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## REVIEWS.

## ENGLISH CHURCH SCREENS.

*English Church Screens. Being Great Roods, Screenwork, and Rood-Lofts of Parish Churches in England and Wales, by Aymer Vallance. London: B. T. Batsford, 1936, 4to, price 25s.*

MR. AYMER VALLANCE has long been recognized as an authority on many branches of medieval ecclesiology. Nearly thirty years ago he contributed to *Memorials of Old Kent* (edited by P. H. Ditchfield and G. Clinch, 1907) an excellent article on Kentish Roodcreens. He has now greatly widened his survey which in the present volume includes descriptions of screen-work from almost every county in England and Wales. The result is a fine work, containing 6 plates in colour, 288 half-tone illustrations, from photographs of exceptionally high quality, 26 drawings in the text, and 96 pages of letterpress.

Mr. Vallance has arranged his matter in ten chapters, headed respectively, The Great Rood, The Celure, The Tympanum and the Doom, Rood-windows, Screens, Local Types and Peculiarities, Gold and Colour Decorations, Dates, Donors, and Craftsmen, The Rood-Loft, The Post-Reformation History of Screens; on all of which he contributes much that is new and helpful to the study of the subject.

The Great Rood, either suspended from the crown of the chancel arch or standing upon the rood-beam, was the most conspicuous and most highly venerated image in every church.

From at least as early as the twelfth century the Divine Figure was accompanied by those of SS. Mary and John, and sometimes by other saints and angels as well.

In the earlier examples there was no attempt at realism: Christ crowned and draped is represented as "reigning from the tree". Very early roods still exist at Romsey Abbey and at Langford in Oxfordshire, Mr. Vallance does not

mention these, probably because they are of stone and on the exterior of the church.

The curious custom of providing coats, mantles and shoes for the Sacred Figure is at least as old—Mr. Vallance tells us—as the eleventh century Crucifix, called the Holy Face of Lucca. In Kent silver shoes were provided for the Crucifix, at St. Andrew's, Canterbury, Chilham, Chislet, and Lydd.

Reverence for the Rood was shown by tapers fixed to the rood-beam or top of the parapet of the loft: there was no regulation number but at Cranbrook there were no less than forty-one, and at Westwell as many as sixty!

The destruction of roods which were alleged to have been "abused with pilgrimages and offerings" began as early as 1538, by Royal Injunctions. But it was not until the second year of Edward VI that by Order of Council the former distinction between abused and non-abused images was abolished, and all images whatsoever were condemned to be utterly "extincted and destroyed". This Order appears to have been rigorously carried out.

On the accession of Queen Mary much was done to restore the roods, but many were necessarily of a temporary or makeshift character. Thus in Archdeacon Harpsfield's Visitation of the diocese of Canterbury (1556-7) we read that at Preston (? near Wingham), and at Tilmanstone the roods set up were "not of a sufficient stature". The new roods, however, had a very short life, for on the accession of Elizabeth they were again cast out and destroyed, though, according to Mr. Vallance, this was not in accordance with the Queen's personal wishes.

The Celure—ceiling or canopy over the Great Rood—is dealt with somewhat briefly. Mr. Vallance gives only two illustrations of this feature, a good example may still be seen in the church of St. Mary, Rainham, Kent.

On the other hand, ten pages are devoted to the discussion of the Tympanum and the Doom. The former was the filling up of the upper part of the chancel arch with lathe and plaster, boarding or canvas, for the purpose of shutting

out the light from the east window, and giving a good background to the Rood. Though fairly common, the tympanum must have been confined to those churches which possessed a chancel arch—in the fifteenth century very many did not. The Doom was sometimes painted on the tympanum as a background to the Rood, but more frequently on the east wall of the nave above and around it. At Patcham in Sussex the Doom above the chancel arch has been ascribed to a date as early as the last quarter of the twelfth century.

Amongst tympana in Kentish churches, which existed until comparatively recent times, Mr. Vallance mentions examples at Sevenoaks and Kemsing. At Fordwich the tympanum is still preserved, though now placed above the chancel arch instead of within it. It is of canvas fixed to wooden framework, and now bears the arms of William and Mary.

Although the blocking up of the upper part of the chancel arch effectually prevented halation from the light of the east window, it was apt to leave the rood in comparative obscurity, to remedy which windows were constructed either in the outer walls of the church or in some instances in the tympanum itself as a further means of illuminating the rood; Mr. Vallance mentions examples as existing or formerly existing in the following Kentish churches:—Ickham, Tenterden, Speldhurst, St. Dunstan's Canterbury, Kennington, and Rolvenden.

How completely the chancel was converted, in some churches, into a separate apartment may be seen by the drawing, on page 18, of the screen and tympanum at Westham in Sussex.

With the destruction of the roods the purpose for which the tympana were constructed no longer existed, but in many churches they were not removed, but whitewashed and adorned with the Royal Arms, or a copy of the Ten Commandments. Some survived to the earlier half of the nineteenth century, and owed their removal to the zeal of the followers of what is called the "Oxford Movement".



The word "Screen", Mr. Vallance states, does not occur in medieval times; indeed with one exception it does not seem to have been introduced until the seventeenth century (p. 31). The exception is found in the Churchwardens' Accounts of Heybridge, Essex, where, in 1525, a small sum was paid "for carrying the screen of the church". "Screen" here, however, may be only a translation of the Latin *scrinium*, and may mean merely that the money was paid for carrying the church chest. Mr. Vallance has no difficulty in disposing of the fable adopted and circulated by the late S. Baring Gould that "no rood screen doors close, and that designedly so, in order to teach that the way from earth (represented by the nave) to heaven (represented by the chancel) remains always open to the faithful believer" (p. 32). This Mr. Vallance does by quoting from Visitation presentments for failure to provide locks and fastenings for the chancel doors. In Kent instances occur at Deal, Northfleet, Cobham and Leeds.

On the other hand it seems to us an overstatement to say, as Mr. Vallance does, that "screens have no mystical nor didactic significance whatever". We suspect that the Judaizing tendencies prevalent in the eleventh century may have had something to do with these partitions, and that they were intended to represent those of the Jewish Temple. The nave corresponding to the outer court, the chancel to the Holy Place, and the Sanctuary to the Holy of Holies.

Concerning the perforations which occur in the wainscot panels of many timber screens, Mr. Vallance is of opinion that they were made to enable small children to witness the Elevation of the Host: he even goes so far as to say that they were made possibly by the children themselves, "quite without system to suit the smallest as well as the biggest child" (p. 40). That they were made by the children themselves seems to us extremely improbable, though they may have been used for the purpose suggested. It should be noticed, however, that the perforations are of two kinds, viz. well formed openings on one level, as at Stanton Harcourt (54), Llandinabo (165) and Hawton (261) at which

a kneeling penitent could quite conveniently make his confession, and those amateurish and apparently random piercings to which it is difficult to assign any special purpose.

Rood-lofts were built primarily for convenience of access to the Rood : they are generally of later date than the screens and, though there is evidence that there were lofts in the thirteenth century, they did not become general in parish churches until the second half of the fifteenth.

Mr. Vallance is of opinion that the introduction of "prick-song"—that is polyphonic music—at this period may have stimulated the building of lofts as music galleries and, no doubt, they often did serve this purpose, and occasionally they contained an organ ; but many, especially those of the eastern counties, were too narrow to accommodate either organ or singers.

Notwithstanding the wholesale destruction of rood-lofts in Elizabethan times, a good many have survived to the present day, of which Mr. Vallance gives illustrations of upwards of thirty-five examples. In Kent the rood-loft at Shoreham is the sole survivor.

Considerations of space preclude anything approaching to a complete notice of this fine book which will add greatly to Mr. Vallance's reputation as a learned exponent of medieval ecclesiology. Where so much is given it may seem ungrateful to ask for more, but it would have been helpful to the reader if, when describing a screen, a reference to the plate illustrating the same had been added. The book contains a good and full index, but a heavier type should have been used for the numerals indicating references to the plates : these, indeed, are given in italics, but the distinction between the types is by no means obvious.

C.E.W.

J. & E. HALL LTD., 1785 TO 1935.

*J. & E. Hall Ltd., 1785 to 1935, by Everard Hesketh, M.I.C.E.,  
M.I.M.E. Glasgow, at the University Press, 1935.*

OF the making of books there is no end, and there are books that are no books ; but here, although the interested public

may be small, there is the record of a very noteworthy achievement.

The romance bound up in an old engineering firm and the famous names connected with it have had a very close bearing on our position in the world, and when the record takes us back almost 150 years on the same site there must have been grit, inventive genius and business capacity in abundance.

The energies of the firm, in which, by the way, there has been no Hall since 1875, originated in a blacksmith's shop in Lowfield Street, but nothing could hold back John Hall, and from a windmill to a water mill and so to beam engines for driving his machinery, and the making of them, was no long time. Paper-making machinery and early experiments in food preserving and refrigeration soon occupied the firm, and it also formed close connections with such famous engineers as Richard Trevithick, who died at The Bull Inn, Dartford, in 1833, Bryan Donkin and the Humphrys of the firm of Humphrys & Tennant. Up to 1880, engines and boilers and gunpowder machinery were still its principal activity. Mr. Hesketh develops the expansion of the firm very effectively from that date to its present predominating position as makers of refrigerating machinery; but there were many problems to be overcome before success was achieved. He describes other early activities of the business, such as bronze gun founding and the making of gun carriages. A very ornamental example of the latter is to be seen on the Horse Guards Parade, carrying an ancient Turkish bronze cannon captured by us in Egypt in 1801.

A very pleasing feature of the harmonious relations that have always subsisted between the management and its workpeople is described in a chapter on the Human Side. Most noteworthy is that 235 employees have seen over twenty-five years' service and these men form a Veterans' Club which meets together from time to time for social enjoyment.

A final chapter describes traces of the Dominican Friary which occupied the site of part of the works and

also, after the dissolution in 1539, of the adaptation of what seems to have been the gatehouse to a rest house for Henry VIII. A plan is given of the various foundations and other remains which have come to light during building operations for the enlargement of the works.

“ In halls celestial there shall Halls be known  
 From pearly gates up to the jasper throne.  
 E'en in the courts of Hell the fiends shall know  
 How futile is their stoking there below ;  
 Where Hall's refrigerators are, no heat  
 Can make untenable the sinner's seat.”

\* \* \* \* \*

W.P.D.S.

#### THE ANCIENT BURIAL MOUNDS OF ENGLAND.

*The Ancient Burial Mounds of England, by L. V. Grinsell.  
 Methuen & Co., 1936, 12s. 6d.*

THIS excellent book consists of two parts, the first of which deals with the classification and general description of the various types of barrows, and this is well done ; but there is very little about the contents of these mounds, although there is a page of figures of grave goods in the first chapter, and diagrams of the principal types of long and round barrows. There are chapters on burial customs, folk-lore, local names, maps, distribution, field work.

There are also chapters on excavation, although the writer admits he has had little practical experience of this. He gives advice on surveying, aerial observation and photography. All these chapters are well written and full of useful information.

The second part of the book deals with the barrows of selected regions and gives directions for those to follow who propose to investigate them, and especially as to how to find them when on foot. Of the selected regions the great majority are in the South of England and no doubt the most interesting to members of the Kent Archaeological Society is that on the Medway Megaliths, which is

illuminating and which was apparently suggested to the writer by our member Mr. R. F. Jessup, F.S.A.

In this section there are allusions to Kit's Coty, the Countless Stones, Coldrum and other Megalithic remains and monuments.

At the end of the book is a glossary and an index to English counties detailing the principal barrows to be found in each.

The illustrations are numerous and well chosen, and a very satisfactory feature is the number of aerial photographs.

This book is the best thing of its sort which has so far appeared, and is well worth reading.

K.H.J.

#### HISTORY IN THE OPEN AIR.

*History in the Open Air*, by H. T. Randall, F.S.A. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. 164 + v. London, Allen & Unwin. 1936. Price 4s. 6d. nett.

THE pages of a county archæological journal are no place for long and critical reviews of works of general interest; there are adequate facilities for such reviews elsewhere, and the business of a county journal should be domestic. At the same time, we are glad to commend Mr. Randall's book of essays, none of which deal with Kent but all of which are particularly applicable to our own county.

In the first essay Mr. Randall describes very ably the general principles of history in the open air, and shows how geographical method with its many applications and scientific excavation have combined during the last sixty years to give English archæology the enviable place which it now holds.

Subsequent essays deal with particular applications of the principles in such well-chosen subjects as the old roads of England, the antiquity of the English village, (an excellent essay, this), the use of place-names, and the dark ages of Teutonic England. Readers of *Antiquity* will be pleased to recognize "Splendide Mendax", (Smith Minor

called it "lying in state"), in which Mr. Randall gives an account of that ingenious forgery, Bertram's History of Roman Britain, usually known as the "De Situ". The author is lucky enough to possess Stukeley's own MS. copy of the original letters from Bertram.

This book will be welcomed most of all by those who are not primarily prehistorians.

R.J.J.

#### A SAUNTER THROUGH KENT.

*A Saunter Through Kent with Pen and Pencil. Volume XXX, No date but Preface dated December 10th, 1935. By Sir Charles Igglesden, F.S.A., "Kentish Express" Office, Ashford, 3s. 6d.*

The author still finds parishes of importance to occupy his pen in these placid meanderings about the County, while with English conservatism he retains the same artist to illustrate the volume. Some of the text sketches are pleasant but others, such as the plate of Great Mongeham views, and that of the E. end of Sholden church are of the class of the Victorian amateur.

This volume describes, with much detail of the small beer variety, Broadstairs, East and West Farleigh, Great Mongeham, Sholden, Acryse and Swingfield. In future ages much of the information so painstakingly recorded may be of value but in many instances the reader will have to use his own judgment in architectural as well as other matters.

In the account of Broadstairs we hear of Dickens and his many lodgings and how comparatively modern the place is. Evidently the local population lived inland about St. Peters, leaving the coast, which was so open to raiders, to a few fishermen squatters. On p. 14 the author forgets that the Saxon shore of late Roman times with its *nine* fortresses was an administrative area which stretched from Porchester right round to the Wash.

The chapter on East Farleigh gives us a detailed survey of this village which owed so much to the Medway. There

are some curious terms used in describing the church, i.e. "battered" presumably means "weathered" while "feathering" on p. 30 must mean "crocketting"; p. 28, shingles were used because they were so much lighter as a covering than any other materials. Later on we have the belief that Sir Thomas Colepepper was the founder of the church. The Norman tower arch is evidence of a much earlier foundation. Probably he was just a benefactor. Again, p. 37, it is far more likely that tidal influence was felt at East Farleigh than that salt water flowed up so far.

West Farleigh takes us from the influence of Maidstone to the real country. The reference to tufa is interesting, that fresh water formation deposited in certain valleys at the foot of the Lower Greensand or Chalk escarpments. It was practically worked out as a building stone by the middle of the 12th century. The advowson here is a vicarage not a rectory. On p. 41 we should prefer to see the term wall-plates in place of wall-pieces. The description on p. 45 of certain poor 17th century chimneys as Tudor is a calumny on those great artists.

Great Mongeham is so inter-locked with the adjoining parish of Sholden that the author has given the former one of the latter's much needed public houses, but happily not "The Three Horseshoes" with its unusual piece of blacksmith's work in its sign with the date 1735. Here the horseshoes are in the correct position as on a horse's feet. The street with its farms runs along a dry valley but water has been known to take its old course along it. At the highest point the church, with the sites of the two great houses, dominates the scene. Its restoration must have been long overdue, but its interior has been so over groomed with Victorian zeal that it is little better than a buff-washed sepulchre. Of existing houses the author might have mentioned the ancient farm house with the façade dated 1707, and two other early 18th century houses of distinct architectural merit.

Sholden is little more than a winding street of farms leading down to the marshes, with the church standing

isolated on the Deal-Sandwich road. It is possible that we have here a levelled Anglo-Saxon moot hill which was early occupied as a Christian site. Hull Place, which William Wyborn took possession of at the end of the 18th, not the 19th century, was formerly known as Long Farm. Viking antiquities have been found about the site, as well as Roman, but the parish can never have vied with Old Deal except perhaps in the nefariousness of smuggling. Even Foulmead, which is not mentioned, has only its name to damn it. On p. 59 we regret to see repeated the old fiction that at Northbourne there was a monastery when what was there was a grange—one of many—belonging to St. Augustine's Abbey.

Acryse and Swingfield are happily almost untouched parishes off the great highways and retaining much of that peacefulness which is disappearing so rapidly. It is pleasant to hear of the former's great cricketing days, and the author's redoubtable part in the game, and, to the reviewer, that a medieval domestic building—Hoad Farm—still exists. We cannot agree that anything of the 11th century may be seen but there is no doubt that a good deal of 13th century work remains, whether it be monastic, or merely plain folk that had the direction of affairs here. The source of the water supply for these early sites is always of importance, but was the well a really ancient feature?

Swingfield with its Preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem is well treated by the author who gives us a full account of the parish and the existing 13th century chapel of the Preceptory. This last although now a dwelling and extensively subdivided by floors and partitions is still structurally complete. The author's description of the roof, which seems to be of late 14th century date, is curiously inaccurate but an illustration of it clears the matter up. The account is closed by the story which has been traditionally placed here, of how King John on May 15th, 1213 after other submissions, in Bishop Stubb's words "as a crowning humiliation, surrendered his kingdom to the see of Rome, receiving it again as a papal vassal



subject to tribute and swearing fealty and promising liege homage to the pope."

W.P.D.S.

### THE BOOK OF KENT.

*The Book of Kent*, by Arthur Mee. Hodder and Stoughton. 1936. pp. 506, octavo, 10s. 6d. net.

THIS book is the first of a series of County "Encyclopædias", which are being edited by Mr. Arthur Mee, who is well known in connection with publications for children. The volume for Kent, the first one to be issued, is a substantial book of 500 pages. The system employed is to take each town or village (alphabetically) and to tell in a chatty and easy fashion of the "beautiful things" which are to be seen in it and which are liable to be missed by visitors. This is assisted by a large number of illustrations, mostly photographs. The book is not of an archæological character, and is addressed to the general reader who is fond of the country and wants to become acquainted with details of ecclesiastical and domestic architecture, objects of historical interest and the families who in past times were connected with the place he is visiting. This is carried out by making the parish church as a rule the starting point, with its architecture and furniture and its monuments, which in turn serve to introduce family history and personages of note with their exploits local and national. Such places as Penshurst and Wingham may be mentioned as examples among many. With this object in view a vast amount of information has been collected, some of which perhaps might not stand the test of examination by a too exacting lens, and there are items which may well have been omitted, but the book should prove a very useful one for a large circle.

The illustrations are numerous and are printed in an artistic warm tone, most are photographs and the exterior views have been taken from excellent view-points. At the same time exception may be taken to the very small size of certain of them. In view of the comprehensive

nature of the book, perhaps this was unavoidable, but as an instance scant justice is done to that delightful piece of sculpture of St. Marcial and the deacon at Bobbing (p. 9) and which is the more interesting as its provenance is quite unknown. Similarly the three misericords on p. 233 are too small; and incidentally the pair marked as at Darenth are at Faversham.

With such large ground and so many details to cover some criticism on the subject matter is inevitable, for instance, "three men in a tub (or pot)" in the St. Nicholas legend should be "children", as correctly given elsewhere; hop-fields are usually termed gardens in Kent, "misereres" should be "misericords", on p. 31 the dog at Barfreton is not playing the harp to a man upside-down, but to a dancing girl turning a somersault as is commonly seen in miniatures of Salome dancing at Herod's Feast. The number of lead fonts in the country is given more than once as thirty-eight, but thirty would be much nearer the mark; that at Halstow is of the 12th century not the 13th. The font at Staple is mentioned as the work of Sussex craftsmen, but we have always regarded it as more likely to be an importation from Suffolk. The titles for the months on the lead fond at Brookland (p. 347) are incorrectly spelt, that of JANVIER being quite incomprehensible. We are disposed to agree with the editor that it is unseemly to make a charge for the inspection of human skulls and bones at Hythe.

We are not sure of the advantage of the headings so plentifully applied to the various chapters and would have preferred that they were dispensed with. "The Rector's Picture Coat" (p. 154) is undignified as a description of the cope at East Langdon, and others border on the sensational, as "Imaginary Voyage of an Apple" (p. 160).

The paragraphs relating to the account of the Nobody Club (p. 344), the Drainage at Surrenden Dering (p. 359), the voting for pulling down Reculver church (p. 365), the temperance orator born near Sandgate (p. 387), the Sondes Tragedy (p. 401), and especially the reference to the

earthquake at Smyrna (p. 468) do not seem very relevant, and might have been omitted.

Much of such information may perhaps be put down to editorial enthusiasm; Mr. Mee has certainly taken immense pains to produce an informative book, and the illustrations particularly are worthy of all praise, barring the small qualifications already mentioned. A useful key-map and index are provided.

#### THE BROCKMAN FAMILY.

*A Record of the Brockman and Drake-Brockman family. Compiled by Brigadier-General D. H. Drake-Brockman, C.M.G. Post octavo, 1936. Privately printed. pp.158, 24 plates. 3 pedigrees in a pouch.*

THE family of Brockman has long been well known to the county of Kent so almost any book professing to give any part of its record must be kept in mind by anyone who is at all interested in the history of Kent. Every member of the Kent Archæological Society will therefore be obliged to General Drake-Brockman for presenting the Society with a copy of his book. It is all the more precious for being one of those books frequently very difficult to acquire because privately printed and so not to be bought in the usual way. The society remembers that the Rev. Tatton Brockman did his duty as squire of Beachborough in 1857 by appearing in its first list of members along with Colonel George Brockman.

A book of family records is usually presented from an inside point of view which is often rather boring to the antiquary and genealogist for whom it is not primarily intended, but it frequently includes matters and details of history which cannot be passed over as useless by any writer treating of things which may be regarded as more general history. From this exordium it may be seen that your reviewer looks on the present record as written from the family point of view as it undoubtedly professes to be. Browsed in casually a reader with no knowledge of what

he was to find might very well miss points worthy of observation which can be used (to quote sonorous words) as examples of life and instructions in manners.

It is desirable then to point out what is to be found in this book which makes it worthy of observation in these pages. First then observe five lengthy wills of Brockmans : William, 1525 ; Henry, 1573 ; William, 1604 ; James, 1767 ; Ralph, 1787, the last unfortunately not in full. Mr. Hussey has taught us that, even so, that is enough to carry commendation to any book. Next observe a private act of Parliament of 8 Geo. III necessary to carry through the will of James Brockman and granting the Rev. Ralph Drake the arms which James bore. This is a useful *exemplar* of such private wills and is particularly interesting as showing that an act of Parliament can and does give the right to arms. This point the General has obviously canvassed with those in the habit of dictating to people on such matters. Antiquaries do not accept their dictatorial views and the seventh appendix might form the subject of some caustic remarks in favour of the antiquaries' point of view. With the visitation of 1574, a grant from Camden, and a first rate rendering on a brass dated 1630 no trouble could arise before the Act of Parliament as to what the arms of James Brockman as he bore them were. The Act granted the Rev. Ralph Drake the right to use the name of Brockman and also the arms of James Brockman as he (James) bore them. That the Act could be in any way defeated by want of any exemplification in any official book or even in that book sacrosanct to Fox-Davies "*Burke's Landed Gentry or Commoners*" is to any lawyer ludicrous : but antiquaries have been accustomed to these fairy tales for years and have laughed at them before. But it cannot be expected that General Drake-Brockman should discover these points : he may rather be praised for setting forth as best he could the heraldry illustrated in the family records, leaving the acid antiquary who is his reviewer to point out the exact result of it all. Nothing is said in the Act about anything but the arms so the crest appears to have been

entirely settled by user, one branch of the family using the Drake crest and the other the old Brockman crest as shown in the frontispiece.

There is a useful list of errata in the book : in addition note the following :

In the table of contents and throughout the book the name of Fosters list may be corrected to Alumni Oxonienses.

Page 5, No. 8 should be the Public Record Office.

Page 10. The brasses at Ulcombe are in the North Aisle.

Page 22. Canon Scott-Robertson described Cheriton Church in *Arch. Cant.* XVIII, 353.

Page 26. Simon Bunce was of Otterden.

Having got so far I suddenly discovered that the book had no index. I can use no words which I could expect the Editor to print in the pages of *Archæologia Cantiana* to describe a book without an index. So I must stop.

RALPH GRIFFIN.

#### TEYNHAM MANOR AND HUNDRED

*Teynham Manor and Hundred (798-1935) by Elizabeth Selby, M.B.E. Headley Brothers, Ashford. 1936. 6s. Maps and illustrations.*

THE Hundred of Teynham, as those of us who know the fascinating maps in Hasted have long been aware, is, apart from several small detached portions, a narrow tract of country shaped like an elongated "U", stretching for rather more than six miles S.S.W. from the coast by Fowley Isle in the Swale to Mountain Herst in Doddington, with one break immediately to the south of Doddington village street. It is an area rich in history, including, apart from Teynham itself with its archiepiscopal associations, such interesting places as Frogna (Frogenhall), Lynsted, Doddington, Bedmangore and Sharsted.

Mrs. Selby, whose long-awaited account of this area is now before us, is herself the occupier of one of the most

charming of the old houses of the Hundred. Her book is likely to prove rather strong meat for the ordinary reader, but for the antiquary it does provide a very adequate picture of the Hundred of Teynham from pre-historic times (as expounded by Mr. R. F. Jessup in an admirable supplementary note) to 1935. A word of praise must be given to the appearance and format of the volume, which with its dark buckram cover reminds one of the refined publications of the Cambridge University Press of twenty years or so ago.

In a book of this kind, where estates extending over parish boundaries have to be dealt with, the problem of arrangement must be one of great difficulty, and one is not sure that here it has been solved in the happiest way. The same families occupied land in various parishes of the Hundred, and a less slavish regard for political boundary lines would have avoided a good deal of cross-referencing and revealed in one place the whole history of a particular family which now has to be traced out in sections. The literary style is a little trying, but here again, with so many quotations a free-flowing narrative could hardly be achieved by anyone short of a literary genius. One unique feature of Teynham church seems to have escaped Mrs. Selby as it has, apparently, all previous writers on this subject.

In a western window of the north transept is a small piece of glass which must have formed part of an Apocalypse scene, for it shows the sun "dark as a sack-cloth of hair" and the fire falling upon the sea, in which a ship floats. The extreme rarity of Apocalypse scenes in glass in this country gives this fragment an appreciable importance.

But these are details: one is left with nothing but praise for the careful research and industry which have gone to the making of this record. The proper authorities—Saxon charters, court, patent and subsidy rolls, wills, and other evidences—have been consulted, and this book probably represents almost all that can now be gathered as to the history and present state of Teynham, Doddington,

and Lynsted, with the "appendages" of Teynham in Iwade, Sheppey, Headcorn and Selling. The accounts of the churches, though adequate, may be supplemented by various papers in *Arch. Cant.*; and Miss Dorothy Sutcliffe's recent paper in our transactions, representing the last word on the former Teynham vineyard and its organization, should be read in conjunction with Mrs. Selby's account.

The pedigrees of the notable families of the Hundred are a valuable feature of the work, which is also well indexed, and contains nine half-tone plates—one doubts whether the aerial photographs are really in this case of much value, though they do give one an idea of the appearance of the area as a whole—and four useful maps.

C.R.C.

#### ROMNEY MARSH.

*The Level and the Liberty of Romney Marsh*, by M. Teichman Derville, M.A., F.S.A. Headley Brothers, Ashford, 1936, pp. 152.

THIS is quite an excellent and informing essay on a historic franchise which has, unfortunately, now ceased to be of any real importance.

Amongst other things, we get a new use for the word *Lathe*, as applied to the Court held for an area not itself so styled. Elsewhere we find the expression "Hundred" used not only for the district so called but also for the Court held for the same area. Our author does not suggest that Romney Marsh was itself ever styled a *Lathe*, though some other small districts were so called.

There are a few other unusual expressions: "Distressed" (p. 11) is apparently a variant for "distrained". "The right to sew" (p. 22) apparently means "the right to drain". "Because" (p. 13, note 1) and "where" (p. 45) would have been better rendered as "whereas".

We are told of a *Lex Marisci* already in force in the twelfth century and of a Bailiff and twenty-four Jurats already

enforcing the repair of the walls and sewers ; we see the twenty-four Jurats obtaining under a Charter from the Crown in 1252 new authority for distraining on defaulting land holders and we see after 1287 the Lords of local Manors appointing the Bailiff, the whole corporate entity becoming known as " the Lords, Bailiff and Jurats of Romney Marsh ".

In 1462 the inhabitants of the Marsh got a New Charter of Incorporation as " the Bailiff, Jurats and Commonalty of Romney Marsh ". Twenty-four Jurats were to be elected " as heretofore ", four of them to be Keepers of the Peace and Justices of the King and Coroners. Further, a new Court was authorized with extensive jurisdiction including the right of erecting gallows and power to make ordinances, and the Bailiff was to have two Sergeants under him.

Our author then proceeds to point out that this Charter only gave additional powers to the existing Corporation and that none the less by about 1650 two Corporate bodies were functioning separately and he gives lists of the officers appointed in each separate Corporation for the year ending Whitsun 1935, though there seems but little now left for any of them to do. It is an amazing anomaly.

The book itself contains many references to the 1686 Edition of " The Charter of Romney Marsh ", which, apparently, contains in full certain ordinances of 1258, 1287 and 1361, as well as other matter essential to a fuller study of the Franchises of the Marsh but it is regretted that room could not be found for fuller extracts from these Ordinances and for sample Minutes of a complete Lathe held say in 1500.

The writer happens to have before him an early transcript on a parchment Roll eighty inches in length of the Ordinances of 1287. This suggests that the " Charter of Romney Marsh " may not have been too carefully compiled. In the early transcript the name of the second Commissioner is spelt as Apeldorefeld. The Recital therein of the Charter of 1252 describes King Henry as " Dux Acquit " and omits " Dux Normanniae ". Apparently the latter Title continued in use until, but not after, 1259. The early transcript



confirms our Author's suggestion on page 12, note 4, of "Dominorum".

The footnotes are excellent—too excellent—much that they contain would be better expressed in the body of the text. There is a good Index and Map.

H.W.K.

#### ROMAN ROADS IN SOUTH-EAST BRITAIN.

*Roman Roads in South-East Britain: Romance and Tragedy, by (the late) G. M. Hughes. George Allen & Unwin, 1936. 7s. 6d. net.*

FOR long anything written on this subject has had a large public. The roads, with the aid of the Antonine Itinerary, gave full opportunity for the speculations of the early antiquarians: and now thousands of people traverse them by car or on foot, studying the way engineering problems were overcome and their practical construction; not improved upon till the days of Macadam.

In this book, and we may say the author was truly in the line of the topographers, we have the work of an enthusiast which has been brought out as a labour of love by his daughter. As an independent account of observations made forty-five years ago the book may be classed with the Rev. Francis Vine's *Caesar in Kent*, published in 1886. Mr. Margary says in his "Foreword" "the book should still provide a stimulus to fresh thought on many problems as yet unsolved", but in allowing this we must note that it appears to-day when many points that were formerly subjects for theory or speculation have been cleared up. Again, it is a great pity that the many obvious inaccuracies, with carelessness in writing, were not corrected before publication. Geological questions may be classed under this heading. Also for a number of statements the author, if he had lived, would probably have done some revision, otherwise we should not have found the confusion between Carausius and Allectus, and their dates; the belittling of Richborough as compared with Reculver (p. 179); his claim (p. 174), that as material of Roman date is in Bosham church that it is partly a Roman

building ; that Reculver (p. 77), with its lighthouse " high on the cliffs ", is said to have been built by the Emperor Severus in 205—as it happens he did not reach Britain till 209 ; and that Silchester (pp. 154-6) was a great stronghold. On p. 171 there is the curious suggestion that Bitterne which our author will not allow was Clausentum, was the city of Tetricus. Was he thinking of Carausius ?

Much space in the book is given up to thrashing dead horses in the form of certain long-departed antiquarians, while others, whom he quotes with approval, now carry little weight. There is much about the eighteenth century forger, Bertram, and his itinerary which was foisted on the fourteenth century monk, Richard of Cirencester, but the book would have been as well without this, as the forgery has been long exposed.

Among the misprints noted are Hastlip for Hartlip (p. 121), column for volume (p. 136), pipes for pigs (p. 199), and 294 for 296 (p. 153). The journalese of some passages, such as occurs in the chapter on Richborough, is to be deprecated, but to some may make the book more readable. The outline map is a valuable feature in spite of the lettering.

W.P.D.S.

#### KENT CHANTRIES.

THIS is volume XII of the Records Branch of the Kent Archæological Society and has been compiled and edited by Mr. Arthur Hussey, whose work in this field of antiquarian research is well known ; but the basis of the present publication, as set forth in the Introduction, is the labours of the late Mr. Leland L. Duncan, F.S.A., who many years ago transcribed the certificates of 1546 and 1547, relating to Chantries in Kent, together with the particulars of the sales of Chantry lands, included among the Miscellaneous Books of the Augmentation Office, all of which are preserved in the Public Record Office, London.

His notes and transcripts were given, after his death, by his sisters, to the Kent Archæological Society for preservation,

and with the consent of the Council of that Society they have formed the nucleus round which have been gathered other materials relating to the history of Chantries in Kent and used in the present publication.

A chantry was an endowment whereby a pious founder left money or property to pay one or more priests to say masses for his soul, and for the souls of various persons nominated by him, and often for the King and his heirs; but as time went on the term was frequently applied to the place where the service was said, or, as an adjective to indicate the land or other property belonging to the endowment. There were in the parish churches of Kent 39 perpetual chantries, as distinguished from those endowed for a limited period, of which 23 were in the Diocese of Canterbury and 16 in that of Rochester, whilst Canterbury Cathedral contained 15, which have been dealt with in this volume in addition to the above.

In Rochester Cathedral there were two chantries and a third at one time existed there, but had disappeared at the time of the suppression in the sixteenth century. Access to the entries in the Registers of the Bishops of Rochester, in the Diocesan Registry, was very courteously given to Miss Churchill by Mr. Francis Day when still acting as Registrar of the diocese.

As far as possible in this volume the origin, continuation and final dissolution of each chantry is given, but in some cases the founder has been forgotten and in others a chantry came to an end before 1548. In a few a licence to found a chantry is mentioned but nothing more, so that probably it was never founded; again some removed from their place of origin, as for instance from Bekesbourne to Eastbridge Hospital in Canterbury, 1363.

Usually chantries were in parish churches, but a number existed in Free Chapels, situated in hamlets at some distance from the church. At Pembury there was a chantry in a chapel built in the Churchyard itself.

In some cases a house or quarters were provided for the chantry priest or priests, and not infrequently the chapel and house were under one roof.

In the case of the Black Prince's Chantry in the Crypt of Canterbury Cathedral, the two priests serving the foundation were to be provided not only with a dwelling-house in common, but also a manservant between them and a child to each to serve at meat. The usual method of founding a chantry was to obtain a licence from the Crown as, for example, in the case of Horsmonden on p. 157.

"Edward III, on February 24 1333-4 granted a licence for William, son of Jocens de Grofherst, to alienate in mortmain to the rector of the church of Horsmonden a messuage, 40 acres of land, 7 acres of wood, a rent of 22s. 8d. ; also a rent of eight hens and fifty eggs in Horsmonden, to find a Chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the church for the Soul of Walter de Pateshull, and of the faithful departed."

As a matter of fact the chantry referred to above was founded by a relative, for Hamo de Hethe, Bishop of Rochester, gave consent for Robert de Grofhurst to found a perpetual chantry in the parish church.

This chantry, in praise of God, his mother S<sup>t</sup>. Mary, and S<sup>t</sup>. Margaret, for his soul and that of Sarah his wife, their parents and benefactors, and the faithful departed, was in the Chapel of S<sup>t</sup>. Mary, built in honour of the Annunciation on the north side of the Church and to this Robert de Grofhurst was to present Dom: William de Langeford, priest, or some other efficient priest, to the Bishop for the institution of the Chantry.

In this book lists of all the priests of each Chantry are given, as far as is known, and it is also shown that in Kent the great majority of Chantries had only one priest, eight had two of whom ten were employed at Canterbury, six of them in the Cathedral, whilst at the Rochester Bridge Chapel and at Sandwich St. Peter's, there were three to each foundation.

In addition to land, rents, annuities and various other forms of property, livestock in the shape of hens and their eggs were not uncommonly used by founders and on January 7, 1361-2, Archbishop Islip, in addition to vestments and plate, gave 1,000 ewes to the Prior and Monks of Christ

Church, to make a perpetual Chantry where one of the monks was to celebrate for himself and all future archbishops every day with a special form of prayer.

In addition to his regular duties a chantry priest often helped the parish priest in the services of his church and acted much as a modern curate, and in many cases was schoolmaster and reliever of the poor. In Kent arrangements for teaching were made in connection with Chantries at Faversham, at the Chapel in Ospringe Street, at Higham and Tenterden.

Towards the end of the reign of Henry VIII in 1545, the Chantries Act was brought in and set forth that founders and patrons were reclaiming, for their own, property which their ancestors had dedicated to pious uses and it had become urgent for the King to gain possession for the maintenance of the wars against the Kingdoms of France and Scotland. In pursuance of this a Commission was issued on February 14th, 1545-6 to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Rochester and others, and the return made by them is preserved in the document referred to in this work as Kent No. 29.

Henry VIII died and a new Chantries Act was passed by the first Parliament of Edward VI, which met in November of 1547, by which it decreed that power was given to the King to convert the foundations that came under the Act to "good and godly uses as in erecting grammar schools and further augmenting of the Universities as well as providing money for the King's needs." The last was obviously the real reason for the sale of chantry property.

In the present work the certificates for Kent made in compliance with this act are referred to as Chantry Certificate No. 28.

Under these acts many Chantries were sold, but some were granted to applicants. This was the case with the property of the chantry of the Hospital of St. Nicholas, Harbledown.

In Penshurst and in the case of many other chantries it is recorded that "There hath not bene any gramar scole

kept, preacher maintained, or pore people relevid by the said Chauntrye" as if there was therefore some excuse for its suppression and over and over again it is recorded that, as in the case of Richard Alberson, at Rochester Bridge Chapel, the chantry priest had no means of living except from the endowment of the chantry.

There are few complaints of immorality made against any of the Chantry chaplains and they are said to be "of good and honest qualities" or "of honest learning and qualities"; some, however, are described as "indifferently learned".

The endowments as a rule were not very large and in many cases plate, vestments, etc., seem to have been absent or at least were not found. This book is a mine of information not only of Kent Chantries, but of many other matters of interest to those studying the state of affairs in the sixteenth century, when the Mediæval was giving way to the modern, and it must prove very useful to students of ecclesiology and to families connected with Kent.

The book is supplied with excellent indices, both of subjects and of persons and places, which add greatly to its usefulness. The whole work is a tribute to the careful industry of the editor and compiler.

K.H.J.

#### SANDS, CLAYS AND MINERALS.

*Sands, Clays and Minerals, Vol. II, No. 4, April 1936.*

3s. 6d. Edited by A. L. Curtis, Chatteris, Cambs.

WE have been favoured again with a number of this well edited and valuable trade magazine, clearly successful also from the many interleaved advertisements. This part in its 196 pages does not include any articles relating to Kent, but several of importance to others than specialists. Notably among these are "A Physical Description of Soil Tilth," by E. W. Russell of the Rothamstead Experimental Station; an account of that rare metal "Niobium and its Uses"; and a comprehensive paper which should

interest many on "Industrial Diamonds and their Uses". This is well illustrated and has taught us something of black diamonds, ballas and boart. One point that is brought out is that while diamond is the hardest substance known, no satisfactory method has yet been devised of ascertaining its exact hardness. At any rate there is an immense difference between it and corundum, the next lower in the scale. Several other papers deal with mining or the industrial minerals of the Empire.

#### EAST KENT WALKS.

*East Kent Walks*, by G. W. Hardman. *Enlarged Edition with two maps.* E. F. Howe, Queen Street, Deal. Preface dated 1936. 1s.

THIS booklet by an enthusiastic pedestrian, who incidentally has a pretty wit, is a worthy effort, and by appearing in a new guise, clearly has proved successful. The walks range over country "bounded by a line drawn through Herne Bay, Canterbury, Ashford, Folkestone, Deal and Margate". Much of the area traversed is beautiful and though Shank's mare must not be spavined or weak-kneed, many of the walks are not beyond the powers of those who are not too lazy to use their understandings. As the book with its maps is a cheap shillingsworth we will not traverse the tours, but might especially recommend those which take one up on to the Downs between Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone and Dover. A criticism might be that a little more stress might have been laid on the physical geography of the country, so influenced as it is by the white chalk and its water-bearing properties, although this is masked over extensive areas by newer, less impervious deposits with their distinct types of vegetation. There is one reference to a geological formation. On p. 31 Kentish Rag is spoken of, but with the curious addition of "stone". On p. 26 we find the word "watershed" divided, which rather defeats its meaning, and on p. 28 the delightful "crow-stepped" gables at Wickhambreux are described as "stepping-stone" gables. As

each little step is gabled they could hardly be used as a stepping-stone. On p. 31 there is a mention of the "imperial" ruins of Saltwood Castle; we had an idea that they were archiepiscopal. The close of each walk sees us regaled with numberless cups of tea; and the inevitable "bus"! has to bear us home.

The two maps—one a relief model map—of East Kent are very praiseworthy productions, but for a walker's use we should have preferred one to have been a sketch map on a larger scale, embracing a smaller area, on which the walks had been marked, and the rivers and dominant features clearly indicated.



#### ERRATA.

Vol. XLVII, p. 4, line 4 from bottom *et seq.* For Dr. de Beauvoir *put* Dr. Bever; vide Foster's "Alumni".

Page 5, line 4. *Put* Angusta *for* Augusta.

Page 6, eighth line from bottom. *Read* Osmond Beauvoir, M.A., *for* Dr. de Beauvoir.



I may here add that I was informed by a member of the family of Gostling that the actual MS. of Purcell containing the celebrated anthem, "They that go down to the sea" was recently sold.

F.W.C.



#### QUERY.

Is any portrait known either of John Denne, D.D., or Samuel, M.A., his son?

F. WILLIAM COCK, M.D., F.S.A.