Albans, Salisbury, Sandwich, Shrewsbury, Southampton, Stratford-on-Avon, Tenterden, Totnes, Wallingford, Wells, Wenlock, Weymouth, Winchester, Wisbeach, Yarmouth, and York.

The Commissioners have also reported on the following parochial documents: Alwington, Carisbrooke, Cheddar, Hartland, Mendlesham, and Parkham.

The Records of the Borough of Chesterfield,

beginning with a charter of Henry II., were published in a single volume in 1884, and the early Records of the Borough of Nottingham (1155 to 1485), in three volumes, in 1882–83; two volumes on the Records of Northampton, by Dr. Cox and Mr. C. A. Markham, in 1898; and these were shortly followed by Miss M. Bateson's volumes on those of Leicester. Those of Carlisle, Derby, Norwich, and St. Albans have also been published; others are in progress. See also Merewether and Stephen's "History of the Boroughs and Municipal Corporations of the United Kingdom" (3 vols., 1835); Somers Vine's "English Municipal Institutions" (1879); and, more especially, Mrs. Green's admirable "Town Life in the Fifteenth Century" (2 vols., Macmillan, 1894). Any one, however, desiring knowledge as to what has been printed of every kind on England's towns, both small and great, will find Professor C. Gross's work, entitled "Bibliography of British Municipal History" (1897), a marvel of completeness.

Under the head of WORTHIES it may be worth while to consider whether the parish has ever had amongst its residents, or on its baptismal registers, the names of men of marked celebrity in any walk of life. Phillips' "Dictionary of Biographical Reference," containing

100,000 names, should be consulted; it refers the student to all good biographical dictionaries (such as Fuller's "Worthies of England," or Wood's "Athenæ"), as well as to separate lives. Leslie Stephen's great work, the "Dictionary of National Biography," begun in 1885, was brought to a conclusion, in 63 volumes, in 1900. Three supplemental volumes were issued in 1901. A substantial volume of *errata* came out in 1904. The work is of high merit and indispensable, but even careful revision has by no means purged it of all errors, which are particularly noticeable in references.

PAROCHIAL RECORDS

FOREMOST under this head come PARISH REGISTERS. Burn's "History of Parish Registers in England" (2nd edit., 1862) used to be the standard work on this subject, but it was superseded by Mr. Chester Waters' "Parish Registers in England, their History and Contents," a brief but charmingly written essay, and brimful of curious information. Both of these books have been long out of print. The author of this manual has now (1909) in the press a volume of the Antiquary's Books series, dealing exhaustively with this subject. In 1908 Mr. A. M. Burke brought out a valuable book, called "Key to the Ancient Parish Registers of England and Wales," wherein are tabulated the dates of the earliest entries and other particulars as to the whole of the parochial registers.

The first mandate for keeping registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials in each parish was issued in 1538, by Cromwell, as Vicar-General. It is the exception to find parish registers of this early date, but upwards of 800 still survive. This mandate was repeated in more rigorous terms on the accession of

Elizabeth, 1558, but not being regularly observed, it was ordained in 1597 that parchment register books should be purchased at the expense of each parish, and that all the names from the older books (mostly on paper) should be therein transcribed from 1558; hence it happens that so many parish registers begin with that year. It was at the same time ordered that copies of the registers should be annually forwarded to the episcopal registrar, to be preserved in the episcopal archives. This injunction, however, was so imperfectly carried out, and the duplicates when forwarded were so carelessly kept, that the diocesan copies of registers are mere fragments of what they should be, and are in several cases still in such confusion as to be practically inaccessible. The earliest transcripts at Lincoln begin in 1587, and at Gloucester in 1571, but there are few dioceses that have any earlier than 1660.

Many parishes have lost their early registers, and they are usually deficient or wanting during the Commonwealth. The following extract from the Kibworth, Co. Leicester, registers, tersely gives the reason for these usual deficiencies :—

"A.D. 1641. Know all men, that the reason why little or nothing is registered from the year 1641 until the year 1649, was the civil wars between King Charles and his Parliament, which put all into a confusion till then, and neither minister nor people could quietly stay at home for one party or the other."

Official inquiries were made of all the clergy in 1831, as to the exact date, condition, and number of the parish registers in their custody, and abstracts of their replies were published in a Blue Book in 1833. But it is not generally known that the returns themselves, often containing more information than was printed, are at the British Museum (Add. MSS. 9355, &c.). The dates there given are not, however, to be implicitly relied upon, as unfortunately some registers have been lost or stolen since that date, whilst others of an earlier date have happily, in some cases, been restored or discovered in the like period. Moreover, the returns made by the clergy are in a few instances ludicrously wrong, through inability to read the old figures.

Registers should be carefully looked through, not only for the purpose of extracting the names of prominent or interesting families, but also for the purpose of gleaning the innumerable little scraps of local information that were not infrequently interpolated in the earlier pages, such as notes pertaining to excommunication, licences for eating flesh in Lent, penance, remarkable or eccentric characters, storms, and weather observations, inventories of church goods, visitations of the plague or sweating sickness, national events, &c., &c.

Many of the clergy and others find a difficulty in reading the earlier registers. Reference has already been made to Wright's "Court-Hand Restored," but the greatest help in deciphering them will be the recollection that most of the letters of the ordinary hand of Elizabeth and the Stuarts, which differ from those now in use, are the same as those of the present German written characters, *e.g.* the letters "h" and "r." A few days' steady practice in transcribing old writing, beginning with the letters and words that can easily be read, ought to be sufficient to master the stiffest hands in parochial records.

The Congress of Archæological Societies, in union with the Society of Antiquaries, issued in 1892 a valuable report on the Transcription and Publication of Parish Registers. It can be obtained at the price of 6d., from the Secretary of the Congress, Burlington House. It contains some good notes as to the characters of the earlier register writing. A list is there given of all the parish registers that had been printed up to that date, as well as of those of which manuscript transcripts have been taken. Mr. Burke's "Key" supplies a list of those printed in whole or in part up to 1908.

In case there are any old Meeting Houses,

or congregations of Independents, Presbyterians, Quakers, or other Nonconformists in the parish, it will be well, with regard to these registers, to consult a Blue Book issued in 1841, called "Lists of Non-parochial Registers and Records in the custody of the Registrar-General" (Somerset House), wherein a county classification is observed; also a "Report on Non-parochial Registers," issued in 1857, wherein are enumerated those registers of the sects that were still in private custody.

In 1836 the General Register Office was instituted for England, and from 1st July 1837 all births, marriages, and deaths are recorded in quarterly volumes, which are thoroughly indexed. There are also preserved at Somerset House, "Registers and Records of Baptisms and Marriages performed at the Fleet and King's Bench Prisons, at Mayfair, and at the Mint, in Southwark," between the years 1674 and 1754.

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, giving particulars of rates, receipts, and payments for church purposes, are often highly interesting, and should be carefully preserved. Sometimes they are found entered in bound volumes, but more often tied up in bundles or tumbled in confusion in the parish chest.

Still more often they are altogether missing.

They can occasionally be recovered from the private dwellings of present or past churchwardens. The earliest printed are those of St. Michael's, Bath, 1349–1575, which were printed in the *Journal* of the Somerset Archæological Society for 1878 and following years. Among the next earliest are those of St. Laurence's, Reading, which begin in 1410. They have been admirably illustrated in the Rev. C. Kerry's "History of St. Laurence," published in 1883, which we have no hesitation in describing as one of the best monographs on a parish church yet issued. Those of All Saints', Derby, beginning in 1465, are of exceptional interest, and have been published by the writer of this book in conjunction with Mr. St. John Hope; they were accidentally discovered by Dr. Cox in an attic of the hall at Meynell Langley in 1875. Bishop Hobhouse edited for the Somerset Record Society, in 1890, the following pre-Reformation Somersetshire Churchwardens' Accounts: Tintinhull, 1433; Tatton, 1445; Croscombe, 1474; Pilton, 1507; and Morebath, 1520. There are far more extant of pre-Reformation date than is generally supposed to be the case. Dr. Cox has a volume on this subject now in course of preparation.

The Constables' Accounts, and the

Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor, will also sometimes be met with, beginning from a comparatively remote date, and will amply repay close attention. They throw a similar light on the secular history of a parish to that thrown on the religious history by the Churchwardens' Accounts. The thorough overhauling of the parish chest, or other receptacles of parish papers, and the classification of their contents, is strongly recommended, even where it seems to be most unpromising of results. There is no reason why even such apparently trivial things as the indentures of parish apprentices (which have the seals and signatures of Justices of the Peace) should not be preserved, neatly arranged, and docketed. Every scrap of paper of past generations, showing the inner working of parochial life, possesses some interest of its own; and future generations will thank us for their preservation. Moreover, a careful arrangement of parish papers often meets with more immediate reward. We have ourselves found missing portions of the 16th century registers, highly interesting deeds as early as the 14th century, royal proclamations and special forms of prayer, *temp.* Elizabeth and James I., in parochial litter put aside as valueless.

Of what can be gleaned from these parish

annals when tolerably perfect, we may be permitted to quote that which we have elsewhere written respecting the records of Youlgreave, a Derbyshire village, that have been classified with some care :—

"The future historian of this parish will find a vast stock of material ready to hand; and if such a work was ever accomplished, it would once more be seen how the history of even a remote village is but of the nation in little; how national victories were announced on the church bells, and national disasters by the proclamation of a form of prayer; how local self-government became gradually developed in the office of justice, constable, and overseer of the poor; how the press-gang worked its cruel way to man the ships and fill the regiments of the Georges; how the good folk of Youlgreave sent forth a spy to watch the movements of Charles Edward in 1745; and how they prepared to defend themselves by giving their constable a new bill-head, and repairing his old one; how unmerciful was the treatment of lunatics; and how free was the consumption of ale, on the smallest possible provocation, at the parish's expense; these, and a thousand other minutiæ, all of them possessing some point of interest, can be gleaned from these annals of a parish, to say nothing of the fairly

perfect genealogy of nearly every family, together with an account of their varying circumstances, that might be constructed by their aid."

The fullest and best technical information respecting the parish as a unit of the national life, with much that pertains to the history of its various officers from the earliest times, will be found in Toulmin Smith's "The Parish; its Powers and Obligations." The second edition was published in 1857 by H. Sweet, Chancery Lane. See also Bishop Kennet's "Parochial Antiquities" (1818), and Brady's "Popular Dictionary of Parochial Law and Taxation" (1834). But the best popular and admirably written treatise is that by Abbot Gasquet, entitled "Parish Life in Medieval England," first issued in 1906, and already in a third edition.

The history of the village and village officers has not hitherto received the full attention it deserves, for all our municipalities have developed out of village communities, and their various officials are but those of the petty rural parish adapted to the needs of an urban population. It will be well on this point to refer to the useful "Index of Municipal Offices," with an historical introduction, by G. L. Gomme, and to the two volumes of the Cobden Club Essays,

entitled "Local Government and Taxation," edited by J. W. Probyn, and published respectively in 1875 and 1887.

Lists of parochial CHARITIES are sometimes found in the parish chest, and more frequently on bequest boards in the church; but the local annotator should not consider that he has got a perfect or correct list until the elaborate reports of the Charity Commissioners, compiled in the first half of the century, have been consulted. These reports began in 1819, and extend to thirty-two volumes. In 1842 a most useful Blue Book was published, being an analytical digest of the voluminous reports arranged under parishes. There are later Reports with regard to Endowed Schools.

Decrees relating to charities from 43 Elizabeth to 8 George II. are to be found at the P. R. O. among the Chancery records; they have been indexed in manuscript, and are often of considerable parochial value.

Most careful attention is given to the question of parish charities in the topographical sections of the Victoria County Histories; the information is supplied by Mr. J. W. Owsley, I.S.O., who was for so many years connected with the Charity Commission.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

THE Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, Bede's Ecclesiastical History, or pre-Norman charters, occasionally give definite information of a church in a particular parish or district, but as a rule the earliest mention of the parish church will be found in the previously described DOMESDAY BOOK. But the Commissioners, not being specially instructed to make returns of churches, acted on their own judgment, and in some counties omitted them partially, and in others altogether.

TAXATIO ECCLESIASTICA P. NICHOLAI IV.—Pope Nicholas IV. (to whose predecessors in the See of Rome the first-fruits and tenths of all ecclesiastical benefices had for a long time been paid) granted the tenths in 1288 to Edward I. for six years, towards defraying the expenses of a Crusade; and that they might be collected to their full value, the king caused a valuation roll to be drawn up, which was completed in 1291, under the direction of John, Bishop of Winchester, and Oliver, Bishop of Lincoln. There are two copies of this roll

at the P. R. O., both of which appear to have been written in the reign of Henry IV., and there is a third, which is by far the oldest, among the Cottonian MSS. of the B. M. These three copies were collated and printed in a folio volume by the Record Commission in 1802. There are one or two other old copies of this roll in private libraries; one in the Chapter Library, Lichfield; and another in excellent condition in the muniment room of Lincoln Cathedral. From this return, the names and values of almost the whole of the 13th century churches and chapels of England can be gleaned.

Valor Ecclesiasticus.—The taxation of 1291 held good, and all the taxes from the benefices, as well to our kings as to the popes, were regulated by it until 27 Henry VIII., when a new survey was completed. Henceforth the first-fruits and tenths ceased to be forwarded to Rome, and were transferred to the Crown. In 1703 the receipts were appropriated, under the title of Queen Anne's Bounty, to the augmentation of the smaller livings. The original return of the King's Valor are at the P. R. O. They were officially published in six folio volumes between the years 1811 and 1834. In the latter year an "Introduction" of no little value was also published in

an 8vo volume, written by the Rev. Joseph Hunter.

Certificates of Colleges and Chantries. —About ten years after the completion of his ecclesiastical survey, Henry VIII. decided on appropriating the revenues belonging to Collegiate Churches and Chantries. As a preliminary measure to their sale, he appointed a commission, in the thirty-seventh year of his reign, to re-value this property, and to take an inventory of the chattels. The whole subject of the suppression of the Chantries, as conceived by Henry VIII. and finally carried out by Edward VI., is ably treated in the introduction to the volumes of the Chetham Society, which treat of the Lancashire Chantries, and more particularly in the Yorkshire Chantry Surveys of the Surtees Society (vols. xci., xcii.), by Mr. W. Page, F.S.A. The reports, or "Certificates," furnished by Henry's Commission with respect to the different chantries, are preserved at the P. R. O., and are entered on rolls arranged in eight parallel columns, in answer to a like number of queries. There are also abridged rolls on paper of some counties. Further information about chantries may be sometimes gleaned from certain MS. volumes at the P. R. O. entitled "Particulars for the Sale of Colleges and Chantries." Much light

is thrown on the often misunderstood question of the pension of the suppressed chantry priests, as well as of monastic persons, by the series of pension returns from 37 Henry VIII. to 1 Mary, comprised in fifteen volumes at the P. R. O. (Misc. Books, Augmentation Office, vols. 247 to 262). In the B. M. (Add. MSS. 8102) is a valuable roll of Fees, Corrodies, and Pensions, paid to members of the suppressed chantries and religious houses out of the Exchequer, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary. The pensions for the different counties are on separate skins, so that they are easy of reference.

Inventories of Church Goods.—There are various Inventories of Church Goods in the P. R. O., taken by Commission at the beginning of the reign of Edward VI., some on detached slips of parchment, others in paper books. The inventories are not absolutely perfect for all parishes in any one county. The returns to the Commissions are in two or three classes of records, to which there is no general calendar. Mr. W. Page, F.S.A., began printing a most useful list of the whole of these inventories in the *Antiquary* in 1890 (vol. xxi.). Brief calendars of these inventories will be found in the Seventh and Ninth Reports of the P. R. O., at pp. 307 and 233

respectively. In several counties the churches of one or more Hundreds are missing; for others, such as Somerset, Sussex, and the North Riding of Yorkshire, there are none extant. Nor are there any for Lincolnshire; but there is a MS. return of church furniture and ornaments of 150 churches of that county, taken in 1566, in the Episcopal Registry at Lincoln. This was published in 1866 by Edward Peacock, F.S.A. There are also some special inventories connected with other dioceses, which space forbids us to mention. A complete MS. list of these inventories has, however, been recently compiled in two volumes, which can be consulted at the P. R. O. On this subject it will be useful to read the preface to the Inventories of the counties of York, Durham, and Northumberland by Mr. W. Page, in the 1897 volume of the Surtees Society.

GUILDS AND FRATERNITIES.—Guilds and Fraternities of a more or less religious character, and usually directly connected with a special altar at the parish church, will naturally come under the history of the church, provided any can be detected in connection with the particular parish. It used to be supposed that these guilds were only found in cities or boroughs, but later researches show that they

also occasionally existed in quite small villages. The Parliament of 1381 directed writs to be sent to the sheriffs of each county, calling upon them to see that the Master and Wardens of all Guilds and Brotherhoods made returns to the King's Council in Chancery of all details pertaining to the foundation, statutes, and property of their guilds. A large number of the original returns (549) still remain in the P. R. O.; they are amongst the miscellanea of the Chancery (Bundles 38 to 46). A MS. list of these certificates has recently been prepared, arranged under counties. For some counties there are none extant, and for others only those from a single Hundred. More than one hundred of these returns have been printed or analysed by Toulmin Smith in a volume of the Early English Text Society, entitled "English Gilds." The general question of Guilds has been dealt with by Rev. Dr. Lambert, in his "Two Thousand Years of Guild Life" (Brown & Sons, Hull, 1891). Mr. Hibbert's essay on "The Influence and Development of English Gilds" (Cambridge University Press, 1892) gives a good summary of the subject.

On the question of town Guilds, in their secular as well as their religious aspect, see the important volume issued in 1908 by

Mr. George Unwin, entitled "The Gilds and Companies of London."

Heraldic Church Notes.—In the different heraldic visitation books, especially those *temp.* Elizabeth, which have been previously described, there often occur interesting church notes, which not only detail heraldic glass in the windows and arms on the monuments, but also occasionally give inscriptions that have long since disappeared. These can only be found by a careful inspection of the heralds' register books of the county in which the parish is situated, or by searching the indexes of manuscripts at the British Museum, Bodleian, &c.

Commonwealth Survey.—In pursuance of various ordinances of the Parliament, a complete survey of the possessions of Bishops, Deans, and Chapters, and of all the benefices, was made in 1649–1650, by specially appointed Commissioners. These interesting returns, filling twenty-one large folio volumes, are in the Library of Lambeth Palace, and numbered in the catalogue of MSS. from 902 to 922. The returns for the counties of Berks, Bucks, Dorset, Essex, Gloucester, Hertford, Lancaster, Lincoln, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northumberland, Oxford, Sussex, Westmoreland, Wilts, and East Riding of Yorkshire are at

the P. R. O. These are said to be the only originals, and the Lambeth volumes official copies; but in some cases we are convinced that the Lambeth returns are original. These surveys have hitherto been singularly overlooked by county historians and ecclesiologists, though occasional extracts have been published from a much abbreviated and inaccurate summary, based on these documents, which forms No. 459 of the Lansdowne MSS. in the B. M.

The Record Book of the Commonwealth Commissioners for augmenting rectories and vicarages (MSS. 966–1021); the original presentations to various benefices from 1652 to 1659 (MSS. 944–7); counterparts of leases of church lands made by authority of Parliament from 1652 to 1658 (MSS. 948–50); and *Notitia Parochialis* (6 vols., MSS. 960–5), which give an account of 1579 parish churches in the year 1705, are also in Lambeth Library.

Briefs.—Royal Letters Patent, authorising collections for charitable purposes within churches, and sometimes from house to house, were termed "Briefs." Lists of them, from the time of Elizabeth downwards, are often to be found on the fly-leaves of old register books, or in churchwardens' accounts. The repair or rebuilding of churches in post-Reformation days, until nearly the beginning of the Catholic

Revival, was almost invariably effected by this method. About the middle of last century, owing to the growing frequency of Briefs, it was ordered that they should only be granted on the formal application of Quarter Sessions. Much information as to the condition of the fabrics and other particulars relative to churches can be gathered from the petitions to Quarter Sessions, in those counties where the documents are accessible. The Briefs themselves were issued from the Court of Chancery, so we suppose they would be attainable at the P. R. O. At the B. M. is a large collection of original Briefs, from 1754 down to their abolition in 1828. They were presented to the Museum in 1829, by Mr. J. Stevenson Salt. An admirable volume of some 450 pages on this whole subject was issued by Mr. W. A. Bewes in 1896, entitled "Church Briefs, or Royal Warrants for Collections for Charitable Objects"; it contains a full classified list of all Briefs from the beginning of the Commonwealth up to 1828. The index of places benefited by Briefs will prove of great value to local historians.

Advowson.—The history of the advowson, if the living remained a rectory, was almost invariably intermixed with that of the manor, or the moieties of the manor. Consequently,

it will be found that, in the case of rectories, various particulars as to the owners of the advowson, and its value at different periods, can be gleaned from the Inquisitions, and from the Patent and Close Rolls, to which references have already been made; or, in the case of litigation, from the Plea Rolls and Year Books. If the living became at any time a vicarage, care should be taken to look through the particulars given by Dugdale and Tanner, and materially supplemented in the Victoria County Histories, of the religious house to which the big tithes were appropriated, and more especially to carefully search the chartularies of that establishment, if any are extant. There is a good list of the various monastic chartularies, *i.e.* ancient parchment books, containing transcripts or abstracts of the charters of the different houses, in the first two volumes of Nichols' *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, and a shorter one in Sims' "Manual."

The Ordination of a Vicarage, *i.e.* the official appropriation of certain parts of the endowment for the sustentation of a vicar, required episcopal confirmation; and these ordinations will usually be found in the Episcopal Registers, if they are extant for the date when the rectory was formally appropriated. These ordinations often contain information of

great interest, and have hitherto been very rarely searched for, and still more rarely printed.

The terms used in these documents for different sorts of tithes, for the various produce of the soil, &c., &c., will be sought for in vain in any ordinary Latin dictionary; for their explanation it will be necessary to consult a glossary of medieval or monastic terms. The most handy and accurate is the abridged edition of the glossaries of Du Cange, Du Fresne, &c., in six volumes, 8vo, published at Halle between 1722 and 1784. A more accessible book is Abbé Maigne's *Lexicon Manuale ad scriptores mediæ et infimæ Latinitatis*, published in 1866, and which can be obtained for about 20s. Some such work will also be found indispensable in consulting the monastic chartularies and many of the records and rolls. Many of the terms will be found in the last two editions of Cowel's "Interpreter," 1708 and 1737, which can much more readily be met with than the larger glossaries. Another antiquated but most useful book in this respect is Giles Jacob's "Law Dictionary"; but there is great need for a one-volume compendious glossary, and it is hoped that such a work may shortly be undertaken. The best of the short lists of the Low-Latin words usually met with is in Martin's "Record Interpreter," already mentioned.

Lists of Incumbents.—Lists of rectors and vicars, giving the date of their institution, and the names of their respective patrons, are indispensable to a complete parochial history, and they are now not infrequently compiled for placing, in some more or less permanent form, on the church walls. They are, for the most part, to be obtained from the diocesan registers. This work, in several dioceses, will be found to involve no small labour, for bishops' secretaries were not always particular to separate institutions from other episcopal acts, and occasionally placed them in precise chronological order for the whole diocese, without any regard to archdeaconries and other minor divisions. But the trouble will be amply repaid by the numerous quaint and interesting little details that the searcher will be almost sure to discover. Many of our episcopal registers, or act books, are of supreme interest, and yet they are perhaps less known than any class of original documents. The dates at which these registers begin average about the year 1300. The following are their respective initial years: Canterbury, 1279; London, 1306; Winchester, 1282; Ely, 1336; Lincoln, 1217; Lichfield, 1296; Wells, 1309; Salisbury, 1297; Exeter, 1257; Norwich, 1299; Worcester, 1268; Hereford, 1275; Chichester, 1397; Rochester, 1319; York, 1214; and

Carlisle, 1292. The old registers of Durham are mostly lost, that of Bishop Kellaw, 1311–1318, being the oldest. The Welsh dioceses are — St. David, 1397; Bangor, 1512; St. Asaph, 1538; and Llandaff, 1619.

Since the issue of the last edition of this manual, in 1895, a great stride has been made in the printing of Episcopal Act Books. The Canterbury and York Society was established in 1904 for printing Bishops' registers and other ecclesiastical records, of which the Archbishops of Canterbury and York were the joint presidents. It is a society eminently worthy of support. The annual subscription is a guinea. All communications respecting it should be addressed to the Honorary Secretaries, 124 Chancery Lane, London. Its publications up to the present date (October 1909) are :—

Lincoln.—Hugh de Welles, 1209–1235.
Carlisle.—John de Halton, 1292–1324.
Canterbury.—Parts of John Peckham, 1279–1292; and Matthew Parker, 1559–1575.
Hereford.—Thomas Cantilupe, 1272–1275; Richard Swinfield, 1283–1317; and Adam Orleton, 1317–1325.

Important registers of London and other dioceses are in active preparation.

The following is a list of what has been accomplished in a like direction outside the

Canterbury and York Society; but only a few of these are full transcripts :—

Canterbury.—Letters from the Register of John Peckham, 1278–1294. Rolls Series.

York.—Walter de Grey, 1215–1255; Walter Gifford, 1266–1279; W. de Wickwaine, 1279–1285. All issued by the Surtees Society.

Winchester.—John de Sandal, 1316–1320; R. de Asserio, 1320–1323; W. of Wykeham, 1367–1404. All issued by the Hampshire Historical Society.

Durham.—R. Kellawe, 1311–1316, Rolls Series; R. de Bury, 1338–1343, Surtees Society.

Bath and Wells.—Walter Giffard, 1265–1266; J. de Drokensford, 1309–1329; Ralph of Shrewsbury, 1329–1363; Henry Bowett, 1401–1407. All issued by the Somerset Record Society.

Also Richard Fox, 1492–1494, printed by E. C. Batten in 1889.

Chichester.—Richard Praty, 1439–1445; Robert Reade, 1397–1414, summaries with extracts. Issued by the Sussex Record Society.

Ely.—Copious extracts are continually appearing in the Ely Diocesan Remembrancer.

Exeter.—Walter Branscombe, 1257–1280; Peter Wyville, 1280–1291; Thomas de Button, 1292–1307; Walter Stapleton, 1307–1327; James de Berkeley, 1327; John de Grandison, 1327–1376; Thomas de Brantingham, 1370–1394; Edmund Stafford, 1395–1419. All these are edited and issued by Prebendary Hingeston-Randolph in an abbreviated form.

Lichfield.—Roger de Northburgh, 1322–1358; Robert de Stretton, 1358–1385. These are English extracts issued by the William Salt Society.

Llandaff.—Act Books in the course of publication relating to the following Bishops:—

Book I.—Theophilus Field, 1619–1627; William Murray, 1627–1638; Morgan Owen, 1639–1644; Hugh Lloyd, 1660–1667; Francis Davies, 1667–1674; William Lloyd, 1675–1679. The above form vol. ii. of "Llandaff Records."

Book II.—Subscriptions during the last three of the above episcopates.

Book III.—Acts of the episcopates of William Lloyd, 1675–1679; William Beaw, 1679–1705; John Tylor, 1706–1724. Books II. and III. form vol. iii. of "Llandaff Records."

Salisbury.—St. Osmund, 1078–1107. Roll Series. This is not an episcopal register in the usual sense of the word.

Worcester.—Godfrey Gifford, 1268–1301; Walter Gainsborough, 1302–1307. *Sede vacante*, 1301–1435. Translations issued by the Worcestershire Historical Society.

Gaps are not unusual in the episcopal registers for some time subsequent to the Reformation, when the books were often kept in a slovenly fashion. These deficiencies can be frequently supplied from the lists of institutions at the P. R. O.

The reason for institutions to ecclesiastical benefices being found at Chancery Lane is made clear by the following statement, copied from Mr. Scargill Bird's work on the Records: "The primitive, or first fruits, were the profits of every spiritual living for

the first year after avoidance, which were in ancient times given to the Pope throughout all Christendom. On the rejection of the Papal Supremacy in the reign of Henry VIII., they were vested in the King by statute 26 Henry VIII., c. 3, and a new valuation was then made, called the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, by which the clergy are at present rated. A court was erected 32 Henry VIII. for the administration of this revenue, but it was soon afterwards dissolved, and the first year of Queen Mary the office of First Fruits and Tenths was made a branch of the Exchequer. In the second year of Queen Anne that Sovereign restored to the Church what had at first been indirectly taken from it, not by remitting the payment of First Fruits and Tenths entirely, but by applying the sums received from the larger benefices to make up the deficiencies of the smaller ; for this purpose she granted a charter, afterwards confirmed by statute, whereby all the revenue of the First Fruits and Tenths is vested in trustees to form a perpetual fund for the augmentation of poor livings under £50 a year. This is usually called 'Queen Anne's Bounty,' and has been further regulated by subsequent statutes."

The Bishops' Certificates of Institutions to Benefices from 1558 to 1862 have been

carefully calendared, and are comprised in fifteen large MS. volumes in the Search Room.

There is, too, a single MS. index volume at the P. R. O. to the presentations to livings in the gift of the Crown between 1 Edw. I. and 24 Edw. III.

The *Clerical Subsidy Rolls*, which begin in Edward I., will also, from time to time, supply missing names; they are somewhat fitfully indexed.

Lambeth Library, as already stated, will generally supply the names of ministers during the Commonwealth.

The Archiepiscopal Registers of the same library should also be searched for occasional appointments throughout the province during the vacancy of a see, or those of York, if of the northern province.

If the benefice is, or was, under the Duchy of Lancaster, search at the P. R. O. will generally yield a fairly complete list, both of medieval and post-Reformation incumbents.

It is scarcely necessary to say that no list of incumbents should be considered complete until the latter part has been carefully collated with the parish registers.

Catalogues of all the English Bishops, with particulars as to their consecration, are to be found in Bishop Stubbs' *Registrum Sacrum*

Anglicanum (2nd ed., 1897); and similar lists of Deans, Prebendaries, and minor dignitaries, in Hardy's edition of Le Neve's *Fasti Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ*. See also that most useful compilation, Haydn's "Book of Dignitaries" (2nd ed., 1890). These works may probably be useful when drawing up the list of parish priests so as to note those raised to superior positions. Lists of priests appointed to the more important chantries can usually also be extracted from the diocesan registers, for, except in peculiar circumstances, they required episcopal institution.

Any facts of interest or importance that can be ascertained respecting the successive incumbents should be chronicled. For the time of the Commonwealth, Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy" on the one hand, and Calamy's "Ejected Ministers" on the other, should be consulted. They both make mention of a very great number of the clergy.

Dedication.—The dedication of the church should never be taken for granted from county gazetteers or directories, or even from diocesan calendars, though some, such as those of York and Lichfield, have been carefully corrected. Dedications to All Saints, and to the Blessed Virgin, should be viewed with some suspicion until firmly established, for in the time

of Henry VIII. the dedication festivals, or "wakes," were often transferred to All Saints' Day, or Lady Day, in order to avoid a multiplicity of holidays, and hence by degrees the real dedication became forgotten. Ecton's *Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum* (1742) and Bacon's *Liber Regis* (1786) should be consulted for dedications; various ones are omitted, but those given are usually right. Occasionally the patron saints of the different churches are mentioned in the institutions in the episcopal registers, and more often in monastic chartularies; but the surest of all references, in the case of a doubtful dedication, is to look up the pre-Reformation wills of the lords of the manor or other chief people of the parish. These wills generally contain an early clause to this effect: "I leave my body to be buried within the church of St. ——." The time of the wakes or the village feast is a good guide to the dedication, but one which, from the reason stated above, as well as from other causes, must not be implicitly relied upon.

Confusion, too, has not infrequently been caused through clergy and others failing to discriminate between an old fair day and the wakes. The time for holding a fair was ordered by the Crown in its charter; it had no kind of connection with the church, and the

mention of some particular saint's day was solely for the purpose of fixing a definite calendar date. Blunders of this kind have caused the error of assigning the old church of Wellingborough to St. Luke, and other like dedications in Northamptonshire. St. Luke was a highly unusual medieval dedication, and should always be viewed with suspicion.

Another point worth remembering with regard to dedications, is that re-consecration was of occasional occurrence. A church was re-consecrated when the fabric was altogether or considerably rebuilt, and it was also held to be imperative whenever the high altar was removed, as in the case of prolonging a chancel. At the time of these re-consecrations, it occasionally happened that the name of the patron saint was changed, not from mere caprice or love of novelty, but because relics of that particular saint were obtained for enclosure in the chief or high altar. This should be borne in mind when a discrepancy is found in the name of the patron saint of the same church at different medieval epochs.

The chapter of Parker's "Calendar of the Anglican Church," entitled "A few remarks on the dedication of English Churches," is worth reading. This small book is also valuable for the brief account of the saints most frequently

met with in England, both in dedications and otherwise. The first half of the book has been republished once or twice, under the title of "Calendar of the Prayer Book," but it leaves out the chapters here mentioned, and is comparatively valueless as compared with the edition of 1851. Harrington "On the Consecration of Churches," published by Rivington in 1844, should also be read.

Three admirable volumes were brought out in 1899 by Miss Frances Arnold-Foster, entitled "Studies in Church Dedications; or, England's Patron Saints." The lives of the saints are well told, and the work gives proof of much untiring labour. The various indexes are thorough of their kind, and should certainly be consulted. It is, however, only fair to note a decided flaw in these pages: the dedications have been gleaned with simple faith in the accuracy of official diocesan calendars, whereas, as all students know, they are not infrequently wrong, notably in Peterborough diocese.

With regard to saints and their emblems, Twining's "Christian Symbols and Emblems" (Murray, 1885) will be found fairly satisfactory, though rather sketchy, and not up to date. F. C. Husenbeth's "Emblems of the Saints" (2nd ed., 1860) is a good and well-illustrated

book, but even this might be materially added to and improved. A small book called "Saints and their Symbols," by E. M. Greene, came out in 1904, but it is only of value to those visiting foreign galleries.

Sculpture in stone, carving in wood, and painting on glass and walls, as well as on roofs or screens, often suggest difficulties as to the meaning of symbols or designs. On such points it would be well to consult Miss Margaret Stokes' edition of Didron's "Christian Iconography" (2 vols., Bell & Sons, 1886), Mr. J. Romilly Allan's admirable "Christian Symbolism in Great Britain and Ireland" (Whiting & Co., 1887), and Dr. E. S. Cutts' "History of Early Christian Art" (S.P.C.K., 1893).

The best book, however, of this character, which deals also incidentally with emblems, is Mrs. N. Bell's "Saints in Christian Art," in three volumes (1901–4).

DESCRIPTION OF THE CHURCH

HAVING finished the history of the church, it will be best to follow it up by a description of the fabric of the church, and of all its details.

STYLES OF ARCHITECTURE.—In deciding as to the different "periods" under which to classify the various styles into which almost every parish church is more or less divided, it is usual to follow simple and at one time generally accepted divisions of English architecture, originally adopted by Mr. Rickman, viz. (1) the Saxon, from 800 to 1066; (2) the Norman, from 1066 to 1145; (3) the Early English, from 1145 to 1272; (4) the Decorated, from 1272 to 1377; and (5) the Perpendicular, from 1377 to 1509. Some competent writers always speak of three periods of Transition, covering the reigns of Henry II., Edward I., and Richard II.; whilst others, and this may be well adopted, speak of only one regular "Transition," meaning by that term the period between the Early English and Decorated, or the reign of Edward I. (1272–1307).

These divisions were generally accepted as sufficing for popular purposes; but of the more detailed and technical divisions of later writers, there are none so correct in nomenclature, and so accurate in separation of style, as the seven periods of Mr. Edmund Sharpe. The first and second of his periods are the same as given above, but the third is styled the Transitional, from 1145 to 1190; the fourth, the Lancet, from 1190 to 1245; the fifth, the Geometrical, from 1245 to 1315; the sixth, the Curvilinear, from 1315 to 1360; and the seventh, the Rectilinear, from 1360 to 1550. See Sharpe's "Seven Periods of English Architecture," with its excellent series of plates. The styles, however, overlap each other so much, and differ in duration in different parts of England, that the more careful writers of the last few years have, for the most part, dropped the use of set terms—both "Decorated" and "Perpendicular" are in reality absurd misnomers—and confine themselves to assigning different parts of a church to a particular century or reign.

There are numerous architectural manuals, but Parker's "Glossary of Gothic Architecture" has not, so far as the illustrations are concerned, been surpassed, and is very comprehensive. The best edition is the fifth (octavo),

with the two additional volumes of plates. A great variety of smaller manuals on Gothic architecture have appeared, but not one of them is satisfactory. There is still room for an introductory book on sound lines at a modest price.

A very useful work to possess is the eleventh edition of M. H. Bloxam's "Gothic Architecture," published in three volumes, by Bell, in 1882. The third volume, which deals with the questions of vestments and internal arrangement of churches, and which also includes an excellent treatise on Sepulchral Monuments, can be obtained separately.

A particularly helpful handbook for a beginner is Mr. George Clinch's "Old English Churches" (2nd ed., 1903), which deals with furniture, &c., as well as architecture, after a comprehensive fashion.

It remains to draw emphatic attention to the epoch-making, grand volume of Mr. Francis Band, issued in 1905 (Batsford), entitled "Gothic Architecture in England," containing 800 pages and 1254 illustrations. It would take pages to analyse its merits and originality. The best critics received it with a chorus of acclamation. The *Times* said: "As a mine of erudition, of detailed analysis and information, and of criticism, the book is worthy of all praise."

Before classifying the different parts of the building according to the various periods, a most careful inspection should be made of both inner and outer walls, when fragments of mouldings, or of knot-work, pertaining possibly to an earlier church than any now standing, may not infrequently be detected.

With regard to the Romano-British structures which show traces of pre-Augustinian Christianity (Reculver; St. Martin's, Canterbury; and Lyminge), the wholly admirable little volume by Mr. Romilly Allen, "Monumental History of the British Church" (S.P.C.K., 1889), should be consulted. Brixworth has no Roman work in it, only a large utilisation of Roman materials. The intensely interesting discovery of the foundations of an undoubted Romano-British Church at Silchester is recorded and illustrated in the Report of the Excavations for 1892 (Society of Antiquaries), and is also described by Mr. St. John Hope in vol. xxvi. of the *Antiquary*. The few other features of the Christian Archæology of the pre-Augustinian Church will be found described in Mr. Romilly Allen's volume, though some additional ones have been brought to light since 1889.

There is a good deal more of Anglo-Saxon or pre-Norman English Architecture yet extant

in our churches than is usually supposed. Careful observation of the jointing and tooling of the large stones of early church towers and of plain round-headed archways will often show the cross-axing of the Saxon workman, instead of the diagonal lines of the Norman mason. We strongly recommend all students of church architecture to obtain an illustrated shilling pamphlet by Mr. J. Park Harrison (Henry Frowde, 1893), called "English Architecture before the Conquest." It contains some remarkable drawings of architectural details copied from Anglo-Saxon MSS. Mr. C. C. Hodges contributed an excellent series of papers to the *Reliquary* (1892–94) on the pre-Conquest Churches of Northumberland, Durham, and North Yorkshire.

The Publishing Committee of the venerable Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge are somewhat weak in archæology and history. They put forth good books on such subjects, but occasionally others equally bad. It is almost comical to note how they allow their authors to flatly contradict each other. "The Old Churches of our Land" (the author shall be nameless), profusely illustrated, is full of blunders, and says there is only one Saxon church in England, namely, that of Bradford-on-Avon, and that the other remains are of

"the plainest and rudest description, scarcely meriting to be regarded as works of architecture." We are content to let that other competent S.P.C.K. author, Mr. Romilly Allen, answer him. He considers that there are fine Saxon churches at Brixworth (Northants), Deerhurst (Gloucester), Coshampton (Hants), Worth (Sussex), and Escombe (Durham); remarkable towers at Earls Barton and Barnack (Northants), Barton-on-Humber, Waithe, Holton-le-Clay, Clee, and Glentworth (Lincoln), St. Benets (Cambs), Sompting (Sussex), St. Mary, Bishophill, or Hornby (Yorks), Wyckham (Berks), Northleigh (Oxon), Monkwearmouth, Bolam, and Billingham (Durham), St. Andrew's, Bywell, and Ovingham (Northumberland), and Herringfleet (Suffolk); Saxon sculpture is to be found in the following churches: Britford, Bradford-on-Avon, Monkwearmouth, Barnack, Earls Barton, Offchurch, Sompting, Stanton Lucy, Deerhurst, Daglingworth, Langford, Headbourne, Worthy, Hackness, and Ledsham; and crypts of the same date exist at Ripon, Hexham, Brixworth, Wing, and Repton. These lists might be very materially enlarged.

Professor G. Baldwin Brown's volume on "Ecclesiastical Architecture in England from the Conversion of the Saxons to the Norman Conquest" (1903) gives an index list of 104

churches where more or less pre-Conquest masonry exists. To this list the writer of this manual can add at least sixty other instances from his own observation.

About thirty years ago he completed his critical examination of the old churches of Derbyshire ("Churches of Derbyshire," 4 vols., Bemrose, 1874–78), and considered there were remains of Saxon work, *in situ*, in the fabrics of six churches; further experience has now convinced him of its occurrence in at least seven other churches of that county.

MONUMENTS.—During recent years, the attention that has so long been needed has begun to be given to the subject of the archæology of the Saxon church, more especially as regards its monuments. The best short book on the subject is Mr. Romilly Allen's work, to which reference has just been made. These pre-Norman inscribed and sculptured memorial stones prove to be far more numerous and of far better art than archæologists were wont to suppose. They merit the closest attention.

The local annalist should always be careful to abjure the term "Runic," at one time so generally applied to all crosses or other ancient sculpture ornamented with the interlaced knot or braid work, unless the stone is inscribed. The term is a complete and ignorant misnomer

as often used; it would be none the less absurd to call an apple-tree mistletoe because the latter plant occasionally grows upon it, than to style ancient crosses or slabs runic simply because runes are sometimes found inscribed upon them. A "rune," both in Scandinavian and Teutonic dialects, is merely an alphabetical character, and has no further connection with scroll or braid work than that the two are sometimes found upon the same cross. Putting aside Gothic, Scandinavian, Manx, and Tree runes, which do not occur in England, the following is a list of English Christian monuments that bear Anglian runes (so far as they have yet been discovered): Erect crosses at Bewcastle (Cumberland), Chester-le-Street (Durham), Crowle (Lincoln), Lancaster, Alnmouth (Northumberland), and Collingham, Hackness, and Thornhill (Yorks); sepulchral slabs at Hartlepool (Durham) and Dover (Kent); recumbent hog-backed stone at Falstone (Northumberland); and fragments at Monkwearmouth (Durham) and Leeds (Yorks).

The oldest Celtic sepulchral monuments of Great Britain and Ireland have inscriptions in the early Ogham alphabet, or in debased Latin capitals, and sometimes are bilingual, having the two characters on the same stone. Only one Ogham inscription has been found in England,

and that as lately as 1894, in the church porch of Lewannick, Cornwall; it is described in the *Antiquary* (vol. xxx. p. 92). A bilingual (Ogham and Latin) inscription was discovered in the same churchyard in 1894, and there are two more of this double description in Devonshire. Devonshire has also seventeen monumental Celtic inscriptions in Latin capitals, and Cornwall five.

There are inscriptions in Latin capitals on Christian Saxon monuments on crosses at Carlisle Cathedral, Bishop Auckland, and Monkwearmouth (Durham), Alnmouth (Northumberland), Dewsbury, Hackness, Ripon, Thornhill, Wycliffe, and York (Yorks), and Trevillet (Cornwall); on sepulchral slabs at Hartlepool (Durham) and Wensley (Yorks); and on a headstone at Whitchurch (Hants).

In the Saxon and Danish districts the inscriptions found on stones are most usually in Latin capitals or in Runes; but in the Celtic portion of Great Britain, from the 7th to the 11th century, they are minuscules, a character intermediate between capitals and the cursive or running hand. The following is a list of English Christian monuments having minuscule inscriptions: Crosses, Beckermet (Cumberland), Dewsbury, Hawkswell, and Yarm (Yorks), and St. Neot and Lanherne

(Cornwall); sepulchral slabs, Hartlepool and Billingham (Durham), and Camborne and Pendarves (Cornwall); and recumbent hog-backed stone, Falstone (Northumberland).

With regard to the uninscribed Christian monuments of the Anglo-Saxon period, ornamented with the interlaced Hiberno-Saxon decoration, which consist of erect crosses, erect headstones, recumbent hog-backed stones, and sepulchral slabs or coffin lids, and their dispersed fragments, they have now been identified with at least 310 localities, and as several stones belonging to different monuments are often found in the same place, their number cannot fall far short of 700. We gave in the last edition a table of their geographical distribution over the forty counties of England, from which it appeared that these monuments were most numerous in those parts of England which, in the 9th century, constituted the southern half of Northumbria and the northern half of Mercia. Their date probably varies between the 7th and 11th centuries.

As fresh examples come to light every few months, it has not been thought worth while to repeat the table. It may be mentioned that only one site was named for Hampshire in 1895, and now nine are known; in the like period the Nottinghamshire sites have increased

from one to five, and Yorkshire from seventy-four to eighty-one. Durham has upwards of 150 examples, found on twenty-one different sites.

On the interesting subject of these pre-Conquest stones the following, among other papers, may be noted: "The Pre-Norman Sculptured Stones of Derbyshire" (*Journal of Derbyshire Archæological Society*, 1886); "The Ancient Sculptured Shaft in the Parish Church at Leeds" (*Journal of British Archæological Association*, 1885); "Three Ancient Cross Shafts, the Font, and St. Bertram's Shrine at Ilam" (Bell & Sons, 1888, price 2s. 6d.), by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Bristol; "Early Christian Sculpture in Northamptonshire" (*Northampton Architectural Society*), by Mr. J. Romilly Allen; "Notes on pre-Norman Sculptured Stones in Wilts" (*Wilts Archæological Society*, 1894), by Messrs. Goddard and Romilly Allen; and "Notes on Specimens of Interlacing Ornament at Kirkstall Abbey" (*Journal of British Archæological Association*), by Mr. J. T. Irvine. The nature and origin of the remarkable interlacing ornament is dealt with at length by Mr. J. Romilly Allen in vols. xvii. and xix. of the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*; by Mr. Arthur G. Langdon in No. 30 of the *Journal of the*

Royal Institution of Cornwall; and by Miss Margaret Stokes in "Early Christian Art in Ireland" (1887). As the result of later and more skilled investigations, the following admirable and nobly illustrated essays on pre-Conquest carved stones have appeared in recent volumes of the Victoria County History Scheme: Cumberland, by Mr. W. G. Collingwood; Derbyshire, by Mr. J. Romilly Allen; Durham, by Mr. C. C. Hodges; and Hampshire, by Mr. J. Romilly Allen.

Inscriptions on later monuments now missing, or partly obliterated, may sometimes be recovered from the Church Notes of Heraldic Visitations, or other MS. notebooks of ecclesiologists of past generations, in which some counties are peculiarly fortunate. For a tolerably exhaustive list of MSS. of this description that may be found in our public libraries, arranged under counties, see Sims' "Manual." It may also be useful to refer to two printed works — Le Neve's *Monumenta Anglicana*, 5 vols., 8vo (1717–1719), and Weever's "Ancient Funerall Monuments," the latest edition of which, with additions, is a 4to vol. of 1767. The former gives inscriptions on monuments of eminent persons who deceased between 1600 and 1718; the latter treats generally of all monuments in the

dioceses of Canterbury, Rochester, London, and Norwich. Bloxam on "Monumental Architecture" (1834) is a useful handbook on the general subject of monuments.

Cutts' "Manual of Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses" is the only book dealing exclusively with the interesting subject of early INCISED SLABS. It is well done, but much more has come to light on the subject since it was written (1846), and a new manual is much wanted. See also Boutell's "Christian Monuments" (1854).

In some counties, where stone abounds, remains of this description are found in most churches. If any part of the church is being rebuilt, the debris should be most carefully looked over; and a minute inspection of the existing masonry will often detect more or less perfect specimens of incised cross slabs that have been utilised in the masonry by the church restorers of past generations.

The scandalous way in which the great majority of English "Church Restorers" of the last century have treated monuments, particularly those on the floors of churches, was almost exactly paralleled in England at the end of the twelfth and beginning of the thirteenth centuries. At the time when our builders were beginning to realise the superior beauty and grace of the pointed over the round

arch, their destruction of earlier fabrics, and their cool appropriation of usefully shaped stone or slabs, however well carved or inscribed, was simply ruthless. Much the same thing occurred, though not to the same extent, when changes of style gradually came about in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

The lintels of the windows (especially of the clerestory and of the tower), the inner side of the parapets or battlements, the stone seats of the porch, and of course the whole of the flooring, should be critically scanned for these relics.

Haines' "Manual of Monumental Brasses" (2 vols., Parker, 1861) is still the standard work on that class of memorials. The second volume consists of a fairly full list of brasses throughout the kingdom, though it is now high time for a new edition, which has, we believe, been long in preparation. Several counties, such as Northampton (Hudson), Kent (Belcher), Norfolk (Cotman), and Cornwall (Dunkin), have special volumes on their respective brasses. Boutell's "Monumental Brasses" (1847) is an excellent general work on the subject, with good illustrations; but the latest and most able handbook is that by the Rev. H. W. Macklin, entitled "The Brasses of England" (1907), with 84 illustrations, now in a second edition.

The Monumental Brass Society, which in January 1894 succeeded to the Cambridge University Association of Brass Collectors, issues transactions and fac-similes; it is continuing to do excellent work under the directorship of Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A.

There is no good handbook dealing exclusively with STONE EFFIGIES, a great desideratum; the big illustrated folios of Gough's "Sepulchral Monuments" and Stothard's "Monumental Effigies" (new edition, with large additions by John Hewitt, published by Chatto & Windus in 1876) may be consulted with advantage.

"The Monumental Effigies of Great Britain," by F. and G. Hollis, give some admirable specimens, but it is a rare book. Another desirable volume to consult for purposes of comparison is "The Recumbent Effigies of Northamptonshire," by Albert Hartshorne, 1876, somewhat expanded in his treatment of the same subject in vol. i. of the Victoria History of that county. The Victoria History of Cumberland has an excellent article on the stone effigies of that county, by the Rev. Canon Bower, wherein forty-one effigies are described which occur in twenty-four churches.

It is high time that the imaginary connection between CROSS-LEGGED EFFIGIES AND THE

Crusades should be exploded; and yet how rampant is that fiction in certain places, and how constantly it has to be contradicted. To upset this fiction, it is enough to enumerate the following facts:—

1. That many effigies of actual Crusaders are not represented cross-legged.

2. That many effigies of knights who did not go to the Holy Land are thus depicted.

3. That the effigies of several ladies are cross-legged.

4. That a large number of the figures thus represented are of a period subsequent to the Crusades, the fashion, indeed, remaining occasionally in use, as at Mitton, until the beginning of the seventeenth century.

5. That no cross-legged effigies are to be found on the Continent.

6. That the theory is based purely on guesswork, which soon obtained general credence.

Mr. Hartshorne considers that "the popular fiction that cross-legged effigies are monuments of Knights Templars has evidently arisen from the fact of six out of nine effigies in the Temple Church being so represented." In controverting this fiction, he incidentally exposes another, for he continues: "With the exception, however, of one effigy which is not cross-legged, it is extremely doubtful whether any of these

celebrated figures are memorials of Templars. They are all habited, not in the distinctive dress of the order, as exhibited by the only known effigy of a Templar, in the church of St. Yved de Braine, near Soissons, but in ordinary military costume." The truth seems to be, with regard to these effigies, that the attitude was a purely conventional one for some time in vogue with English sculptors.

For the details of ARMOUR, Hewitt's "Ancient Armour and Weapons in Europe" (3 vols., Parker, 1855–60) is the most exhaustive work; but see also the far cheaper translated work in one vol., Demmin's "Arms and Armour" (Bell, 1877), which abounds in cuts. The new German edition of Demmin (Leipzig: P. Friesenhahn, 1894) is a great advance on former issues; it has not been translated. Meyrick and Skelton's "Antient Armour" (2 vols., folio) will never be superseded in the way of illustration. Of more recent works, two of the best are R. C. Clephan's "Defensive Armour and Weapons of Medieval Times" (1900), and H. S. Cowper's "The Art of Attack" (1905).

For the details of COSTUME there are several expensive works, but a good handbook is Fairholt's "Costume in England," to which is appended an illustrated glossary of terms; the

best edition, materially improved and enlarged, is that, in 2 vols., edited in 1885 by Viscount Dillon (Bell & Sons), which forms part of Bohn's Series. Planche's "Cyclopædia of Costume" (2 vols., Chatto & Windus, 1879) is thorough and dependable. The last book on the subject is, however, by far the best and most comprehensive, namely, Mr. George Clinch's profusely illustrated "English Costume" (1909), one of the series of Antiquary's Books.

In connection with stained or painted GLASS, Winston's "Hints on Glass Painting" (Murray, 2nd edition, 1867) should be read, wherein the different styles of successive periods are critically distinguished and illustrated. This work has, however, in a great measure been superseded by the more scholarly and exhaustive volumes of Mr. Westlake, F.S.A., "A History of Design in Painted Glass" (4 vols., James Parker & Co., 1891–94). Mr. Lewis F. Day has recently produced a third and much revised edition of his "Windows, a Book about Stained and Painted Glass" (Batsford); it is a complete account of the design and craftsmanship of glass from the earliest times, and contains 250 illustrations, all of historical examples.

ENCAUSTIC TILES demand careful attention.

A good deal of family history, as well as interesting date details as to the fabric, will often hinge upon their careful study and comparison. "Examples of Decorative Tile termed Encaustic," with 100 plates, by J. G. Nichols, 1845, which is only now to be found in good libraries, and Shaw's "Specimens of Pavements" (Pickering, 1858), should be, if possible, consulted. The whole subject is one that loudly cries for a comprehensive monograph; much that is new in the history and making of these tiles has recently come to light. Among the more important and generally interesting minor articles on the question are the following: "The Medieval Tile Kiln at Repton," found in 1868 (*Reliquary*, vol. vii.); Mr. Ward's "Mediæval Pavement and Wall Tiles of Derbyshire" (*Journal of Derbyshire Archæological Society*, vol. xiv.); and Dr. Cox's paper "On Four Spanish-Moresco Tiles found at Meaux Abbey" (*Transactions of East Riding Antiquarian Society*, vol. ii.). The Rev. Canon Porter, F.S.A., has written some good papers on the Encaustic Tiles of Gloucester, Tewkesbury, &c., &c., which have appeared in recent volumes of the *Archæological Journal*.

WALL PAINTINGS, often erroneously termed frescoes, is another subject of special interest. Notwithstanding the sad and stupid way in

which the great majority of our old church walls have been stripped of ancient plaster, not a year goes by without the discovery of further instances of medieval mural paintings. The one good book on this question is a "List of Buildings in Great Britain and Ireland having Mural and other Painted Decorations of dates from the 10th to the end of the 16th centuries," by C. E. Keyser, F.S.A. The third edition (Eyre & Spottiswoode, price 2s. 3d.) was published in 1888. It has an excellent general introduction. The most usual places to be fairly sure of finding traces of wall paintings in unrestored churches, are over the arch into the chancel and above the nave arcades; also on the wide splays of early windows.

For the important item of HERALDRY, both in glass and on monuments, the best of the numerous manuals (and there are several very trashy of recent occurrence) is Boutell's "Manual of Heraldry" (1863); another one of merit is Cussan's "Handbook of Heraldry." A large and well-illustrated work is Woodward and Burnett's "Treatise on Heraldry, British and Foreign" (2 vols., W. & G. A. Johnston, 1892). Burke's "General Armoury," of which the fiftieth and extended edition was published in 1888, is an indispensable dictionary of arms classified under families. Papworth's "Dictionary

of British Armorials" (1874) is arranged on the opposite principle, viz. the blazonry or description of the arms is given first, and the name of the family or families to which it pertains follows. It is an expensive work, but also indispensable in the identification of arms. It will also be found to be more accurate than Burke; it gives references to the various rolls and other MSS. from which the arms are cited. "Heraldry as an Art," by G. W. Eve (Batsford, 1908), is a good practical book; it is chiefly an account of its development and practice in England. Mr. T. Shepard has in preparation a manual on this subject for the series of Antiquary's Books.

FONTS are of infinite variety and age; they have almost a literature of their own. F. Simpson's "Series of Ancient Baptismal Fonts," 1825, has a large number of beautifully finished plates of the more remarkable examples. F. A. Paley's "Baptismal Fonts," 1844, has illustrations and critical descriptions of a great number, arranged alphabetically. See also the *Archæologia*, vols. x. and xi. If the parish has a medieval church and a modern font, diligent search for the old one may often be rewarded. Old fonts not infrequently serve as geranium vases in parsonage or hall gardens; and we have ourselves found them applied to

far more scandalous uses, as for instance a salting vat for bacon, a trough for cattle, a washhand basin for the village school, and absolutely in one instance (Taddington) as a sink for the rinsing of beer glasses in a public-house. Dr. A. C. Frazer has some good articles on special groups of fonts in the *Archæological Journal*, vols. lvii., lviii., lix., and lx. The long chapter in "English Church Furniture" (1907), on fonts and font covers, arranged under counties, extends over eighty pages. In 1908 Mr. Francis Bond produced an admirable monograph on "Fonts and Font Covers," with 426 illustrations.

As to the grand subject of SCREENS and ROOD-LOFTS, to which so much attention has lately been paid, we can do no more in this manual than draw attention to the 62 pages given to their consideration in "English Church Furniture"; to Mr. Francis Bond's beautiful book called "Screens and Galleries" (1908); to Mr. Aymer Valence's charming illustrated essays in the County Memorial Series, volumes on Derbyshire, Kent, Middlesex, and Lancashire; and to Mr. F. Bligh Bond's equally attractive papers on Devonshire and Somersetshire screens in the local archæological journals of those counties.

With regard to PULPITS, both pre-Reformation and of the sixteenth and seventeenth

centuries, there is no monograph or any special articles worth naming. A fairly comprehensive chapter, citing a great number of examples, will be found in "English Church Furniture" (7th edition, 1908), with various illustrations.

In the same volume lists and accounts of old STALLS and SEATS, and also of CHURCH CHESTS, are given with much detail.

BELLS have now a literature of their own. Ellacombe's "Bells of the Church" and Fowler's "Bells and Bell-ringing" are admirable works. The inscriptions, &c., on the church bells of the majority of English counties have already been published, and many of the remainder are now in progress. The volumes of the late Mr. Thomas North on the bells of the counties of Leicester, Lincoln, Northampton, Bedford, and Rutland; and those of the late Mr. Stahlschmidt on the bells of Kent, Surrey, and Hertfordshire, are the best books of their class. Other church bell volumes are those of Dr. Raven on Cambridge and Suffolk; Ellacombe on Gloucestershire, Somersetshire, and Devon; Tyssen on Sussex; and Dunkin on Cornwall. In 1906 Dr. Raven produced an admirable and comprehensive volume on "The Church Bells of England" (one of the Antiquary's Books series); it will long remain the standard handbook on the subject.

CHURCH PLATE should always be inspected, and the date, character, inscription, or arms on each piece carefully recorded. Chaffers' "Hall Marks on Plate" gives the fullest description of the different marks, and how the precise date can be thereby ascertained. *Gilda Aurifabrorum* (1883), by the same author, is a valuable history of English goldsmiths and their marks. Mr. Wilfrid Cripps' "Old English Plate" (9th ed., 1906) is, however, the best authority on the subject. As a good deal of French plate found its way into England, Cripps' "Old French Plate" (Murray, 1880) may sometimes be consulted with advantage. Complete illustrated lists of all the church plate of the diocese of Carlisle, and of the counties of Dorset, Hampshire, Hereford, Kent, Leicester, Llandaff, Middlesex, Northampton, Rutland, Suffolk, Surrey, and Wilts, as well as other smaller lists, covering archdeaconries or deaneries, have been published. There is a valuable classified table of English medieval chalices and patens, by Messrs. St. John Hope and Fallow, in the *Archæological Journal* for 1886. But since that date several more examples have come to light. The pre-Reformation English chalices now extant number forty-five, and the patens ninety-five. See list in "English Church Furniture" (2nd ed., 1908).

Inventories of CHURCH GOODS often need explanation, or remains of various ANCIENT CHURCH FURNITURE may make some description necessary. Mackenzie Walcott's "Sacred Archæology," a popular dictionary of ecclesiastical art and institutions, is of some value. Another book is Lee's "Glossary of Liturgical and Ecclesiastical Terms" (1877). Peacock's "Church Furniture" (1867) can also be consulted with advantage.

Jules Corblet's *Manual Elémentaire d'Archéologie Nationale* is a better done work than anything of the size and scope in English, and is well illustrated. Laborde's *Glossaire Français du Moyen Age* (Paris, 1872) will also be found useful. For the various details of church worship and ceremonies, reference should be made to Rock's "Church of our Fathers," and to Chambers' valuable work, "Divine Worship in England in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries, contrasted with and adapted to that in the Nineteenth."

The publications of the St. Paul's Ecclesiological Society (Hon. Sec., Mr. E. J. Wells, 4 Mallinson Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.; publishers, Messrs. Alabaster, Passmore & Sons) deserve careful attention. Such well-known ecclesiologists and liturgiologists as Messrs. Micklethwaite, St. John Hope, and Wickham

Legg are among the regular contributors. Mr. Hope's valuable paper on "The English Liturgical Colours" (1889) can be obtained by non-members at 7s. 6d. Cutts' "Dictionary of the Church of England" (S.P.C.K., 1887) has a few good archæological articles, notably those on chests and offertory boxes, by Mr. Romilly Allen.

But the most thorough book on the details of ecclesiology is the magnificent work of Rohault de Fleury (Paris, 13 Rue Bonaparte), in eight volumes, entitled *La Messe Études Archæologiques sur les Monuments*. Each volume has about one hundred full-sized plates, and there are also a variety of woodcuts with the letterpress. Examples of old ecclesiastical art are cited from England as well as from all other parts of Christendom; very many are described and illustrated for the first time. We are confident that we shall earn the gratitude of ecclesiastical students by calling attention to this masterly and recently completed work, which is so little known in England. The price is 85 francs a volume. The following are the contents of the respective volumes :—

I^er^ VOL.—Avertissement.—Texte expliqué de la Messe Iconographie de la Messe.—Autels.

II^e^ VOL.—Ciboria.—Retables.—Tabernacles.—Confessions.—Chaires.

III^e^ VOL.—Ambons. — Chancels. — Jubés. — Sacristies.—Piscines.—Chœurs.—Eglises.

IV^e VOL. — Communion. — Pains eucharistiques. — Calices.— Patènes.—Burettes.—Cuillers.—Chalumeaux, etc.

V^e VOL. — Autels portatifs. — Ciboires. — Regna (couronnes votives). — Croix liturgiques. — Encens. — Offertoria.— Bénitiers.

VI^e VOL. —Lampes.—Chandeliers.—Livres liturgiques.—Lectoria, Lutrins.— Diptyques. — Paix. — Flabella. —Chauffoirs d'autel.—Cloches.—Orgues.—Vêtements d'autel.— Corporaux.—Voiles.—Fleurs.

VII^e VOL. — Amicts. — Aubes. — Ceintures. — Manipules. — Etoles.— Dalmatiques.—Chasubles.

VIII^e VOL. — Chapes. — Voiles de mains. — Couleurs liturgiques. —Tonsure.—Pallium.—Surhuméral.—Crosses.— Anneaux. — Croix pectorales. — Peignes liturgiques. — Mitres.—Tiares.—Chassures.—Gants.

Although one of the authors is the writer of this manual, "English Church Furniture," by Rev. Dr. Cox and Alfred Harvey, profusely illustrated and first published in 1907, has been so generously received by both critics and the public, that it may be permitted to state with emphasis that it fulfils a long-needed want. In its pages attempts are made for the first time to give descriptive lists (for the most part arranged under counties) of old altars, altar-rails, altar-screens, church plate and pewter, piscinas, sedilia, Easter sepulchres, lecterns, screens, and rood-lofts, pulpits and hour-glasses, fonts and font covers, alms, offertory, and collecting boxes, stalls, seats, pews, galleries, church chests, almeries, cope chests, banner staveholders, church libraries and chained

books, embroideries, &c. A second edition, with many corrections and additions, came out in 1908; a third edition is now in course of preparation, and the authors will welcome further corrections or suggestions.

The names of different kinds of FABRICS now obsolete, or at all events obsolete in their nomenclature, are often puzzling in medieval inventories. It is a pleasure to recommend a scholarly and interesting though unpretentious little volume, "The Drapers' Dictionary, a Manual of Textile Fabrics," by Mr. W. Beck; it can be obtained from the *Drapers' Journal* Office for some two or three shillings.

Before beginning the description of the church, it will be well, in the first place, in order to insure clearness and accuracy, that some general PLAN OF PROCEDURE should be adopted. We give the following skeleton of a suggested outline, that has been proved to be useful and orderly, but it can, of course, be altered or expanded or rearranged in any direction.

1. Enumeration of component parts of structure, remarks as to its general or special characteristics.

2. Ground plan, *i.e.* dimensions of area of chancel, nave, &c., different levels, and number of chancel and altar steps.

3. Description of parts of the permanent structure that are (*a*) Saxon, (*b*) Norman, (*c*) Early English, (*d*) Transition, (*e*) Decorated, (*f*) Perpendicular, (*g*) Debased, (*h*) Churchwarden, and (*i*) Restored ; or, still better, if the approximate dates are given, as has been already stated, under centuries or reigns. Some definite order should be observed under each head, otherwise it is likely that some details may escape, *e.g.* doorways, windows, piers, arches, &c., of chancel, nave, aisles, porches, transepts, tower, and chapels.

4. External details — parapets, gargoyles, niches, stoups, arms, inscriptions, "low side-windows," lead pipes and pipe heads, lead-roofing, and tiles.

5. Internal details — [Stone] altar or altar stone, piscina, almery, hagioscope, Easter or sepulchral recess, niches, brackets, roof-corbels, and sedilia of (*a*) chancel, (*b*) south aisle, (*c*) north aisle, and (*d*) chapels or transepts ; also groined roofs, doorway or steps to rood-loft, and stone screens—[Wood] altar table, altar rails, reading-desk, lectern, pulpit, pews, benches, poppy-heads, panelling, roofs, doors, galleries, rood or chancel screen, other screens or par-closes, parish or vestment chests, alms boxes—[Iron or other metal] any old details, such as hinges and locks of doors and chests,

screens and rails to monuments, hour-glass stands, &c.

6. Font—(*a*) position, (*b*) description, (*c*) measurements, (*d*) cover.

7. Monuments—beginning with early incised stones, and carefully following them down in chronological order, an order which should not be broken except for the purpose of keeping a family group together. Arms should be correctly blazoned, and inscriptions faithfully copied.

8. Stained glass, according to age.

9. Encaustic tiles—pavement generally.

10. Wall paintings, black-letter texts, patterns on roof or elsewhere, royal arms, charity bequest boards.

11. Bells—(*a*) number, (*b*) inscription and marks, (*c*) frame, (*d*) remarkable peals or bell-ringers' rhymes, (*e*) legends; also sanctus bell, or bell cote on nave gable.

12. Parish registers and other documents; church books, or library.

13. Church plate.

14. Churchyard—(*a*) cross, (*b*) remarkable monuments or epitaphs, (*c*) yew tree, (*d*) lych-gate, (*e*) sundial.

15. More recent fittings or ornaments, such as altar appurtenances, organ, &c.; the previous headings being supposed to be confined

to older details possessing some historic value. But if the date, or probable date, is given of each particular, it might perhaps be as well to describe everything (if a complete account up to date is desired) under its proper head; thus a modern altar cross and candlesticks might be mentioned under the 5th head.

"Low Side-Windows" is still to some extent a vexed question, and the closer attention paid to our church fabrics has recently brought so many hitherto unnoticed examples into light that it may be well to refer those who have such a window or windows in their parish church to an illustrated "conference" on this subject in vols. xxi. and xxii. of the *Antiquary* (1890). The upshot of the discussion was that the one theory which reasonably accounts for the great majority of them, and which has documentary evidence on its side, is that they were used for the purpose of ringing the sanctus bell therefrom at the time of Mass. All other suggestions are put to the rout by the fact of three or four instances having been found of undoubted low side-windows (originally shuttered) in upper chapels.

One of the various theories for these openings, which was at one time very popular, and is still fondly adhered to by many country clergymen, is as positive and stupid a blunder

as can be put forward in connection with the fabrics of our churches—we allude to that favourite name *leper-windows*—the notion being that English medieval lepers were communicated through them by the parish priest, or, at all events, that through them they might gaze upon the sacred mysteries. It is best to thoroughly overthrow this delusion, and some extracts will therefore be given from a paper read at the sixth Congress of the Archæological Societies, held at Burlington House, in July 1894, and printed at the request of the Congress.

To begin with, no one, whether leper, excommunicate, or anything else, could possibly (as a rule) see the altar through these wall openings. Nor could any position more absolutely awkward, aye, and often impossible, be conceived, for any human being, in sickness or in health, kneeling, erect, or crouching, to receive the consecrated Host, than through such a window. After making all allowance for possible alterations of levels, anything more hopelessly inconvenient in nineteen cases out of twenty it is impossible to imagine. These windows, and not unusually two, are found in almost every church over certain extensive districts. Terrible as was the extent of this disease, it is altogether idle and silly to pretend

that it was so generally prevalent throughout England as to require at one period an almost universal provision for it in all parish churches. Such a supposition is absolutely unhistorical.

Moreover, these shuttered windows are often found in churches that are in close proximity to the old lazar hospitals (each with its chapel and priest) for the special accommodation of the lepers.

If any further argument is required, it may be mentioned that the ninth canon of Pope Alexander III., *De Leprosis* (promulgated in the latter half of the twelfth century, which is just about the date of a large number of these English shuttered windows), states that as lepers cannot use the churches or *churchyards* commonly frequented, they shall gather together in certain places and have a church and cemetery of their own, with a priest peculiar to them, and that no one shall hinder the erection of such church or chapel. We know that there were over two hundred Lazar Houses in England, each with its own chapel and priests.

A good deal more might be said of a cumulative character to pulverise the very notion of a leper-window having any sensible reason on its side; but one other fact need only be adduced. This silly notion, to the best of our belief, had its origin in the discovery many

years ago of a wall-painting at Eton College, which was supposed to depict the administration of the Eucharist to a leper through such a window. But this interpretation of the subject of the painting was shortly afterwards universally admitted to be a strange error. The Eton picture used to be quoted to prove that the Sacrament was poked through the window to the leper in a cleft stick. It really represents a Jew baker (the priest) putting his son (the leper) into the oven (the mouth of which was the low side-window) with a peel (the cleft stick)!

Another would-be explanation of this low side-window gave us the ugly word *Lychnoscope*. We used to be told that these shuttered openings were for the watching of a light, but there was some confusion in our teachers between the sepulchre light and the paschal candle. Why the watchers were compelled to spend a cold March or April night in the damp churchyard, instead of going into the chancel, we were not told!

The theory that these windows were used for confessional purposes, though supported by one able antiquarian architect, is to our mind too impossible and almost too comical to be worth any grave argumentative opposition.

A few words on church "RESTORATION"

may be here introduced; for it cannot surely be inappropriate to include a sentence or two in these pages (whose object it is to further the preservation of local records) that may possibly have some small influence in preventing the needless destruction of any part of those noble buildings round which the history of each English parish so closely clusters. From the standpoint of a local annalist, nothing has been more painful in the "restorations" of the past fifty years than the wanton way in which monuments, and more especially flat tombstones, of all ages have been often treated.

It is necessary to enter a warm protest against the notion that any honour can be paid to God, or respect to the memory of those that He created in His own image, by burying inscribed gravestones beneath many inches of concrete, in order to stick therein the glossy tiles of recent manufacture. The effacing or removal (wherever it can be avoided) of the memorials of the dead should in all cases be strongly resisted, no matter what be the eminence of the architect that recommends it. There are not many unrestored churches left in the country, but there are some of much value and interest for whose fate we tremble. When a "restoration" (the term is a necessity for the lack of a better) is contemplated, let

it be recollected that all work—beyond the removal of recent galleries, and the poor, cheap modern fittings, the opening out of flat plaster ceilings, above which good timber roofs often lie concealed, the careful removal of the accumulated layers of whitewash and paint on any ashlar and mouldings, the letting in of light through blocked-up windows, the allowing of feet to pass through doorways closed in recent days by the mason or bricklayer, and the making strong of really perishing parts—all work beyond this is in great danger of destroying the traces of the historic continuity of our Church, and of doing a damage that can never be repaired. And in preserving this historic continuity, let it not be thought that any service is being rendered to history or religion by sweeping clean out of the church all fittings of a post-Reformation date. The sturdy Elizabethan benches, the well-carved Jacobean pulpit, or the altar rails of beaten iron of the eighteenth century, should all be preserved as memorials of their respective periods; in short, everything that our forefathers gave to God's service that was costly and good should be by us preserved, provided that it does not mar the devout ritual ordered by the Common Prayer, or in other respects interfere with the Church's due proclaiming of

her Divine mission to the men and women of the days in which we live.

It is still necessary to emphatically point out that the builders of our parish churches never intended the irregular masonry between the windows or over the arcades, in the interior of the fabric, to be left bare and naked, revealing all its ugly anatomy. No; it was invariably covered up with a decent application of plaster, and on the plaster were figure-paintings or conventional coloured designs, which were renewed from time to time according to the taste of the generation or the progress of art. But the average English church restorer, be he parson, layman, or even architect, is still so deficient in knowledge as to blunder to the conclusion that it is highly correct to strip the place to the bones. Even architects who can add R.A. and F.S.A. to their names have been guilty of this barbarism within the last few years. They have not shrunk from even thus treating some of our cathedrals. See a paper on "The Treatment of our Cathedral Churches in the Victorian Age," by Dr. Cox, which formed the opening address of the Architectural Section of the Archæological Institute meeting at Dorchester in 1897.

The reaction against over-restoration has now happily set in, but a word of caution is also necessary lest that cry should be adopted as

the cloak of a lazy indifferentism, or be used as an excuse for regarding the parish church as a local museum illustrative of bygone times, to be carefully dusted and nothing more. Where much new work, or any considerable extent of refitting, are absolutely necessary, it is best to hasten slowly, and to do a little well rather than to aim at a speedy general effect. Thus, if one of our old grey churches requires fresh seating, how much better to fill a single aisle or one bay of the nave with sound and effectively carved oak, and only repair the remainder (or supply chairs), rather than to accomplish the whole in sticky pine. The best material and the best art should surely be used in God's service, and not reserved to feed our pride or minister to our comfort in private dwellings. It has often been noticed how far better the work of redeeming the interior of our churches from that state of dirt and neglect that had degraded some at least below the level of the very barns upon the glebe, has been carried out where money has come in slowly, and at intervals, rather than where some munificent patron has readily found the funds to enter upon a big contract.

The unhappy destruction of the chief interest and historic beauty of the Abbey of St. Albans, by the lavish use of money in the creation of

new work, has already brought about a keen philological revenge, which we should think would penetrate even the hardened armour of the Chancellor of York. The *Athenæum*, *Antiquary*, and *Builder* of 1890–91 began the use of a new verb, "to grimthorpe," as applied to old churches and other buildings of antiquity. An American dictionary of considerable repute has enshrined the word among the new terms of our flexible English tongue: "Grimthorpe, *v.t.*, to spoil or disfigure an ancient building by lavish and tasteless expenditure. *Ex.:* 'Frequent and continuous repairs would leave no foothold for the future *grimthorping* of this venerable structure.'—*Antiquary* Mag., vol. xxi. 35." The transepts of the cathedral church of Lichfield have quite recently suffered grievously, and their historic feeling has been blotted out, owing to the rage that certain architects have for lofty Early English lights. Not a few village as well as town churches have been sadly maltreated for a like cause. Perhaps the greatest satisfaction that the writer of these pages has ever enjoyed in the way of averting vandalism, was when he succeeded in saving the pulling down of the east end of the famed Anglo-Saxon chancel of Repton church; it was about to be done by an architect of great repute, in order to put in a triple "Early English"

window, which, it was thought, would look so graceful. These feelings were renewed in 1908–9, when the protests of the Derbyshire Archæological Society were successful in saving the Edward I. chancel of Ilkeston church from demolition.

We venture most earnestly to implore the clergy, churchwardens, and others concerned with the few unrestored fabrics of our historic churches that yet remain, on no account to employ an architect without the most careful and cautious inquiry, nor to rush into any work of restoration without striving in the first instance to see if quiet and unobtrusive reparation will not suffice.

It would be doing a grievous injustice to architects if it was to be assumed that they are generally, or as a body, responsible (particularly of late years) for the irreparable mischief that has been done; nine-tenths of the mischief has been done by half a score of men (who unfortunately gained a great repute), who could undoubtedly do much pretty imitative work of their own, but whose one chief aim seems to have been to stamp their own nineteenth-century notions all over every building that they touched. The Royal Institute of British Architects issued in 1888 two wholly admirable documents on this subject, each of which can be

obtained from the Secretary at the modest price of 6d. One is entitled "Conservation of Ancient Monuments and Remains," and consists of general and carefully tabulated advice addressed to promoters of the restoration of ancient buildings; and the other, which is eminently practical, consists of "Hints to Workmen" engaged in such-like work.

If any one is desirous of obtaining advice as to a suitable architect to employ, it might be well to communicate with the Council of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, 9 Buckingham Street, Strand.

RELIGIOUS HOUSES

IF the parish includes within its boundaries the remains or the site of any abbey, priory, hospital, monastic cell, or other religious building otherwise than the parish church, the history and description of such places must of course be separately undertaken. And let not the local historian consider it is needless for him to explore into a subject that has probably been treated of with greater or less detail in the original edition of Dugdale's *Monasticon*, with more precision in the expanded English edition, or with still greater research in the recent volumes of the Victoria County History scheme. The English abbeys or priories whose history can be said to have been exhaustively written could certainly be counted on the fingers of both hands.

Should any one desire to thoroughly search into the history of a religious house, it will be best in the first place to ascertain whether there are any chartulary or chartularies extant (to printed lists of which we have previously referred), for Dugdale and subsequent writers

have often only quoted some two or three out of a hundred charters, or ignored them altogether.

In addition to a few chartularies that have been printed *in extenso*, or in abstract, by private societies, chartularies or chronicles of the following religious houses have been printed in the Master of the Rolls series: Abingdon; Bermondsey; Brixton; Bury St. Edmunds; St. Augustine's, Canterbury; Christ Church, Canterbury; Dunstable; Evesham; St. Peter's, Gloucester; Malmesbury; Meux; Osney; Ramsey; St. Albans; Tewkesbury; Waverley; Hyde Abbey, Winchester; and Worcester.

Secondly, the numerous references to national records, all now to be found at the P. R. O., which are given in Tanner's *Notitia*, or in the big Dugdale, should be referred to seriatim. Thirdly, the indexes and calendars to the various Rolls, &c., at the P. R. O., which have been mentioned under the manorial history, should be looked through for those more or less frequent references that are almost certain to have been omitted by Tanner. Fourthly, the Deeds of Surrender, the Ministers' Accounts, the Particulars of Grants, and other likely documents at the P. R. O., of the time of the suppression of the monasteries, should be

overhauled, referring especially to Mr. Scargill Bird's index to his Guide. Fifthly, special MSS. and books, dealing with the order to which the house pertains, should be sought after in P. R. O., B. M., &c. Sixthly, search should also be made through the indexes of the various Blue Book Reports of the Historical Manuscript Commission, and inquiries set on foot as to local private libraries. Seventhly—and though last, this suggestion will often be found to be of great value—questions should be asked through the pages of that invaluable medium between literary men, *Notes and Queries*.

It may also be found of use to study the precise statutes and regulations of the particular Order. They will be found in full in the bulky folios of Holstein's *Codex Regularum Monasticarum et Canonicarum* (1759). Dugdale only gives an abstract of the majority of them.

If the house is of the Gilbertine Order, reference should be made to the interesting though not very complete book by Miss R. Graham, entitled "St. Gilbert of Sempringham and the Gilbertines" (1901). If it is of the Premonstratensian Order, valuable information cannot fail to be found in the three recent volumes of Abbot Gasquet on these

White Canons, printed by the English Historical Society. Another most notable book, just (October 1909) issued, which is sure to be considered a standard work, is Miss Rotha M. Clay's "The Medieval Hospitals of England"; such foundations are rightly included under religious houses.

By far the best general book on this important question is "English Monastic Life," by Abbot Gasquet (3rd ed., 1909), which is absolutely trustworthy, as well as interesting and comprehensive; it concludes with the only good hand list of all the monastic foundations of England. It is, of course, assumed that no one will be so bold as to write anything on a monastery without having first read the learned abbot's work on "Henry VIII. and the Monasteries," which has passed through over a score of editions. Mention, too, may just be made of a small book by Dr. Cox, "English Monasteries" (1904, Palmer & Sons).

GENERAL TOPICS

UNDER this head brief allusion may be made to the more general and modern subjects that should not be left out of any complete parochial history, but which it is sufficient just to indicate without further comment, only premising that the annalist should keep constantly before him that it is the history of a parish, and not of a county or country, on which he is engaged, and that the more sparing he is of general disquisitions, the more likely he is to please his readers.

The value of a thorough study of the field-names, of which we spoke in the first section of this manual, will now also become apparent. Some names will tell of a change of physical features, of swamps and islands where all is now dry and far removed from water, or of forest and underwood where the blade of corn is now the highest vegetation; whilst others will point to the previous existence of the vast common fields, and their peculiar cultivation, concerning which Maine's "Village Communities," Seebohm's "English Village Community," and more especially Gomme's "The

Village Community" (Walter Scott, 1890), with maps and illustrations, should be read. Some names will indicate the foolish ways in which special crops were attempted to be forced by law upon the people, for it is few parishes that have not a "Flax Piece" as a witness to the futile legislation of 24 Henry VIII.; whilst others tell of trades now extinct, or metals long since worked out. Some speak of those early days when the wolf or the bear roamed the woods and fields, the beaver dammed up the streams, or the eagle swooped down upon its prey; whilst others tell of the weapons whereby these fauna were rendered extinct, for scarcely a township can be found where some field is not termed "the Butts," names that sometimes date back as far as Edward IV., when it was enacted that every Englishman should have a bow of his own height, and that butts for the practice of archery should be erected near every village, where the inhabitants were obliged to shoot up and down on every feast day under penalty of being mulcted a halfpenny.

It will, of course, be a matter of taste whether the topics here enumerated should precede or follow the manorial and ecclesiastical history.

I. Situation—extent—hill and valley—river, lakes, and ponds—sea, its encroachment or the reverse—caverns and springs—scenic character

—climate and temperature, with recorded observations of the thermometer, barometer, hydrometer, &c.

II. Geology — mineral workings—quarries. We have been asked by several correspondents to name an elementary book on geology. One of the best is Jukes' "School Manual of Geology" (6th ed., 1892). Of recent more advanced and interesting volumes, mention may be made of G. A. J. Cole's "Open-air Studies in Geology" (1902), and the same writer's "Aids in Practical Geology" (1902).

III. Special vegetable productions, past and present. Trees—prevalence of particular kinds —size, age, or beauty of particular specimens.

IV. Special Fauna—mammalia—birds (local times of their migration)—fish—reptiles—insects.

With regard to headings I. to IV., "The Naturalist's Diary, a Day Book of Meteorology, Phenology, and Rural Biology," by Mr. Charles Roberts, and published by Swan Sonnenschein at the modest price of 2s. 6d., cannot be too strongly recommended. It consists of a page for every day of the year. Half of each page is occupied with printed matter relating to the meteorology and natural history of each day, while the remainder is left blank for new entries.

V. Agriculture, past and present. Inclosures

of different dates. Inclosure Acts. For the mostly sad effects of these most selfish acts, which profited the rich at the expense of the poor, for lists of inclosures from time of Queen Anne, and for other valuable information on this topic, see "General Report on Enclosures," drawn up by the Board of Agriculture in 1808. The Board of Agriculture, in the first quarter of last century, drew up valuable Surveys of Agriculture for the different counties, many of which are replete with varied and interesting information. On the economic and antiquarian side of this question, read Professor Rogers' "History of Agriculture and Prices in England." See the remarks on Inclosure Award maps in the second chapter.

A list of places on the Inclosure Awards from 1757 to 1837 is given in the 26th Report, and a list of the awards themselves, from 1756 to 1853, in the 27th Report of the P. R. O.

VI. Industries, past and present. The amount of interest pertaining to their discussion can be gleaned from the various volumes of the Victoria County History scheme, wherein they have been discussed, notably for Surrey, Essex, and Derbyshire.

VII. Fairs and markets.

Under this division, as well as under number viii., much information ought to be gleaned from the Quarter Sessional Records of the County.

VIII. Roads, canals, railways, and bridges —past and present. Care should be taken in tracing out disused roads, bridle paths, or pack-horse tracks.

IX. Folk-lore. Under this head will come customs and ceremonies relating to child-bearing, churching, christening, courtship, betrothal, marriage, death, and burial—public-house signs and their meaning—customs and superstitions pertaining to wells and streams—used and disused sports and games—obsolete punishments, such as ducking-stool or stocks—omens—witchcraft—ghosts—charms—divinations—and other quaint or original customs. Several handbooks have lately been published on this subject, but they are mostly instances of book-making, and none come up to or surpass Ellis' edition of Brand's "Popular Antiquities." Another good but heavy book by the same author is "Folk-Lore as an Historical Science" (1908). A most useful publication society was, however, established in 1878, termed "The Folk-Lore Society," which issues a quarterly journal, and has also published many other volumes. One of its smaller publications—a "Handbook of Folk-Lore" (1890) —edited by Mr. G. L. Gomme, president, is invaluable. The same author's admirable "Folk-Lore Relics of Early Village Life" should be read by every one who aims at

being a local historian. "Folk Memory, or The Continuity of British Archæology" (1908), by Mr. Walter Johnson, is a notable, valuable, and in many respects an original work; it deals, *inter alia*, with such matters as dene-holes, linchets, dew-ponds, incised figures on chalk downs, and old roads and trackways.

X. Dialect. On this subject see the excellent publications of the "English Dialect Society," now (1909) in the thirty-eighth year of its existence. It has issued upwards of fifty volumes. Three of the most generally useful of their publications, which can be obtained by non-subscribers, are "A List of Books relating to the Dialect of some of the Counties of England," "A Dictionary of English Plant Names," and "Old Country and Farming Words." Halliwell's "Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words" will often be found very useful.

XI. Poor Law and general rating, history and statistics; taxes such as hearth money, window tax, and hair powder licences. Here again the County Records ought to prove of great service. See Dowell's "History of Taxes and Taxation" (Longmans, 1884, 4 vols.).

XII. Population, inhabited houses, and other census details at different periods.

Information under this heading is for the

most part to be obtained from Blue Books and big county histories; but three little known sources for census and other statistics may with advantage be named.

The *Subsidy Rolls* of the P. R. O., which begin in some cases as early as the reign of Henry III., but they do not usually till about 1300, give the whole of the names of those who were taxed for every village of some shires, but only the names of the collector and the amounts received for others. Sometimes the trade and occupation of each householder is given. At all events they are always worth searching for; the lay subsidies have been carefully calendared under counties; the calendars are to be found in the Round Search Room of the P. R. O. Many a local annalist fails to consult these rolls, so that it seems well to again call attention to their existence.

In the Salt Library, Stafford, is a MS. return of the year 1676, of the population of the parishes of the province of Canterbury, over sixteen years of age, divided into three classes: "Conformists, Papists, and Nonconformists." The return was ordered by Henry Compton, Bishop of London. We believe that Tanner MSS. No. 150, at the Bodleian, is another copy of this return, but have not ourselves consulted it. To form a general total of the

whole population, when the numbers are given of those over sixteen years of age, it is necessary to add about 40 to every 100.

The Taxation Act of 1695, of five years' duration, which imposed duties on births, marriages, and burials, as well as on bachelors and widowers, brought about a singularly complete and interesting census of the kingdom. The returns of the local collectors for the parish are sometimes found in the parochial chest, and in some cases they have been met with among the Clerk of the Peace's county records, but it seems very doubtful if they were retained by any central authority after the Act expired. See a paper of Mr. Chester Waters' in the seventh volume of the *Derbyshire Archæological Journal.*

. . . . . .

It is a pleasure to conclude with naming the unambitious but admirable local histories recently brought out by two Yorkshire clerical friends of the writer, each rector of the parish he describes—"Slingsby and Slingsby Castle" (1904), by Arthur Sinclair Brooke, and "Nunburnholme: Its History and Antiquities" (1908), by Marmaduke C. F. Morris. Either of them would well serve as a model for the smaller kind of parish history.

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THE END

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