

THE
ANTIQUARY:

*A MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE STUDY
OF THE PAST.*



*Instructed by the Antiquary times,
He must, he is, he cannot but be wise.*

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA, Act ii., sc. 3.



VOL. XXV.

JANUARY—JUNE.

LONDON: ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1892.

Celtic archaeology has to deplore the death of René Galles, born at Vannes in 1819, and for many years President of the Société Polymathique. He is best known for his discoveries at Locmariaquer and Carnac, for his excavations at Mont St. Michel in 1863, and for some seven memoirs on archaeological researches in Brittany.

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Professor Krahf, of Vienna, has had the singular good fortune to find several hundred lines of an Etruscan inscription (the longest we possess) on the linen bands of an Egyptian mummy which has been for the last forty years in the museum of Zagabria. It dates probably from the Ptolemaic age, and will be published shortly by the learned Professor, though the meaning of the words must remain to us unknown until some bilingual Etruscan text comes to light. Only a few words have been recognised as occurring before.

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Mr. David Nutt will publish at once a volume entitled *The Growth of German Unity*, by Dr. G. Krause. It is the outcome of a lecture delivered at the Hull Literary Club.

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A work of more than local interest, by Mr. Bull, is promised for early publication on Kettering, a historically interesting and rising town. Works on Northamptonshire increase in number and interest. Mr. Alfred Chamberlain, B.A., has just produced a useful and carefully written guide to the ancient church of Rothwell. The same writer recently prepared an attractive little work on the famous "Rothwell Market House."

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Mr. William Stevenson is busy with a new book to bear the title of *Bygone Nottinghamshire*, and it will be published by Messrs. William Andrews and Co., Hull.

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Mr. James Yates, the genial and painstaking public librarian of Leeds, is bringing together, in the Leeds Public Free Library, a fine collection of books on Yorkshire. He is to be congratulated on his well-directed labours.

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Messrs. Archibald Constable and Co. are preparing for publication a series of volumes of original and selected publications on the religions, history, literature, and arts of India, to be entitled *Constable's Oriental Miscellany*. From the prospectus it promises to be a really valuable series. The first volume, now in the press, is Bonner's *Travels in the Mogul Empire, 1656-1668*, which we hope to notice when issued.

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Winchester History from the National Records, a book commenced in 1884 by Mr. F. J. Baigent, a well-known local antiquary, in order to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the Mayoralty (the premier one in England), will be published in the coming spring. It will be a large volume, including every possible information from the national, local, and other records.

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Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston and Co. are inviting subscription to a fine work on *Historic Bindings in the Bodleian Library*, a quarto book containing

twenty-four plates, and full descriptions by Mr. W. Salt Brassington, F.S.A. It promises to be a noble work, and will be issued only to subscribers; 150 copies with plates in monotint are offered at £2 2s., and 50 copies with coloured plates at £4 4s.

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Another important illustrated work of the same firm, about to be issued to subscribers at £3 3s., is *The Weavers of Akhmin*, by Mr. Alan S. Cole, which is an account of the woven and embroidered costumes, cloths, etc., produced and used during Roman, Christian, and Saracenic periods (1st to 11th centuries A.D.) in Egypt, discovered in the burial-grounds at Akhmin and elsewhere in Upper, Middle, and Lower Egypt.



Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[*Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.*]

HISTORY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. By Cornelius Brown. *Elliot Stock*. 8vo. Pp. xvi., 306. Price 7s. 6d.

What a storehouse of romance, of legend, of tradition, is a volume like the one before us! We may well apply to it Sir Walter's lines on the chronicles which first formed his taste, and roused his feelings :

Old tales of woe or mirth,
Of lovers' slights, of ladies' charms,
Of witches' spells, of warriors' arms,
Of patriot battles won of old.

Let us hope that Nottinghamshire readers will take advantage of the treat offered to them, and that "even by the winter hearth" the story of our own county will find a welcome place. Mr. Cornelius Brown, already the author of two valuable works, the *History of Newark* and of *Nottinghamshire Worthies*, has united the painstaking industry of a Dryasdust with an easy, agreeable style unusual in a book of this kind, and the idlest reader may gain something from his pages, while a student will delight in them, as following up his Thornton and Throsby with well-selected and minute particulars.

The history of places and persons is carried down to the present time; and it is interesting to learn, for instance, that when the Prince of Wales visited Belvoir, the golden key of the Staunton Tower there was presented to him by the Rev. Francis Staunton, the head of that family who defended the Castle as long ago as the time of the Conqueror.

Another link with the past is the connection between Scrooby and the great Republic "across the Western Ocean." The eldest of the Pilgrim Fathers, William Brewster, was the son of the postmaster of that village, and on leaving England, for conscience' sake, he wrote to Sir Edwin Sandys, then Governor

of Virginia, who happened to be the brother of Brewster's old landlord at Scrooby, Sir Samuel, and no doubt this connection ensured a cordial welcome to the passengers of the *Mayflower*.

In the chapter on Bingham, an explanation is given of the phrase that has probably often puzzled the residents in that "capital of the Vale"—"All the world *and* Bingham." Mr. Brown thinks "the legend is accounted for by a notice-board once posted on an ancient hostelry at Newark, bearing the words 'Passengers and parcels conveyed to all parts of the world, and Bingham'!" The old distich is not given,

The pleasantest mile in all the vale
Is the mile from Bingham to Saxondale;

but many other quaint sayings are recorded in the chapter on "Legend, Tradition, and Anecdote." Mr. Brown seems to be under the impression that the Plough Monday play is a thing of the past, but it was acted as lately as January, 1890, by the Cropwell and Titleby "Plough Bullocks," and an account of it sent to the *Revue des Traditions Populaires*, by a Nottinghamshire member of that society who witnessed the performance at a neighbouring house. The portion of this history devoted to dialect is disappointingly short, especially as no Glossary of Nottinghamshire words has been published separately. It is to be hoped that the new Dialect Dictionary will supply this want, as there are many words of very great interest still in use in the county.

Mr. Brown gives us "addle" and "clemmed"; but not "mut" and "mun" for "must," which are very common, and seem to point to the A.S. "ic móth," as given in Skeat's *Etymological Dictionary*.

The Chaucerian "sike" for "sigh" is alluded to, and though now rare, we heard it last year, in the phrase (used of an old man who had lost a favourite cow), "I could hear him sobbing and siking all through the night."

"Pause," in the sense of cunning and clever, is mentioned, and is a very characteristic Nottinghamshire expression, being a term of praise and commendation, rather than otherwise; but the peculiar use of "while" for "till," of which Sir Charles Anderson gives such an amusing instance in his *Lincoln Pocket Guide*, is omitted.

Mr. Brown completes his volume by giving a list of the birds and flowers of the county, notably the lovely purple Nottingham crocus, a sight never to be forgotten under a bright March sun, when the blossoms carpet the meadows above which towers the gray Castle Rock.

It should be remembered, in taking leave of this pleasant volume, that among the worthies whose memory it enshrines is Charles Darwin, the Bacon of the nineteenth century, a scion of the family of Darwin of Elston, for which reason, if for no other, Nottinghamshire would possess an interest for the whole civilized world. In thanking Mr. Brown for his book, he must be congratulated on the entire absence of bitterness or party feeling in his treatment of historical questions.

L. CHAWORTH-MUSTERS.



HAZELL'S ANNUAL, 1892. *Hazell, Watson and Co.*
8vo. Pp. 726. Price 3s. 6d.

We are glad to notice in the seventh issue of that indispensable work *Hazell's Annual*, just to hand,

that a much-increased prominence is given to the subject of "Archaeology." In the volume for 1891 we notice there was an article on this subject, but that for 1892 contains an exhaustive résumé of the progress of archaeological work and research throughout the kingdom.

We have an impression that in the preparation of the article our own pages have been laid under contribution; but apart from such a possibility, we are glad to see a publication of so important a character, and a book that has to the student and literary worker become a *sine qua non*, devoting so large a space to our particular subject. Starting from the Society of Antiquaries, and working downwards, almost all archaeological societies in the kingdom, whether general or local in their objects, are referred to, and the leading feature of their year's labour alluded to in an interesting manner.

As a condensation of information, the article does not afford room for detailed remarks upon each society; but as upwards of fifty societies are chronicled, and as many great discoveries mentioned, our readers will understand that, as a consensus of archaeological labour and work, the article is of peculiar value.



CHURCH-LORE GLEANINGS. By T. F. Thiselton Dyer. *A. D. Innes and Co.* Pp. vi., 352. Illustrated. Price 10s. 6d.

This is an unusually pleasant and attractive book of "Gleanings," and one which we can unhesitatingly recommend to antiquaries, for, unlike many books of this class, it is trustworthy. It is obvious that much pains, time, and research have been spent upon this volume, and its pages show traces of extensive and careful reading.

Mr. Dyer has consulted a goodly number of authorities, and we note that on more than one occasion reference is made to articles that have appeared in the *Antiquary*. The book does not pretend to be original, yet to many readers much of the well-arranged information will be new; as, for instance, the chapters on "Church Pigeon-houses" and "Acoustic Jars," dealing with topics which are but little known. The chapter on "Churchwardens" is not as full as it easily might be, and the author names certain Norfolk parishes where three churchwardens are appointed, seeming to suppose that it is a very unusual thing that they should exceed two in number; this, however, is not the case, for where there are three townships in one parish, three wardens are frequently chosen, one for each hamlet. The much-vexed question of "Low Side Windows" comes under discussion; but though Mr. Dyer faithfully enumerates the various theories (improbable or otherwise) that have been advanced in explanation of their use, he hardly lays enough weight on the one that is now generally received, viz., the sanctus-bell theory. With regard to the subject of "Rush-bearing," it is a pity that Mr. Alfred Burton's admirable work on this curious byegone custom should not have been consulted, for much new and valuable information might have been gained from his exhaustive treatise; but we cannot blame Mr. Dyer much for this omission, as the book referred to has only been published recently.

Many quaint legends and singular traditions are contained in these pages, and we feel sure that this