

Reviews of Books

THE REGISTER OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND. Edited by P. Hume Brown, M.A., LL.D., Historiographer Royal. Third Series. Vol. VI. A.D. 1678-1680. Pp. xxxv, 808. 8vo. Edinburgh: H.M. General Register House. 1914. 15s. net.

THE tendency obvious in Volume V. (noticed *S.H.R.* x, 422) towards growing severity in 1676-78 in order to compel religious conformity led inevitably to explosions of resistance and revolt in 1678-80 duly chronicled in Volume VI. now under review. 'The two years of our period,' says the editor, 'are among the most memorable in the history of Scotland. In those years occurred the murder of Archbishop Sharp, the defeat of Grahame of Claverhouse by a body of Covenanters at Loudon Hill, the Rising of the religious recusants in the West, their rout at Bothwell Bridge, and the repressive measures of the administration that followed. With these successive events it was the business of the Privy Council under the presidency of Lauderdale to deal to the extent of its powers—its prime function as a constitutional body being the maintenance of the public peace.'

Accordingly the record is a continuous story of repression, of prosecutions for rebellion and of manifestly abortive effort to crush the general spirit of sympathy with the Covenant movement. Strange tests to outwit the devices of honest political casuistry appear in the interrogatories to persons suspected. Rigorous inquisitions were made concerning the series of outbreaks—the attacks on the town mayor of Edinburgh, the skirmish at Lesmahagow, the murder of the Archbishop, the burning of Acts of Parliament at Rutherglen, the battle (Drumclog) at Loudon Hill, attacks on the royal forces at Glasgow, and at last the battle of Bothwell Bridge. To track the participants and detect their abettors and resetters and to get bonds of assurance from a reluctant people there was fierce cross-questioning of suspects. Did they regard the killing of Sharp as murder, or as unlawful, or as sinful? Was the rebellion a rebellion? If they would not answer in the affirmative they were to be indicted. Typical replies may be cited dating some weeks after Bothwell Bridge. 'John Richardson in Stenhouse being called and examined declares that he thinks the late rising in arms was no rebellion and is not clear to signe the bond and thinks that the last rising was not against the King but for the truth of God.' 'William Cameron in Dalmelingtoun confesses he was in rebellion but is not clear to call it a rebellion or that the killing of the Archbishop was a murder.' A singular expedient borrowed from continental methods was adopted as regards the supposed murderers; they were 'to be hanged in effigy in all

the shires of Scotland that they may be more easily discovered' (p. 308). As the register proceeds through the year 1680 things do not improve: Donald Cargill at a conventicle excommunicates 'us (*i.e.* Charles II.), our dearest brother (*ie.* James II. *futurus*) and our chieffe ministers'; the conventicles if restrained at all are only a little restrained by sheer military force and strenuous prosecutions by Sir George M'Kenzie, the King's Advocate, who is earning a historical nickname. Politics were once more theology, with a vengeance, although there were few executions of the rebels.

In the magnificent index the heading 'Church and Religion' occupies seven solid, heavily referenced columns. Lauderdale, Secretary of State (until October, 1680), and the Privy Council have scarcely any other public business. The few witchcraft prosecutions perhaps indicate less the recrudescence of that frenzy than the engrossing claims of the Covenant to malign attention by the government. A 'Compt of the expenses given out anent the witches,' four in number, strangled under sentence in 1678 at Peaston Moor, Haddington, is painfully matter of fact in its cruel detail. The exportation of vagrants goes on in ships for the American Plantations and the cargoes actual and expected include covenanting prisoners. Miscellaneous documents in an appendix include earnest remonstrances against the repressive policy and the exaction of bonds and tests as at once unlawful, unreasonable, and likely to prove 'unprestable.' Scores of these bonds are minuted. Some references to the books and printing are of interest, especially the mention of seditious works smuggled from Holland, including the well-known *Naphtali* and the still more famous treatise *Jus Regni apud Scotos*, by Buchanan. Professor Hume Brown in his succinct and yet comprehensive introduction has indicated the salient features—political, religious, legal, and social—of the period covered, and he notes among the literary facts the litigations between Andrew Anderson and Robert Sanders, the rival printers. A remarkable circumstance, considering all things, is that 'the time was prolific in Latin grammars.' Of course, however, the great feature of this volume is that it contains the full official statement and sole authoritative record of the case for the government—sorry enough, it is true—against the covenant interest in Scotland.

GEO. NEILSON.

CHRONICA JOHANNIS DE READING ET ANONYMI CANTUARIENSIS, 1346-1367. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by James Tait, M.A., Professor of Ancient and Medieval History. Pp. xi, 394, with two facsimiles. Demy 8vo. Manchester: The University Press. 1914. 10s. 6d. net.

THIS volume contains two hitherto unpublished chronicles of the reign of Edward III. Professor Tait has furnished introductions to both, which, in learned discussion of the problems of sources and influence, leave nothing to be desired.

In the case of the chronicle of John of Reading, Monk of Westminster, whose work survives in a single manuscript in the Cottonian Library at the British Museum, the editor has now made available to students the text of chronicle which the continuator of the English Brute used as the basis

of his continuation from 1346 to 1361, and occasionally for the six following years, and from which some of the more picturesque passages in the English chronicle are taken.

Dr. Friedrich Brie was the first to point out this connexion in his essay *Geschichte und Quellen der mittelenglischen Prosachronik The Brute of England*, in which he mentions that the Latin chronicle, in spite of its acknowledged historical value, has not yet found any editor. This want has now been fully supplied.

These two chronicles are of real importance for the short period of the reign of Edward III. which they cover, and are in several instances our authority for events otherwise unrecorded. Thus we know only from Reading's chronicle of the King's angry outburst in 1367 against the Scottish envoys, wherein he addresses them as '*Vos degeneres et dolosi canitiem meam spernentes!*' and declares that they whisper to each other 'the King of England has become an old dotard, no longer fit for warfare, let us take measures rapidly, inviting to our aid islesmen and foreign mercenaries, and thus overwhelm him, now that he is bereft of his old feudal army and enriched by treasures taken from us and other nations.'

John of Reading, like a true monk of the period, had a thorough dislike of the Franciscans, and he loses no opportunity of reviling these active missionaries, '*qui sibi adhaerentes semper pejorant.*' People who elected to be buried in the Friars' churches were objects of his special contempt.

The text, notes and index combine to make this work a credit to its editor and also to the Manchester University Press.

JOHN EDWARDS.

THE BOOK OF THE DUFFS. Compiled by Alistair and Henrietta Taylor. 2 vols. Vol. I. xxii, 307; Vol. II. xiv, 321. With numerous Illustrations and Genealogical Tables. 4to. Edinburgh: Printed by T. & A. Constable, and published by William Brown. 1914. £2 2s. net.

No such elaborate history of a Scottish family has been published since Mr. George Seton's *Family of Seton*. It can hardly compete with that work in general sumptuousness of get-up. But on the other hand if it is not so much an *edition de luxe*, or written with quite that literary grace which distinguishes Mr. Seton's work, it is put before the public in a sufficiently attractive manner, being excellently printed and beautifully illustrated, while there are many more references to authorities and rather more attention given to specific dates than there are in the other book.

The present work is largely founded, as regards the principal lives of the family, on the memoirs of the Duffs, written about 1770 by William Baird of Auchmedden, but of course full advantage has been taken of much additional information which has come to light since his day. Passing over the first chapter which deals with the legendary history of the old Earls of Fife, the true story of the family commences with that David Duff who married Agnes Chalmers the heiress of Muldavit. His successor in that property six generations afterwards was John Duff, who got Muldavit from his elder brother in 1575, and married as his second wife Margaret, second daughter of John Gordon of Cairnburrow. By her he had eleven sons, one of whom was Adam, and about this Adam there has been much

controversy: if he can be proved to be identical with Adam Duff of Clunybeg, from whom the later Earls of Fife were undoubtedly descended, then the Earls can link themselves on to the Muldavit line and add some seven generations more to their pedigree.

The later Dr. Cramond in an article in the *Scotsman* 29th July, 1889, vehemently denied that the two Adams were the same. But the present authors show, principally from the Kirk Session records of Botriphnie, that Adam Duff in Ardrone, who was undoubtedly the son of Margaret Gordon, was really the same person as Adam Duff in Clunybeg. He was therefore tenant first of Ardrone and later of Clunybeg, but never seems to have been the actual proprietor of that place. His son Alexander of Keithmore was practically the founder of the fortunes of the family, though Clunybeg himself had been a man of great shrewdness and sagacity. His son, however, bettered his father's example, and was a keen, industrious, and painstaking man. It was he who is described in a ballad quoted in this book as peddling his farm produce and carrying 'a creel upon his back, made o' guid foreign segs,' and scoffers have said that it was on this account he was called 'Creelie Duff.' Even if he were, it is nothing to be ashamed of, but the authors point out another possible origin for the epithet. He was, it is said, a short stout man, and may have been called 'Croilie,' from the Scots word 'Croil' a dwarf. He married a lady even stouter than himself and equally managng. She is one of the many fat people who are credited with having inadvertently sat down on the cat with fatal results to the latter. Both he and she were pushing, prosperous, and jolly people. There is an admirable portrait of the lady looking the embodiment of good nature and one of Alexander himself in which he is represented as a rather slender man in a very large ruff and a pointed beard. Here certainly is no 'croile' or misshapen creature. Perhaps the artist of these portraits was an idealist, which the sculptor who executed their figures for the tombstones in Mortlach was not, as he has not flattered the appearance of the pair.

To them succeeded their eldest son, Alexander of Braco, who more than carried out the family's reputation for thrift and acquisitiveness. He was a buyer of land in a canny way, but on a pretty large scale. His remark is well known, when he saw a number of what would now be called 'small holdings' scattered throughout a wide valley near his home. 'I'll gar a' that reek,' he said, 'gae thro' ae lum yet,' and he did it.

The only thing he did not do, which he should have liked to have done, was to leave an heir male to his properties, so that the line of family had to be carried on by his next brother, William of Dipple. He also had all the family capacity for business, and had the immense practical advantage over most people in these days, that the longer he sat at his bottle the more cautious he got, so that while one might have got a tolerable bargain off him when sober, it was impossible to overreach him when in liquor. It was he who remarked to the Duchess of Gordon on her showing him the new great staircase at Gordon Castle, before the railings had been put up, that it was 'a good forenoon stair!'

The family was enobled in the next generation in the person of William Duff, who was created Lord Braco in 1735, and Earl Fife in 1759.

Beyond the fact that he had been a steady supporter of the Government, and had become an influential man in the County, there does not appear to have been any special reason why he should have been thus honoured. It was he who built Duff House, and like many people who build houses he had a violent quarrel with his architect, Robert Adam, which ended in a long and exasperating law suit. He had fourteen children, of whom by far the best was the youngest son Arthur, who seems to have been a general favourite and the friend and counsellor of all the family. The second son James succeeded as second Earl (not Baron as on p. 173) Fife, and occupied himself with politics more than any other of the family had done. He was made a Peer of Great Britain in 1790 under the title of Baron Fife or Baron of Fife, not Earl Fife as stated in the text, with remainder to the heirs male of his body. As, however, he left no issue this title became extinct at his death, and his Irish honours descended to his next brother, Alexander, who only enjoyed them two years. He was succeeded by his son James, a gallant soldier and an excellent landlord. He also had another Peerage conferred on him, having been created in 1827 Baron Fife in the Peerage of the United Kingdom (not of Great Britain). This too became extinct on his death without issue in 1857, and the Irish Peerage was inherited by his nephew, James Duff, in whose person still another peerage was created, he having been made Baron Skene of Skene in 1857. He died in 1879, and his funeral, as the authors rightly observe, was a most imposing ceremony, as the present writer can himself witness. His son, whose recent death was so universally lamented, was created Duke of Fife in 1885, and again, with a different remainder, in 1890.

The account of the line of Duffs which was ultimately nobilitated occupies only a portion of these volumes. Full details are given of all the cadet branches which can be traced, of whom the most important are perhaps Hatton, Fetteresso, Drummuir, and Orton. Quite a number of unattached families and individuals are also mentioned.

It is difficult to speak too highly of the industry and enthusiasm which have gone to the compilation of these volumes, and Scottish genealogists owe the authors a deep debt of gratitude. Of course there are faults, but none of a very serious nature. The arrangement, for instance, might have been better, especially with regard to the children of each family. They are generally put in the middle of the memoirs; once they are at the beginning and once they are relegated to a foot note in small type. One usually finds in books that are written by persons not conversant with ancient deeds that the transcription of Latin charters leaves much to be desired, and to this rule the present work is no exception. The charters given in the early pages appear to have been copied from some old and inaccurate inventory, and are full of mistakes. As most of them are in the printed volumes of the Great Seal Register, it would have been easy to have got them collated with that by some person familiar with such work. In the interesting chapter on the Heraldry of the Duffs it is stated that when Mr. Thomas Gordon Duff of Drummuir matriculated his arms in 1909 the stag's head in his fourth (Drummuir) quarter was 'by oversight' represented as cabossed instead of erased. But only two pages before a sketch of the

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Drummuir arms as recorded in 1750 (not 1650 as stated below the illustration) shows the stag's head cabossed. No doubt it was used erased a hundred years earlier in the funeral escutcheon of Katherine Duff of Drummuir, but the authority of the Lyon Register was not unnaturally, indeed rightly, followed in the matriculation of 1909. The authors, too, seem to think that General Sir Beauchamp Duff who matriculated arms in 1908 has a mark of cadency too many in his coat. Though subsequent investigation may have shown this to be the case, the matriculation was quite correct in view of the information available at the time.

We have left little enough space to comment on what to many must be the most interesting features of this work, namely, the fine series of family portraits and other illustrations. They are all quite delightful, and the family have on the whole been most fortunate in their painters. The portraits from old Clunybeg downwards have an air of distinction which is partly no doubt owing to the costume, but is also due to the presence of a certain forceful character which appears in most of them. Who we wonder was the nameless 'Venetian artist' who painted the fine portrait of Alexander Duff of Keithmore, 'Creely'? What Italian painter was wandering about the North of Scotland in the seventeenth century painting obscure lairds and tenants? Whoever he was he has painted a most telling portrait, though we think it is doubtful whether Keithmore ever really wore a ruff, especially one of such noble dimensions: they were quite out of date by the time he was painted.

One of the quaintest portraits given is that of Major Hugh Duff of Muirtown, an antiquary and author of some note in his day, who is represented in all the glory of a new and enormous top hat, then first coming into fashion: in itself it is a hideous thing, but we should have been sorry had the Major been painted without it: it is the saving of the picture.

There are several Raeburns, all fine examples of that master, but if the older portraits are worthy of all distinction and praise that is not to say that the more modern ones are not also good. It would be difficult, we think, to find anywhere a more charming portrait than that of Mrs. Duff of Hatton by Hugh Riviere.

Another distinguishing feature of this book is the series of views of the mansions and residences belonging to various members of the family, which form appropriate headings to the chapters. They fit the happy mean between mere architectural elevations and pictures where the house is idealised and its identity sacrificed to considerations of artistic setting.

There is a good index, invaluable to a book of this kind.

J. BALFOUR PAUL.

THE LIFE OF CHARLES, THIRD EARL STANHOPE. Commenced by Ghita Stanhope; revised and completed by G. P. Gooch. Pp. vi, 286. With Six Illustrations. Demy 8vo. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 10s. net.

THE atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust which surrounded the few men in England who were bold enough to profess liberal opinions during the reactionary years that followed the French Revolution would almost seem

to have accompanied them to their graves; for it is a singular fact that, though historians have delighted to make us familiar with the deeds, the characters and the writings of such shining characters as Pitt and Burke, the doings of their opponents have been consigned to an undeserved oblivion. This is especially true of Charles, third Earl Stanhope, probably the most outstanding of the advanced thinkers of his day: remarkable as his career was, it has found no chronicler until the appearance, a hundred years after his death, of the present volume, the joint work of his great-great-granddaughter, the late Miss Ghita Stanhope, and Mr. G. P. Gooch.

Perhaps it was because Stanhope, judged by the mental standards of his age, was so entirely abnormal that he found no sympathetic biographer. Even to the early nineteenth century he must have been an inexplicable problem: his standpoint is in many ways curiously modern, and only through twentieth century spectacles can it be appreciated. To his own age he was the Don Quixote of England—as such he is caricatured by Gilroy—a peer who was also a Jacobin, who corresponded with the French Revolution leaders, who believed in a Republic, who addressed his inferiors as ‘citizen,’ who championed the rights of man and inveighed against the slave trade, who had strange ideas about the National Debt, who believed he had invented a boat which could move without help of wind or sails and against the tide, and—most extraordinary of all—who went to bed with only a thin cotton nightcap on and slept with the windows open.

Miss Stanhope and Mr. Gooch have, for the first time, furnished us with a well-balanced and sympathetic account of this psychological enigma, and, in addition to throwing much light on the nooks and corners of the political world of his time, have revealed Stanhope in his true colours as a ‘fearless reformer,’ the kinsman and, in his early days, the comrade of Pitt, a worshipper at the shrine of liberty, the champion of the Nonconformists, the opponent with Wilberforce of the slave trade, the protagonist of sound finance and coinage reform, the lifelong sympathiser with the aspirations of Ireland, the constant advocate of the extension of the franchise and re-organisation of the electoral system. And that was only one side of his character: for in his days of retirement he devoted himself to mechanics and science, assisting in the development of canals, and being one of the earliest inventors of the steamboat. In character he was a proud, reserved, austere man, whose life was embittered by family quarrels. The last years of his life were most lonely—divergence of political views or incompatibility of character had estranged nearly all his former friends and connections.

The whole volume is fascinating and a valuable addition to the historical literature of the period, not only as an acute and penetrating study of a strange, wayward character, but because of its valuable accumulation of fresh facts, and especially because of the insight it gives into the conditions under which the men on the unpopular side lived and the obstacles they had to face, in a period at once one of the most brilliant and reactionary in English history.

W. D. ROBIESON.

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SCOTS PEERAGE. Edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, C.V.O., LL.D.
Vol. IX. Index. Pp. vi, 914. 8vo. Edinburgh: David Douglas.
1914. 25s. net.

Finis coronat opus. The ninth and concluding volume of this monumental work is before us, and our hearty congratulations must be given to Lyon King of Arms on the completion of his labours.

Some 150 or more pages are taken up with the inevitable addenda et corrigenda, which must come to light when a record on so large a scale is composed. Many of these, we observe, are supplied by Mr. J. Maitland Thomson, LL.D., whose scrupulous accuracy and critical acumen make him second to none among living Scottish genealogists.

The bulk of the volume, however, is devoted to a full and elaborate index, which was peculiarly essential owing to the manner in which *Scots Peerage* was compiled, that is to say, with hardly any cross-references. Indeed, without this help it would be impossible for a student to find what he might want in the body of the work.

This index is indeed a masterly performance, and reflects the greatest credit on its compiler, Mrs. Alexander Stuart; to quote from the editorial note, 'it contains a list of between forty and fifty thousand names, and each person is definitely described by the mention of his or her title, occupation, or relationship.'

Certainly the thanks of all historians and genealogists, small or great, are due to Sir James Balfour Paul and his able coadjutors; even if we were disposed to point out any shortcomings which we might consider to exist, the extremely modest tone adopted in his editorial note would make even the most captious of critics hold his peace.

Having read every article in the eight preceding tomes, we can confidently endorse his claim that it is 'an advance on what has gone before,' and we may add thereto that it must remain for the next hundred years, if not for all time, the standard work on the nobility of the northern kingdom.

VICARY GIBBS.

KILCUMEIN AND FORT-AUGUSTUS. By Dom Odo Blundell, O.S.B.,
F.S.A. Scot. Pp. 72. With 8 Illustrations. Crown 8vo. Printed at
the Abbey Press, Fort-Augustus. 1914. 2s. net.

THIS little book is full of interesting details, drawn from original sources, touching the political troubles in 1715 and 1745 as they affected the central Highlands. In its first phase it formed the subject of the author's address as retiring president of the Inverness Scientific and Literary Society, and he was certainly well-advised in issuing the study in permanent form.

As Kilcumein, the name of the district, lay on the chain of lakes in the Glen of Scotland now connected by the Caledonian Canal, and was midway between Inverness and Inverlochy, which had been converted into strongholds during the Cromwellian wars, it is supposed that a military station of some sort must have been made there at the same period for the convenience of troops passing from one to the other. But it was not till after the rebellion of 1715 that a regular fort was made at Kilcumein, to

which after its extension General Wade gave the name of Fort-Augustus in honour of Prince William Augustus, better known as Duke of Cumberland, a name of 'unenviable notoriety in the district,' as the author states, and outside it, too, as he might have added. The fort at Inverlochy had been rebuilt in 1690 by General Mackay, and renamed Fort-William, presumably in compliment to King William III.

Dom Blundell has been very successful in gathering new facts about the part played by Fort-Augustus in the famous Risings. It was here that the local clans laid down their arms and renounced the Stuart cause, and it was here that they gained the first of their remarkable successes against the Government troops. It was captured by Prince Charles Edward a few weeks before Culloden, and was in consequence the scene of the last of his triumphs. In addition to the military episodes, much useful information is given about road-making in that neighbourhood, which serves to increase the reputation of General Wade as the most renowned road-maker of his time. Fort-Augustus remained the property of the Crown till 1867, when it was sold to Lord Lovat. In 1876 it was handed over to the English congregation of Benedictine monks, who erected the present stately pile of buildings.

While testifying to the pleasure a perusal of the book has given, it is a pity, though perhaps beyond its scope, that the author was not more particular in elucidating the earliest form in which Kilcumein is found in original record. The name is explained as the church or cell of Cumein, a disciple and successor of St. Columba. The inference, of course, depends on the earliest authentic form of the word. If Kilwhinnin, the form used by Pennant, be the correct one, and he gives the neighbouring elevation the name of Seewhinnin in corroboration, then the name of another saint must be understood, that saint who has bequeathed his name to the abbey of Kilwinning in Cunningham and to several chapels in Galloway and Cumberland.

The book is furnished with several old plans of the fort from the War Office, which add much to its interest and value. The printing is a credit to the Abbey Press.

JAMES WILSON.

THE AGE OF ERASMUS. Lectures delivered in the Universities of Oxford and London. By P. S. Allen, M.A., Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. Pp. 303. Demy 8vo. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1914. 6s. net.

NOR the least valuable part of Mr. Allen's fascinating lectures on *The Age of Erasmus*, as delivered in the Universities of Oxford and London, is his sympathetic appreciation of the spirit of the times about which he is writing, his acceptance of it as it was, whether for good or evil, his broad-minded tolerance of the weaknesses of both parties in that vindictive quarrel. What he is really concerned to show us is the difficulties with which the would-be scholar of that day had to contend. Truly they were giants in those days, else little would have been printed for our subsequent learning. The insuperable labours of copying counted as nothing, and the finer

spirits among them ran after the New-Knowledge as men in a desert after water. Among the keenest of these searchers after knowledge was Erasmus, who travelled over Western Europe in quest of Greek and in pursuit of ancient manuscript.

Much has been written on Erasmus, who especially, as revealed in the three thousand letters which have been so learnedly edited by Mr. Allen, is after all his own best commentator and biographer. Still those who have these things at heart can never tire of reading about that wonderful Re-birth of Letters, that fevered hunger and thirst for the New-Knowledge—of authors sacred and Profane—which set those great Fifteenth Century Scholars mentally and spiritually afire.

Mr. Allen's book answers admirably to its title. Its author is not concerned with that mental martyrdom which Erasmus, torn as he was between the contending camps of Christendom, and sympathizing with or disapproving of both in turn—must, we know, have suffered. Rather he gives us the dignified figure of the great Scholar standing out in commanding eminence against a confused background of clamouring Schoolmen, Scholars, Priests, Pedants, Prelates, and Potentates, all of whom he had in some way or other to satisfy or appease. Over the matter of his repudiation of the Letter against Pope Julius, our author passes lightly, observing that it is long since we expected every virtue from greatness. The writer is occupied more with the spirit of the time in which Erasmus flourished than with a study of the man himself. He emphasizes the ignorance, grossness and superstition of the age, the malice even against which the expositors of the new learning had to contend, and above all the difficulties which attended the pursuit of Greek. When in 1499 Erasmus visited Oxford, Greek was not taught there, and it was to London rather than to Oxford that he turned as the centre of Classic culture, and where on a later visit he met the 'five or six men who are thorough masters of both Latin and Greek.' His friendships with the great English men of that day,—Colet, More, Linacre, Grocyn, Fisher and others are referred to in the account of his studies in London, Oxford and Cambridge, at which last place, as is well known, he spent three years collating MSS. and working on his translation of the New Testament. Commenting on his wanderings to Paris and Italy, Mr. Allen points out the 'fluid nature' of University qualifications in that day, when a course of lectures taken in one University could be reckoned in another, and when a bachelor's degree taken in Paris, as by Erasmus—could be completed by a Doctorate conferred on him in Turin.

Particularly interesting in this chapter on the Universities is the account of the disputations held publicly and in Latin, but exhibiting in some of the subjects raised, the questioning spirit of the time. The points argued at Louvain 1488-1507 by Adrian of Utrecht, afterwards Pope Adrian VI., show the faint stirrings of revolt and the awakenings of moral and spiritual appeal even in a polished Professor of Theology. How much of this liberal mental attitude towards spiritual discipline survived Adrian's accession to the Papacy, does not concern us here, but the free exercise of a distinguished prelate's mind on these debatable questions contributes not a little to our understanding of 'The Age of Erasmus.'

In his chapter on *The Transalpine Renaissance* Mr. Allen makes clear the vast strides which the Northern and Western nations had made in intellectual culture, to the amazement of the Italian schools of learning, who had hitherto prided themselves upon their undisputed pre-eminence. In 1517 it was possible for a Bishop of Paris to bear witness that 'Italy has no one to compare with him in literary gifts, . . . with respect to the Italians . . . Erasmus eclipses every one, Transalpine and Cisalpine alike.' This is a fine testimony, and is not a little illuminating as to the cosmopolitan character of that scholarship of which Erasmus was to remain for centuries the most illustrious exponent.

Alice Law.

NOTABLE ENGLISH TRIALS. THE TRIAL OF EUGENE ARAM. Edited by Eric R. Watson, LL.B., of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law. Pp. xvi, 221, with 12 plates. 8vo. Edinburgh: William Hodge & Co. 1913. 5s. net.

DESPITE the many versions of the story already in existence, it has been left to Mr. Watson to dispel the clouds of romance surrounding the name of Eugene Aram, and to present us with an unbiassed account of the real facts, in which at times the flow of the narrative is checked by the quantity of detail and explanation introduced. That a man of culture should be a criminal is not unprecedented, but that a student of ancient languages and comparative philology should be guilty of a sordid murder is singular enough to justify the interest that has always centred round Eugene Aram. During the fourteen years that elapsed between the disappearance of Daniel Clark and the accidental discovery of his bones in 1758, Aram had led the life of a scholar, devoting himself to works requiring more patience and assiduity than usually accompany the criminal nature. He is remarkable as being the first to recognise the analogy between Celtic and other European languages, and the relation between philology and ethnology. His speech in his own defence, on the fallibility of circumstantial evidence, is a literary masterpiece, but it is erroneous to suppose that he spent years over its composition, in fear of ultimate apprehension. We commend the appendices, and the inclusion of the *Essay Towards a Lexicon*, containing his most important philological conclusions. The illustrations are excellent, but an index is lacking.

J. G. HAMILTON-GRIERSON.

TRIAL OF MARY BLANDY. NOTABLE ENGLISH TRIALS. Edited by Wm. Roughead. 210 pp. 8vo. Edinburgh: Wm. Hodge & Co. 1914. 5s. net.

MR. ROUGHEAD has an inimitable way of narrating a *cause célèbre* which no one else seems able to attain to. In this account of a once famous trial for murder he is at his best, and he makes this tragedy of long ago, which impressed both Horace Walpole and Mrs. Carter, very interesting and instructive. Shortly told, the story is this. Miss Blandy, the daughter of a solicitor, who lived in a rich way at Henley, inspired by her (married) lover, the Hon. William Cranstoun, administered to her father white arsenic, supplied to her by Cranstoun, so that he died on the 14th August, 1751. Her defence was that she thought the powder was a philtre to make her father 'kinder' both to herself and her lover, but, tried at Oxford, she

was held to be guilty of murder and hanged. The editor has collected a great deal of valuable contemporary information on the murder and its perpetrators, the escape of the wretched Cranstoun and his ultimate fate, and has enriched his book with many rare portraits of the unfortunate Miss Blandy both in mundane and prison garb. A note on page 151 deserves correction. Lady Mary Hamilton was sister to Lady Cranstoun and the Countess of Home, all daughters of William, second Marquis of Lothian.

A. FRANCIS STEUART.

THE AMES FOUNDATION YEAR BOOKS OF RICHARD II. 12 Richard II., A.D. 1388-1389. Edited by George F. Deiser. Pp. xxxi, 239. With four illustrations. 4to. Cambridge (U.S.A.): Harvard University Press; London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 1914. 21s. net.

How much of solidarity there is in the historical study of law is pleasantly evinced by the American editing of this volume, the first year book of Richard II. to be brought out except in second hand segments. Many year books of Edward I., Edward II., and Edward III. have been printed, and the series for the reigns subsequent to Richard II. has long been available in black letter editions. Those of Richard II. hitherto omitted entirely are now taken in hand under the American foundation, instituted in 1910, for the advancement of legal knowledge and in honour of the late James Barr Ames of Harvard.

The opening volume is edited by Mr. Deiser, a member of the Philadelphia bar, who has made extensive research into the MS. sources in England, and whose Introduction, a little breezy in style, displays an excellent working knowledge of the whole field of the year books. He does not commit himself to an opinion on the debate, still unsettled, whether these reports of decisions were official or not, but his remarks prove his knowledge of the entire problem. No fewer than twenty-two MSS. are available for the whole reign, nine of which are applicable to 12 Richard II., and have been used by Mr. Deiser.

There are always from time to time discoveries of fresh versions for the number of copies made must have been large. (Lately the present reviewer disembowelling the covers of a very early print of Virgil found pasted in—along with printed scraps of a grammar, with preface by Erasmus—two leaves of parchment evidently part of a late thirteenth-century year book, probably between 21 and 23 Edward I.)

The model followed by Mr. Deiser is not that set by Mr. Pike in the Rolls Series, but that of Professor Maitland and Mr. Turner in the Selden Society publications, with a translation *en regard*. Adequate tables of the rubrics and indexes of cases, matters, and names are also furnished. Judgments of interest concern, for example, the effect of charter of pardon, deodand where a tin mine fell in, an attempt to interfere with a jury, and the concurrence of claims of villenage with enforcement of contract of service.

America shares with England the inheritance of English law, and American legal scholars are with high credit sharing also the great task of ascertaining the ancestral record.

GEO. NEILSON.

96 Clay : Hermits and Anchorites of England

THE HERMITS AND ANCHORITES OF ENGLAND. By Rotha Mary Clay. Pp. xx., 272. With many Illustrations. Demy 8vo. London: Methuen & Co. 1914. 7s. 6d. net.

IN a necessarily brief review like the present one, no adequate justice can be done to a work in which Miss Clay, with marvellous industry and exceptional ability has presented to us the story of the Hermits and Anchorites of England and Wales from the earliest times till the period of the Reformation.

To a self-indulgent age like the present, the vocation of a hermit seems little short of what Christianity was to the Greeks; such a one was a fool for his pains. But, as is universally recognized, serious illnesses of the Body, whether Social or Politic, call for exceptional remedies, and this was the justification of the 'Ancren Riwle.' In the dark and rude ages in which most of the Hermits of whom Miss Clay gives us such fascinating accounts, withdrew from the world, their example served as a noble appeal to leave the temptations of the senses, and rise above the grosser appetites of the flesh to a sphere where only the cravings of the spirit were satisfied. It is of course open to remark that the Hermit was in a sense the 'eccentric' of his day, that he was occasionally supported by the alms of the pious,—that is, when they could be near enough to minister,—it is furthermore true that they did not abandon a standard of comfort such as we enjoy to-day, and that the inconveniences which appear so appalling to us would not have been particularly distressing to the men of the early middle-ages. It may also be suggested—by way of similar Devil's Advocacy,—that in the secluded life a man escaped from the hurly-burly, he could avoid work, avoid contact with his fellows, and indulge his mania for eccentricity in any way he pleased.

Yet the most sinister-minded critic will admit that a man does not subject himself to cold, nakedness, hunger and probable martyrdom from mere eccentricity, and indeed the life and labours of such men as St. Cuthbert, St. Bartholomew of Farne, and St. Werston of Malvern, bear witness to the contrary. And, with regard to the suggestion that such recluses escaped the ordinary duties of life, it should be remembered how closely all anchorites were immured, and how sacredly bound to the Rule of their neighbouring Bishop. We may be sure that unless they had been subject to authority, such breakings away from the Church would never have been suffered by Medieval Ecclesiasticism. More than this, many monasteries owed their origin to a cluster of hermit cells, notably the abbeys of Crowland, Malvern and Selby.

It is difficult altogether to deny a certain element of egoism in this choice of an isolated life, for, as Miss Clay tells us in her admirable Introductory Chapter, the life of religious dedication was in these times regarded as that nearest perfection. But apart from its spiritual aspect the life of such hermits frequently had an economic and even social value for the community at large. They were patient scholars who 'sent forth from their cells books of devotion, historical works, poetry and at least one valuable dictionary.' The Hermit, who was able to mix with his fellows, served the community in prayer and preaching, collected alms, or helped to clear

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the forest ; he often made roads and bridges, or attended to ferries where people needed a convenient passage over some lonely river. In many of these useful ways the Hermit undoubtedly served his generation.

Miss Clay's book is amply illustrated with many photographs of ancient hermitages and saints, and closes with an invaluable Appendix giving a list of all the known hermitages in the order of their county.

ALICE LAW.

THE POWER OF IDEALS IN AMERICAN HISTORY. By Ephraim Douglass Adams, Professor of History, Leland Stanford University. (Dodge Foundation Lectures in Citizenship in the University of Yale.) Pp. xiii, 159. Crown 8vo. New Haven : Yale University Press. London : Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 1913. 5s. net.

THE Marxist theory that all historical movements and all political changes are the result of the interplay of economic interests alone has found many disciples among American scholars. Such writers assert, for example, that in the Civil War of 1860-65 opposition to slavery on ethical grounds went for nought. The real fundamental questions at issue were the inefficiency of slave as compared with free labour, and the relative economic merits of a loose confederacy and a unified state. Professor Adams in these lectures breaks a lance with the materialist historians. He holds, without neglecting economic conditions, that certain ideals—notably nationality and liberty (in the form of an anti-slavery agitation)—were the driving power behind the Federalist movement, and that these ideals triumphed even against the direct economic interest of the capitalist cotton planters of New England. The first evidences of American nationality Dr. Adams finds in the patriotic fervour evoked by the war of 1812 with England. The enunciation of the Monroe doctrine in 1823 was 'a notice served upon the world that we had become a nation,' and further tangible evidence is afforded by the adoption of a protective system. The secession problem finally crystallised the nationalist sentiment.

Dr. Adams supports his arguments by references to contemporary manifestations of popular feeling and illustrations from writers of the time. In the main he seems to prove his point, though, like most historians with a keen interest in literature, he is inclined to do less than justice to the economic side of the question. Of five lectures in the volume the discussion of nationality and anti-slavery occupies the two most important. The third deals with Manifest Destiny—An Emotion, and shows how the American people believed their destiny to be first to establish and expand democracy, and second to increase national power by territorial acquisition. The concluding lectures discuss the power of religion as a means of serving humanity, and the American conception of democracy, which took at one time the exaggerated form of a belief in an impossible vision, and is now coming to be regarded more truly and sanely as a constantly progressive movement towards betterment. Professor Adams's work is thoughtful, inspiring, and full of a lively hope in the future of his country.

98 Kingsford : English Historical Literature

ENGLISH HISTORICAL LITERATURE IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY. By Charles Lethbridge Kingsford. With an Appendix of Chronicles and Historical Pieces hitherto for the most part unprinted. Pp. xvi, 429. Demy 8vo. Oxford : Clarendon Press. 1913. 15s. net.

WE have reached a period when history, though not grown garrulous, has become autobiographical. We are now having histories of the historians, far beyond the restricted scope of the series on the Early Chroniclers of Europe which appeared some thirty years ago. Mr Gooch's *History and Historians* and M. Fueter's *Historiographie Moderne* are symptomatic of the current historiographic introspection. Mr. Kingsford carries the process into specialism : the chroniclers are to be sorted into centuries and analysed accordingly : and the analysis is assisted by new texts of more unprinted chronicles. A reviewer's problem is to determine whether there is more call to estimate the estimates of the old chronicles or to scrutinise the new 'historical pieces' which in 120 pages of text form splendid appendix to the critical estimate of the whole range of fifteenth century history. We could have been happy with either ; we are yet more delighted to have both.

The real medieval student will instinctively prefer the textual supplement, because it is so much recovered contemporary testimony, and as such more lastingly serviceable for study than mere criticism can ever be. True they are minor light these bits of southern chronicle, northern chronicle, London chronicle, Brut continuations, monastic annals from Sherborne, Waltham, Gloucester, and Tewkesbury, and notanda of Yorkist partizans, but it is often light in dark places, and dispels many uncertainties. In this book, as in a previous collection by Mr. Flenley (*S.H.R.* ix, 196), we may test the measure of value and novelty by the Scottish references, e.g. Henry IV.'s invasion in 1400, Henry Percy's mission to Scotland in 1414, and Douglas's mission to England in 1420 (afterwards denounced as 'perjury'), the siege of Roxburgh by James I. in 1436, the fighting the Scots did in France, and the presence of the Earl of Douglas and of Snowdon Herald of Scotland, at Edward IV.'s Court in 1472. Such items of the annals give Mr. Kingsford's appendix rank among sources requiring consultation for Scottish history. In his study of the interrelations of chronicle from Walsingham to Capgrave down to Polydore Vergil, and particularly in his tracking of the manifold shapes and influences of the Brut and its continuations, Mr. Kingsford renders invaluable services by elucidating the mode in which chronicle developed into history and history into literature till Spenser and Shakespeare may sometimes be read as the flower not only of poetical but also in some degree of historical performance. It is at least time, as Mr. Kingsford says, that the tracing of Shakespeare's material to its ultimate original is 'a proper conclusion to the study of English historical literature in the fifteenth century.' Literature and history have this in common that the knowledge of their sources is for both an indispensable of sound criticism. In history, however, it is the foremost consideration in determining credibility and authority.

Had space allowed, Mr. Kingsford might have been exhibited as tracing the pedigree of the 'Brut' back from English into its Latin and French forms, and thence through the London chronicles to its remoter ancestry,

and then forward into the main stem of the English histories which Spenser and Shakespeare, as well as Stowe, Holinshed and Bacon, read. A later example might have been taken in Edward Hall, whose authorities, bias, and gorgeous touch of rhetoric, but essential fidelity and historical importance, are all adequately appreciated. Excellent also is the chapter on poetry and ballads, wherein is set forth the capacity of political verse for pungent if partizan historical narration, strong in satire and innuendo. The day is past when it was necessary to regard a historical voucher as only secondary because it was in rhyme. Professor Firth has led the way in demonstrations of how much of contemporary fact can be accurately recorded in even a third-class song. Mr. Kingsford sees such literary sources with the same sympathy. The literary aspect determined the scope of his enquiry, for a principal purpose of his book was to trace the literary development in the writing of history. That purpose he has effectually attained.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1911. In Two Volumes. Vol. II. The Correspondence of Robert Toombs, Alexander H. Stephens, and Howell Cobb. Edited by Ulrich B. Phillips. Pp. 759. Royal 8vo. Washington. 1913.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS introduces this collection of the letters of three lawyers of the southern states (who all held office in Confederate government) with a brief preface and biographical chronology. Toombs, born 1810, died 1885, was Secretary of State. Stephens, born 1812, died 1883, was Vice-President. Cobb, born 1815, died 1868, had been Secretary of the U.S. Treasury before the civil war, and in 1861 he became President of the Confederate Congress. Toombs and Cobb both became generals in the Confederate Army. The correspondence of the three with one another, and with many people besides, has long been recognised as an important source of intimate information proceeding from the very centre of the secession side in the great struggle, and a great many of their letters, speeches, and papers have been printed and are already part of the political history of the United States. Over 600 pieces are contained in the present extensive volume, which without doubt must take its place as an indispensable body of current commentary at every stage of the conflict, and of the subsequent controversies and discussions on reconstruction. The editorial function seems to be in every way capably and faithfully performed, and the index is full and careful.

Only a specialist reader can adequately appreciate the detailed contribution to history which such a body of letters constitutes. They reflect equally the exuberance of feeling over 'the glorious news of a Southern Confederacy' when that was proclaimed in 1861, and the steady spirit with which, after a 'sea of blood,' the defeated South met the ultimate overthrow and faced the conditions it involved. Standpoints and outlook are prevalingly local and circumscribed, although, for instance, on the slave question and the fifteenth amendment they gain by their southern intensity what they lack in breadth. In one very interesting letter Cobb earnestly urges upon W. H. Seward the baselessness of the charge against Jefferson Davis of complicity in the assassination of Lincoln.

100 Memoirs as a Source of English History

TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION (1765-1865). By Solon Justus Buck. (Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library, Bibliographical Series, Vol. II.) Pp. xii, 514. With Six Illustrations. Demy 8vo. Published by the Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois. 1914.

THIS volume contains the first portion of bibliographical data collected by Mr. Buck, one of a group of teachers and students of the University of Illinois who have undertaken an exhaustive historical survey of the State of Illinois. In the first part of the book the author has tabulated and arranged in chronological order the full titles of all books or pamphlets containing accounts of travel in or descriptions of the State of Illinois from its occupation by the English in 1765 down to the close of the year 1865. Under each title is appended a note of the value and contents of the book. From the English point of view the period from 1765 to the establishment in 1790 of territorial government is of prime interest, owing to the number of English travellers, missionaries, and soldiers who have left on record their impressions of the semi-civilised lands between the Ohio and the Mississippi. The English settlement in Edwards County, established by Morris Birkbeck and Edward Flower, has an interest and a literature all its own. The latter part of the volume is of local interest, consisting of a list of county histories of the State and a table of the various collections extant of territorial and State laws from 1788-1913. There is a full index.

THE CLAN CAMPBELL. Abstracts of Entries relating to Campbells in the Sheriff Court Books of Perthshire and in the Particular Register of Hornings and Inhibitions for that County. Prepared and Edited by the Rev. Henry Paton. Pp. viii, 170. 4to. Edinburgh: Otto Schulze & Co. 1914. 15s. net.

A FIRST volume of Campbell collections from Argyllshire courts, noticed last year (*S.H.R.* xi, 111), is promptly followed by a second volume containing materials from Perthshire. The inventory now presented, excerpts and indexes fully 800 entries, which will facilitate the roll call of Campbells hereafter at whatever bar or bars they may be called to answer for their debts and doings. Mr. Paton's methodical diligence and his accuracy in names and places are characteristics once more in evidence. And the Campbells are still coming—lairds and tenants, creditors, debtors, rebels, horners and horned.

MEMOIRS AS A SOURCE OF ENGLISH HISTORY. By L. Rice-Oxley. 8vo. Pp. 54. Oxford: B. H. Blackwell. 2s. 6d. net.

OUR readers will recall Professor Firth's bright and comprehensive survey of the memoir as historical material with special reference to the seventeenth century (*S.H.R.* x. 329). Doubtless, it is a pupil of his who in this Stanhope Essay of 1914 resumes and continues the critical examination, offering fresh illustrations of the special value of such contributions, which, though often controlled by some one-sided motive and therefore, as the essayist well phrases it, 'dangerously flavoured,' contain an extensive body of invaluable intimate and important observations both of opinion and of

fact. Of course, the great exemplars are Evelyn and Pepys. A recent reperusal has predisposed the present critic to estimate more highly the quality (*i.e.* to reduce the percentage of accepted inferiority) of the former as compared with the latter. The vivacity and psychological unreserve of the latter put him in a place of his own as absolute as that of Montaigne among the essayists, yet the former, in spite of his rather priggish self-consciousness, was well worthy of that compliment of 'complete mourning' and that place at the pall of Pepys's funeral from which only his own illness hindered him. Together these two mark the summit of achievement in the memoir, written without axe to grind, except perhaps that the graver man—probably not the less vain of the pair—had more of an eye to a solemn record of his own importance to his age.

Mr. Rice-Oxley properly holds that the memoir is at its best an indirect register of contemporary social manners and customs, 'the spirit of life' preserving itself better there than in the page of formal and 'elegant' history. (The essay is so well written that a lapse in grammar in the second sentence of page 9 should be corrected.) As a complementary epilogue to Professor Firth's lecture the little book combines sound appreciations of the literary equally with the historical service rendered by the diarists. This notice may fitly close with a hint to professors of history in Scotland that there is not only room but an obvious need for parallel treatment of analogous Scottish diaries and 'historical observes.' There is in the subject enough alike in matter, character, and style to stimulate and reward a first-class study.

Geo. Neilson.

THE ENGLISH COLLEGES AND CONVENTS IN THE CATHOLIC LOW COUNTRIES, 1558-1795. By the Rev. Peter Guilday. Pp. liv, 480. Demy 8vo. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 12s. 6d. net.

THE author of this well written book desires to place before us the history of these colleges, convents, monasteries and seminaries which were founded in the low countries by those Catholics who exiled themselves, from the time of Queen Elizabeth for the sake of their faith, and by their foundations kept the Catholic ideal bright in the minds of their sons and daughters. He points out the chief difference between the Huguenot exiles and these equally heroic Catholics. The former were usually workers, and their inclusion in the country of their adoption had definite economic results, many very beneficial to it. The Catholic exile, on the other hand, generally belonged to the lettered or more noble class, and except by his religious foundations, left very little trace in the country in which he settled for conscience' sake. They left, however, as this book shows, a wonderful chain of Colleges, and this at a time when Catholics (as such) could look for no religious teaching whatever in their own country. Most of these colleges were swept away by the French Revolution, but their representatives in many cases exist in England, and have carried their traditions with them.

The chapter on the Foundation movement in general is especially interesting, showing how Elizabeth's anti-Catholic laws forced the stricter Catholics to leave their native land. As the author puts it, 'It was con-

formity or Exile, therefore, which faced the Catholics in 1559-60; and the Exile-movement towards the Continent, which began shortly after April, 1559, continued without interruption down to the French Revolution two centuries and a half later.' We wish we had space to mention the difficulties the exiles had to contend with—the political situation always against them, general poverty and irregular supplies, the difficulties with Rome, the Jesuit and Secular quarrel, and the Archpriest controversy. In spite of all these troubles they laboured on for their brethren at home, and founded (with many rebuffs and injustices, as the story of Mary Ward well shows) college after college and convents and schools whither their co-religionists could come. The name of Douay, 'Madre et nutrice di altri Collegi,' has perhaps eclipsed that of the other foundations mentioned in this book, but the history of all and the self-sacrifice of the founders of each is very interesting and instructive to read of in this welcome historical narrative.

A. FRANCIS STEUART.

HISTORY OF THE BERWICKSHIRE NATURALISTS' CLUB. Vol. XXI. Part ii. 1911. Vol. XXII. Part i. 1912. Demy 8vo.

THESE transactions of the naturalists and antiquaries of Berwickshire show commendable variety and power in the archaeological field of the Club's work. Such contributions as appear in these two parts would do credit to any learned body devoted to history. A presidential address by the Rev. J. F. Leishman chiefly concerns medieval bells on the eastern Border, and gives inscriptions as well as descriptive facts. Mr. Leishman also writes on the capture of Ker of Graden after Culloden, a paper which we may reckon as a postscript to his article in our columns in 1908 (*S.H.R.* v. 180). Mr. J. C. Hodgson gives a most serviceable account of a Warden Court, well worth taking as a modern supplement to the *Leges Marchiarum* of Bishop Nicolson. He also contributes a paper well fortified with transcriptions upon the manor of Beal, Northumberland, bringing out clearly the dangers attendant upon land tenure in the East Marches before the Union. The pedigrees of the Forster, Ord and Selby owners of the manor are well worked out. On somewhat similar lines, but with a better stock of extracts from records made available, Mr. Hodgson traces the story of the manor of Barmoor and the descent of its Muschamp owners. Dr. Thomas Hodgkin became President in 1912, and took for the subject of his address the history of Berwick from its beginnings down to 1461. Mr. Richard Welford has found a congenial theme in *James Ellis, a Poetical Attorney* (1763-1830), who in 1815 dedicated a collection of 'Poetry, Original and Fugitive,' to Sir Walter Scott. It is a mistake, however, in even a sketch biography of a minor poet, not to give so much as one specimen quotation of his verse. Mr. William Maddan groups some local references to the East Marches made in the *Chronicle of Lanercost* as translated by Sir Herbert Maxwell. He comments on various matters, including the problem of the knighthood of Wallace. In another paper Mr. Maddan discusses the early municipal history of Berwick. Commander Norman shortly, but with abundant sympathy, sketches the career of Dr.

Hodgkin, whose interest latterly centered on Border themes, and whose last letters to Commander Norman concerned the battle of Halidon Hill. Dr. Hodgkin was succeeded as President of the Club by Mr. James Curle, who, in 1913, gave an address on the Roman occupation, especially in relation to the line of Dere Street from Corbridge (Corstopitum) to Newstead. At the intersection point of the Stanegate and the great north road of Dere Street, Corstopitum 'linked up the garrisons of the north with the important legionary fortress of York.' As one might expect, Mr. Curle lays emphasis on the personal relics from the rubbish pits both of Corstopitum and Newstead, and he pieces together a couple of most informing paragraphs, gathering up with evident, however latent, enthusiasm the material for a picture of the cohorts as, in column headed by trumpeter and standard-bearer, they marched like 'the men at arms depicted on the Trojan column.'

PAGEANT OF THE BIRTH, LIFE, AND DEATH OF RICHARD BEAUCHAMP, EARL OF WARWICK, K.G., 1389-1439. Edited by Viscount Dillon and W. H. St. John Hope. Pp. x, 109. With 55 Plates and 5 other Illustrations. 4to. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 21s. net.

THIS is a most enchanting volume. It contains fifty-three beautiful scenes sketched almost contemporaneously from the life of a great *seigneur* of the early half of the fifteenth century. Who the artist was is by no means sure, but the present editors think, from his familiarity with the minutiae of the English blazons, he may (contrary to Sir E. Maunde Thompson's opinion) have been of English origin. The sketches have a charm of their own, and bring the life of this great Lord Warwick vividly before us in a beautiful manner. We see his birth, baptism, tournaments, the coronations and Royal marriages he attended. His voyagings (here the artist gives rein to imagination), how he was 'worthily received' at Calais, and 'saw Hierusalem too.' There are two genealogies, and the book is perfectly edited, telling us all we need to know of its subject, and giving plates of Warwick's fine tomb and other extra details of what his family caused to be wrought to preserve his pleasant memory.

SURVEYS OF HISTORY, GREEK, ROMAN, ENGLISH, FRENCH, BIBLICAL, ETC., WITH INTERVENING PERIODS. By C. H. Russell, M.A., Assistant Master at Clifton College. Pp. 45, 4to. London: G. Bell & Sons, Ltd. 1914. 4s. 6d.

THE object of these surveys is to show the continuity of history, but the necessarily condensed nature of the work leads to the omission of much that would illustrate the historical nexus of events. Mr. Russell's book will probably be of more use to the student who desires to refresh his memory on the eve of examination, than to the general reader of history; as a work of reference, its merits are undoubted. Concise notes on the art, literature and society of the various periods, and a comprehensive table of parallel dates, ranging from 2000 B.C., to 1902 A.D., add to the value of this serviceable handbook.

A HISTORY OF PENAL METHODS, CRIMINALS, WITCHES, LUNATICS. By George Ives, M.A. Pp. xi, 409. Demy 8vo. London: Stanley Paul & Co. 1914. 10s. 6d. net.

THE historical part of this work is what alone concerns us. However much we may be interested in the more modern system of penal methods—the futility of the crank, the horrors of the silent cell and the borstal system (about the last the wonderfully well-read author is strangely silent)—our interests have little in touch with the objects of this review. We concentrate therefore on the historical portion. This we have examined with great interest and care. The reading which furnished the facts contained in this volume is immense, and the references a course of history in themselves. The author shows the personal nature of the old punishment of crime and the punitive methods which change with each age. There is a chapter on the extinct crime of witchcraft and the awful witch burnings (these are assessed in Britain alone at 30,000 and on the Continent at 200,000 victims), and he gives a complete history of the wretched treatment of the insane before the Lunacy Laws, as well as a very excellent though terrible account of the punishment by transportation. This is a work of untold labour, painful to read, but which, as it is the work of a thinker and a historian who knows his subject, ought to be widely known and read.

ON THE LEFT OF A THRONE. A personal study of James, Duke of Monmouth. By Mrs. Evan Nepean. Pp. xxx, 246. With 32 Illustrations. Demy 8vo. London: John Lane. 1914. 10s. 6d. net.

THE title of this book mentions that it contains ‘thirty-six illustrations,’ and very beautiful they are. They are the most important part of the book and the portion most useful to future historians. The volume is a study or rhapsody on James, Duke of Monmouth, written (like Pomona’s novel) in ‘novel language.’ The writer says she owes much to Mr. Allan Fea. She has been assisted by ‘Miss Marjorie Bowen’—not as far as we know a writer of dry-as-dust history—and many other such friends, and she writes well in the romantic style herself. But the book is not serious history, and it may best be read as an historical novel. We are treated here to a heroic Monmouth (his mother’s ‘marriage lines’ existed till quite lately *pace* that veracious genealogist Sir Bernard Burke). His wife, the excellent Duchess-Countess of Buccleuch, is made a comic princess at the expense of his mistress, Henrietta, Lady Wentworth. In fact, it is a study of a very romantic sort. The illustrations, however, are excellent.

THE FUNDAMENTAL UNITY OF INDIA (from Hindu sources). By Radha Kumud Mookerji, M.A. With an Introduction by J. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P. Pp. xx, 140. With one Map. Crown 8vo. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 3s. 6d. net.

THIS book is written to contradict the prevalent idea that India is ‘a mere geographical expression, a mere collection of separate peoples . . . existing side by side but with no sense of nationhood in common.’ The writer does so by quoting Vedic Texts, the Rāmāyana, the Māhābhārata, the Puranas and the Early Buddhist literature.

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STUDIES IN ANCIENT HINDU POLITY. Vol. I. By Narendra Nalli Law, M.A., B.L. Pp. xlv, 203. Crown 8vo. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 3s. 6d. net.

THE author finds this well written treatise on the Arthāsāstra of Kautilya, who was associated with the Emperor Chandra Gupta Maurya, and whose writings apparently supplied Megasthenes with his information on India. It gives a complete system of polity and deals with most parts of Indian life from the law of contract to the keeping of elephants.

THE DIARY OF ADAM TAS. (1705-1706.) Edited by Leo Fouché, B.A. Pp. xlvii, 367, with 2 Maps. Demy 8vo. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1914. 12s. net.

THE diary of this early settler in Stellenbosch, well translated by Mr. A. C. Paterson, is a desirable addition to sources of South African history. Adam Tas has acquired posthumous fame by his successful opposition to the tyrannical governor, Willem Adriaan Van der Stel (it is to be noted that the latter was grandson of a 'coloured woman'), whose extortions drove the 'boors or farmers' to revolt, and so 'laid the foundations,' says the editor in his excellent account of the episode, 'of our political consciousness.' It is interesting to read this diary of the early patriarchal life in South Africa, and to learn about the daily doings of the Dutch and French colonists.

ALFRED IN THE CHRONICLERS. Second Edition. By Edward Conybeare, M.A. Pp. xi, 272. Demy 8vo. Cambridge: W. Heffer & Sons, Ltd. 1914. 4s. 6d. net.

WE welcome the second edition of this excellent work, which is now published with a few improvements on the original. The author thinks it 'just possible' that Cambridge University may be indirectly descended from Alfred's College of priests at Ely, but he cannot concede a similar claim to Oxford.

SOUVENIRS DE LA CAMPAGNE DE FRANCE. Manuscrit de 1814. Par Baron Fain, avec une Préface par G. Lenotre. Pp. xviii, 258. With several Illustrations. Crown 8vo. Paris: Librairie académique, Perrin et Cie. 1914. 3 fr. 50.

THIS new edition of the Souvenirs of Baron Fain, *premier secrétaire du Cabinet de l'Empereur*, is excellently edited (as only the French can edit historical works) and illustrated, and M. G. Lenotre decorates it with a short preface, in which (from another work of Baron Fain) he enables us to reconstruct Napoleon's Court and State during the Campaign of sixty days, which ended in the abdication at Fontainbleau.

The Scottish Flags, by C. Cleland Harvey, reprinted, with additions, notes, references, and illustrations from Provand's Lordship Heraldic Booklet, and published (post 8vo, 49 pp. 1s. net.) by the Glasgow St. Andrew Society, announces itself, in a preface dated June, 1914, as the first of a series on Scottish subjects proposed to be issued under the auspices of that society.

It consists of three chapters—on St. Andrew's Banner, the Scottish

Royal Arms, and the National Flag—and the primary object of the compiler, namely, to demonstrate that the National Banner consists of the St. Andrew's Cross and not the Royal Lion, he has abundantly accomplished. His statement of the case is both full and fair, and, in all things essential to the discussion, accurate. There are things in the work which elsewhere we might be inclined to criticise, but the booklet, with its notes and references to sources and authorities, contains nevertheless a valuable collection of the historical facts on which the main question which its author treats of must be decided.

Mr. Harvey devotes some paragraphs to a refutation of the sorry stuff on the subject which was issued some little time ago by the Scottish Patriotic (save the mark in such a context!) Association. These lead us to express what we have always thought, namely, that whoever will set himself to trace to its source the rapidly extending practice of the making and selling of the King's Scottish flag for general use will do a service to the cause of public decency. He will probably be able to establish the fact without very much trouble that the custom, which originates within the memory of persons still alive, began with the speculative manufacture of the flag by English flagmakers, who, if they knew or cared whether they erred or not, still rightly gauged the vulgar preference for what is bright to what is right.

In Professor W. P. Ker's paper on *Jón Arason* (Icelander poet-bishop, born 1484, beheaded 1550) we have a study of the old Norse spirit coming out in the rather incongruous conditions of the Reformation. It is an eminently secular and political biography sympathetically and sometimes caustically interpreted for the Viking Club. The island clearly had the bishop it deserved, and Arason's position as a martyr is equivocal. But so was the Reformation itself—Professor Ker shows—in Iceland.

Argyllshire and Buteshire, by Peter Macnair (8vo, pp. x, 161; Cambridge: University Press, 1914, 1s. 6d net), is an addition to the county geographies, strong in the description of natural features, especially on the geological side. Ice erosion—now under serious question—is accepted as the explanation of the rock basins of the indented coast. The historical sections show less grasp than the descriptive and scientific, but the book is wholly creditable and well informed, and its illustrations excellent and abundant.

The history of feudalism (*A Short History of Feudalism in Scotland, with a Criticism of the Law of Casualties*. By Hugh B. King. Pp. xxvii, 242. Cr. 8vo. Edinburgh and Glasgow: Wm. Hodge & Co. 1914. 3s. 6d. net) admits of very variant interpretations, and some judgments within the last few years regarding the determination of casualties certainly call for serious question of their soundness. Mr. King appears to argue for a legislative restoration of practice current before 1874. Whether the vested interests are not too strong to the contrary, and public interest too languid, remains to be seen, but the subject was worth ventilating.

To the series of English History Source Books is now added (1) *The Normans in England, 1066-1154*, compiled by A. E. Bland (8vo, pp. viii, 118; London: G. Bell & Sons, 1s. net). This shows capital use of the Rolls

Series for the representative texts it translates in sequence. There is also added to the series (2) *York and Lancaster, 1399-1485*, compiled by W. Garmon Jones (pp. viii, 120; London: same publishers and price). Containing no fewer than eighty-seven extracts from contemporary material, this volume, by its variety and special choice of passages from the less known memoirs and state papers, as well as from the leading chronicles, shows exceptional skill in method and selection.

The Influence of English Poetry upon the Romantic Revival on the Continent (from Proceedings of British Academy. Vol. VI. Pp. 18. 8vo. London: Humphrey Milford. 1914. 1s. net) is Professor C. Vaughan's Warton Lecture on English Poetry. The French and German revival of the romantic influences lay between 1750 and 1780, and Professor Vaughan traces major effects (1) of Macpherson's *Ossian* and Percy's *Reliques* in poetry, (2) of Richardson and Sterne (excluding Fielding) in the novels, and (3) of the discovery of Shakespeare as a revolution in the stagecraft of tragedy.

An important contribution to the proceedings of the British Academy, now issued separately, is *The Rose of the Winds: The Origin and Development of the Compass-Card*, by Silvanus P. Thompson (cr. 8vo, pp. 31, illustrations and coloured plates; London: Humphrey Milford, 4s. net). After a short sketch of the history of the compass, Professor Thompson assigns to about 1302 the introduction of the pivoted needle on a light card painted with 'wind-roses,' marked with initials of the names of the various winds in Latin or Italian forms. The fleur-de-lis mark for the north used in modern compasses goes back to the end of the fifteenth century, and the author looks favourably upon the theory of a German investigator, Herr A. Shück, that it represents the primitive floating compass—a lancet needle supported between two wooden floats. The whole subject is of extreme interest, and Professor Thompson's attractive and learned essay is a compendium of curious fact lucidly explained, but with mysteries inviting still further discovery.

The Story of Pet Marjorie, with portraits, numerous illustrations, and complete diaries. By Lachlan Macbean. Pp. 129. Cr. 8vo. Fourth Edition. Stirling: Eneas Mackay. 1914. 2s. 6d. net. The dear child is always worthy of yet another telling of her story that lets herself tell it also.

The *Report of the Council of the National Library of Wales, 1910-1913* (Aberystwyth, 1913) calls for notice here only on account of the scheme it outlines for a collection in the library of documents and prints bearing on Welsh history. Some fac-similes of rare title-pages and woodcuts, good in themselves, are capital commendation of the scheme.

We have to thank Mr. James Grant for no fewer than seven off-prints issued from the *Banffshire Journal* Office, bearing dates from 1902 until 1911, on Banffshire subjects—its agriculture 150 years ago, its literature prior to 1800, its roads during the first half of the eighteenth century, and its fortunes in the Revolution of 1689, as well as slightly less local notes

on the French invasion of Scotland in 1708, the disposal of the old Scots Navy after the Union, and the rôle of what was called 'Moyen' (*i.e.* interest, influence, and bribery of judicial authorities) in the old days when judges were not 'kinless loons.' They contain much that is of national bearing, for Banff county history and literature are parts of the general story of Scotland, and justify Mr. Grant's plea that the study of them is 'neither narrow nor parochial.' To some of the themes, such as the literature, Mr. Grant will doubtless return some day with deepened knowledge. He will, we hope, look at Alexander Craig with a more indulgent eye, and claim for Walter Goodall's editing of Bower's *Scotichronicon* the merit of a magnificent service to our land. No doubt Bower could have been edited a little better, but with all the qualifications allowed for, the *Scotichronicon* remains our greatest *corpus historicum*, and Bower is, over all, the Scottish historiographer royal. The Hume circle used to poke fun at his foibles in the matter of the national failing, but, drunk or sober, Goodall edited Bower remarkably well.

Mr. George Watson has sent us a private reprint of several articles on Jedburgh subjects, the most important treating upon the foundation of the abbey. He has also sent a paper read to the Hawick archaeologists lately on 'Literary Blunders of the Author of *Waverley*.' Happy the novelist who after a century has so small a teind to pay to the devil's advocate! Not that Mr. Watson plays that ungracious rôle, nevertheless he has raked together a long list of inadvertencies of arithmetic, geography, philology, and history. Among these errata, however, he includes 'the island of Roseneath,' for which the Clerk of Session could have adduced overwhelming authority in charters and seisins.

The Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society's *Proceedings during the year 1913* (8vo. Pp. xii, 145. With A Supplement to the Flora of Somerset. Pp. iv, 242. Taunton: Barnicott & Pearce. 1914) contain a sixth report on the discoveries made during the excavations of Glastonbury Abbey. The abbey was proud of its possession of the head of St. Dunstan, sumptuously enshrined, and the recent explorations of the site have taken away all doubt as to the existence of a chapel to that saint. Among objects unearthed are fragments of interlace-work crosses, pieces of Romanesque carving, and an 'egg-stone' or concretionary boulder, for which there is set up a dubious-looking claim for a connection with the historically mysterious name of Avalon, and with a symbolism of creation.

Romance interests parallel with those of archaeology are catered for by the account of preliminary digging at Cadbury Castle or Camp, otherwise known by the far more famous name of Camelot. With four concentric lines of rampart it is even on a landscape photograph a truly formidable contour-camp, and we can suppose the excavators may almost have hoped to discover Arthur in some enchanted subterranean sleep. Previous finds there had included bronze rings and bracelets, flint axes, and scrapers, as well as baked clay sling bullets. Trial cuttings made last year have added more bullets, pieces of Roman and British pottery, a flint hammer stone, a bronze bar, human skulls and bones, and iron nails and pieces of slag, all

which make more conclusive than ever the proofs of Late-Celtic and Roman occupation. We need not wonder that these results have made the excavators 'eager to learn more about Camelot.' In view of the keen stimulus to systematic digging afforded by recent discoveries made by similar tentative work at Traprain Law, near Haddington (associated with the legend of St. Thenew, mother of St. Kentigern), we in Scotland can fully share the anxiety of Somerset antiquaries to probe the mystery of Camelot deeper with the spade.

Aberdeen University Library Bulletin (April) serves a good purpose by a twenty-eight page chapter stating the 'Condensed Cataloguing Rules' as followed in that library. Cataloguing, almost like a system of heraldry, admits of a great series of fine distinctions and skilful applications of abbreviation and punctuation. The frail mortal who starts a private catalogue, equally with the professed librarian, may well find these rules a capital lead in deciding upon a system.

Mr. Alfred W. Johnston in *Orkney and Shetland Records* (Vol. I. Part. XII. Index. Pp. 281-389. London: Viking Society. 1914) renders very real service not only to record study but to the social and historical interpretation of Norse Scotland by his well-wrought synthetic and analytic summary in the guise of an index to the documents collected in this invaluable assemblage of deeds relative to the Orcaes. Nothing but the presentment of these charters, etc., themselves would have convinced even well-appointed students of conveyancing that there were so many forms and terms calling for deep explanations, and that so much of the old Norse life and thought was carried down in shadow after the substance had passed away. Mr. Johnston's hundred pages of indexes are as necessary as they are enlightening. First is his government index, which groups jurisdictions, laws, deed-forms, courts, and offices. Second come words and subjects. Third are names of places and persons. As he has put in the date along with each reference, he has started a model of facilitating study for which the hard-driven searcher owes thanks not less for its ingenuity than for its diligence. It is a veritable hand-book to the charter lore of those islands, which have a strange attraction to men who never trod their strand, yet feel something Orcadian in their heart. We have all the Norse strain in the blood. Explanations of such mysteries as 'domrair,' contempt of court; 'dugandi-man,' gentleman; 'eyrisland,' ounce-land; 'lispund' (from Low German *liveschpund*), Livonian pound; 'logthing,' lawing or assembling; 'roythman,' councillor; 'sogn,' parish; and 'tunmall,' grass plot, may be instanced as instructive glossarial notes. Congratulating Mr. Johnston and the Vikings we congratulate ourselves.

In *The English Historical Review* (April) Sir J. H. Ramsay brings some valuable authentic facts to confront the chroniclers regarding the size of medieval English armies. Miss Scofield coordinates much new light on the early life of John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford—son of the 12th earl, beheaded by Edward IV. Madame Lubimenko describes a project considered by James I. for the acquisition by him of no less a possession than the territory of Russia, towards which he was in 1612 persuaded—

unsuccessfully—by Thomas Chamberlain, a captain who had gone to serve with mercenary troops under the Tsar in 1609. Mr. J. G. Edwards adduces grounds for a belief that 'Flint' Castle is just an English rendering of 'Le Chaylou' (*caillou*), a name used apparently for the place in 1277-78. Mr. A. E. Stamp establishes pretty clearly that legal proofs of age in the fourteenth century display repetitions of events referred to as remembered which must be rather suspected to be matter of style hardly compatible with the truth—in one or other case—of the episodes treated as pegs of memory. Mr. Stamp offers no opinion, but his data more than hint at a somewhat daring concoction of evidence by the declarants.

Old Lore Miscellany (April) discusses yet further shades of technical sense of 'roithman,' examines Shetland names for various foods, and happily starts some genial criticisms of Mr. Johnston's introduction to the *Orkney and Shetland Records*. We should be sorry if the Vikings were always of one mind.

Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset (March, 1914).—A new part means more tomb-pictures, epitaphs, wills, tenurial customs, pedigrees, with some gossip and ana of many kinds. A recipe for sciatica may be noted as drawing ingredients from a goose and a swine plus 'the fleysch of a catte well brokyn.'

So too the *Berks, Bucks, and Oxon. Archaeological Journal* (April) abounds in brasses, piscinas, reliquaries, portraits, church extracts, inscriptions, and bell-lore.

The Iowa Journal (April) prompts the confession that our interests on this side the ocean are capricious. 'Forts in the Iowa Country' and 'French expeditions against the Sac and Fox Indians' are much more attractive than the 'Defalcation of James D. Eads' or the 'Quakers of Iowa in 1850.' We cheerfully leave both Dr. Eads and the Quakers to their own devices, and turn to the forts and the Sac Indians, not without a suppressed memory of Fenimore Cooper, whose fiction no doubt now needs historical subediting. The Frenchman, Captain Nicolas Joseph de Noyelles (born 1694, died *ante* 1767), who made his expedition in 1734 with 80 French and about 130 Indians, did not achieve much by his enterprise, a fact for which he blames 'the defection of our savages.' He marched from Montreal, crossed the Mississippi, and found the quarters of the enemy at last on the opposite side of the Des Moines River. Notwithstanding a temporary advantage in an engagement, the French company had to fall back. Ultimately the Huron friendlies, who accompanied the French, left them in the lurch, preferring predatory objects of their own. 'Nearly all our savages,' writes the chagrined captain, 'left me and went on the warpath.'

In the *Iowa Journal* (July) Mr. Van der Zee devotes two good papers to the process of French discovery and pioneer trading in Eastern Iowa prior to 1762 (when the territory west of the Mississippi was conveyed to Spain), and to the subsequent trade rivalry in furs between English and Spanish traders until the restoration of the province to France in 1800, and the final

sale of Louisiana to the United States in 1803. The interests of travel, commerce, and Indian adventure are united in the story of the seventeenth and eighteenth century *voyageurs* like Nicholas Perrot and the comrades of Captain de Noyelles.

In the *Revue Historique* (July-August) M. E. Ch. Babut completes a very extensive study on the Imperial Guard and Roman military staff in the fourth and fifth centuries. His lines of enquiry converge upon the significance and functions of the *protectores* or centurions, and he maintains that a knowledge of Roman military system under the last Western emperors is the key to much in Merovingian history. His concluding point is the suggestion that the Germanic peoples probably devised their system of hundreds from the Roman armies.

M. Pierre Caron prints letters of Madame de Lostanges from Paris and Versailles in July, 1789, giving the impressions of the lady, a greatly perturbed eye-witness, on the beginnings of the revolution. The sansculottes (not so described) are spoken of as 'des gueux et des misérables mal vêtus armés de bâtons,' and as 'des gens d'une mine épouvantable avec des longs bâtons armés de faux de bouts d'épées et d'autres armes qu'ils avaient été prendre chez tous les armuriers.'

In *Bulletins de la Société des Antiquaires de l'Ouest* (Jan.-Juin, 1913) are printed the statutes of the faculty of medicine of Poitiers, 1533-1616, which contain many regulations of great interest in the usage and law of universities and collegiate professional bodies. The oaths prescribed in 1533 are jealous against all unlawful practitioners, and especially against outsiders—'maxime extraneos qui non debent tollerari ex generali statuto in hac famosa universitate.' Also they sternly forbid resort to charms by the licentiate—'jurabit non uti in praxi exercenda et curis morborum sortilegiis, carminibus, verbis ignotis, caratheribus, auguriis, devinationibus et superstitionibus.' The 'doctor' has to swear 'non docere exercere aut dogmatizare pyromantiam necromentiam, magiae fucos, divinatorias et illicitas artes,' and is forbidden to have books of that sort which are condemned by the church. Also he must swear to keep the oath of Hippocrates—'contenta in jurisjurando domini Hypocratis.' At his reception the new doctor is admitted by the dean, who instals him with a gown (*birrus*), a ring, a book closed and open, and the kiss of peace. The bedellus of the faculty has many responsibilities, among which—'In prandiis tenetur primus gustare vinum per respondentem adlatum ne doctores intoxicentur.'

The Académie Roumaine publishes (Bucarest: Sococ & Co. 1914) its *Bulletin de la Section Historique*, under the editorship of Professor N. Jorga. The January issue is the first part for the second year. The editor has compiled a history of the Jews in Roumania, where, as always, an unpopular race has been indispensable, but a constant anxiety to the government and the community, and where the Jewish question is still current politics. The battle of Obertyn in 1531, in which the Moldavians were defeated by the Poles, is re-examined by I. Ursu, who seeks on not very satisfactory evidence to explain the utter rout by a treasonable defection of the

Moldavian allies. Professor Jorga contributes an elaborate study of the connection between the monasteries of Mount Athos and the Roumanian districts. The 'Holy Mountain' has ever since the ninth century been the object of magnificent and pious donations from the faithful; and the civil history has been intertwined with the ecclesiastical.

Archivum Franciscanum Historicum (January) contains an article by Father L. Bracaloni upon Medieval Assisi, accompanied by a plan and by a reproduction of the oldest extant view of the city between 1305 and 1315. In the same number Mr. Walter W. Seton describes an English codex of the latter half of the fifteenth century, which formerly belonged to the antiquary Thomas Pennant. It contains an English translation of the rule of the Third Order of St. Francis, promulgated in 1289 by Pope Nicholas IV. The writer mentions his intention of editing and publishing this interesting middle English text in the publications of the *Early English Text Society* and of the *Philological Society*. In the April number the same writer describes and discusses some new manuscript sources for the life of Blessed Agnes of Prag. The 'Chronica' which appears at the end of this issue contains a full review of the varied activities of students of Franciscan literature during recent months, in which English and Scottish authors receive due notice.

In *Analecta Bollandiana* (November, 1913) Father H. Delehaye has edited the *Martyrologium Hieronymianum Cambrense*, which contains, among other interesting commemorations, references to Saint Columba and to Saint Columbanus. This early manuscript (*circa* 1082) is announced for publication by the Henry Bradshaw Society. Meantime Father Delehaye has done excellent service by this edition and his learned notes.

In the January number Father Joseph Mansion deals with the origins of Christianity among the Goths, leaning to the view that at the date (A.D. 270) when the Roman Empire renounced its sway over the ancient province of Dacia there were already in certain places Christian communities founded by Audius. A fourteenth century manuscript of the life and miracles of St. Laurent (Lorcan O'Toole), Archbishop of Dublin in the twelfth century, is edited by Mr. Charles Plummer in the April issue. The death of the Saint took place in Normandy on 14th November, 1180, and at his funeral we are told that, among others, there was present 'venerabilis pater, Alexius nomine, Romane ecclesie Cardinalis, et Scotie tunc legatus.' Alexis, whose mission to Scotland in the earlier part of this same year (1180) is well known, was only a subdeacon at this date. He was created a cardinal, with the title of St. Susanna, in 1188.



Arthur