

## REVIEWS

*Anglo-Saxon Charters. I: Charters of Rochester.* By A. Campbell (Ed.).  
10×6 in. Pp. xl+70. Oxford University Press, 1973, £3.00.

Members of the Society will be delighted to encounter an important new series in which Kent comes first. In other series Kent has either appeared late or (one fears) will never appear. Yet in this case, Rochester appears first; and Christ Church, Canterbury, is among the three volumes advertised on the jacket as 'forthcoming'. But the enthusiasm with which the book is received grows less as one studies it.

The volume contains thirty-seven charters in Latin or in English; and it is good to have them together after having pursued them hitherto through the pages of Kemble, Birch, and Thorpe. But two charters are missing whose inclusion we were entitled to expect. First, the forged grant of Freckenham by Alfred, which is mentioned in a footnote: yet other forgeries are included, and this text is less accessible than some others that are included. Second, the 'Bridge charter'. Admittedly, it has been argued that this may be post-Conquest: yet it was 'Anglo-Saxon' enough for Miss Robertson; and it does exist in an Old English text. It is odd that it should not even be mentioned in a *Corpus*.

The text of each charter is derived from one or more of three sources: loose charters in the Cotton collection, *Textus Roffensis*, and *Registrum Temporalium* (which is tiresomely called *Liber Temporalium*). The editorial policy is to print the text of the earliest manuscript, giving some variants in footnotes. It is possible that this is the way to produce a text nearest to the original: but an editor is not entitled to assume this without argument. No account is taken of the fact that the latest witness (*Registrum Temporalium*) comes from the episcopal archive, while the others come from the Chapter. It is, therefore, possible that *Registrum* may represent another and better tradition than the other witnesses. Its latinity is certainly better. Must this be due to improvement by the bishop's clerks? The present editor assumes that the errors to be found in the capitular tradition are original—even *In nominae* in no. 24. But, even if *Registrum* is dismissed as an independent witness to the original text, more of its readings should have been recorded to assist those who are not skilled in the art of emendation. Variant forms of place-names should also have been recorded. And the printing of charters from *Textus* is not as accurate as the editor suggests. He prints cedillas to indicate diphthongs, as in *Textus*: but he has not observed that the scribe distinguishes between the diphthongs *æ* and *œ* by writing two forms of cedilla. Moreover,

endorsements are omitted; and erasures and palimpsest passages in Cotton charters are not mentioned in the notes.

Each charter is supplied with an English summary. But this cannot always be relied upon. For example: In nos. 7, 21, 24, *uiculus* is translated 'village' without explanation. Yet in no. 7 the 'village' is inside the walls of Rochester; in no. 21 it is the land in Crow Lane; and in no. 24 *unum uiculum dimidium ciuitatis Hrobi* becomes 'half a village', which is absurd. Moreover, several grants are said to be 'near Rochester' although (at least to the modern reader) they are *in* Rochester; and one of these is in fact part of the site of the priory.

The introduction (which is in another respects helpful) contains some other odd topographical observations: 'Doddingherne' is 'un-identified'; and Fawkham is 'neighbouring' to Bromley.

The conciseness of the comments on authenticity is welcome. But that on Ethelbert's alleged charter is erroneous and inadequate. The object of its fabrication cannot have been to own a charter 'comparable with those owned by Canterbury', since Canterbury had none such, as far as we know. And the charter should not be dismissed on the general grounds set forth by Levison without reference to the contrary opinion upon the general question contained in Dr. Chaplais' articles in the *Journal of the Society of Archivists*.

It is sad to have to offer these criticisms; and it should be said that, in spite of its shortcomings, the book is a useful tool for the historian of medieval Kent and deserves a place in every Kentish library. It is to be hoped that the Canterbury volume will deserve unqualified praise.

BERNARD WIGAN

*The Coal Duties of the City of London and their Boundary Marks.*  
By Martin Nail. Pp. 29, 3 figs. 1972, 50p. (Published by the author.)

This small pamphlet commences with a review of the coal dues and their uses in rebuilding London after the Great Fire and also London Bridge. The boundaries of London for this purpose varied from time to time, but were redefined in 1861 and a number of boundary posts were erected, wherever a road or railway crossed these boundaries, and over thirty remain within the ancient county of Kent.

The majority of these posts were in cast iron, but the railway ones were in granite, and a sketch of each type is given.

The major part of this publication consists of a complete list (with National Grid References) and a very useful bibliography. Mr. Nail is to be congratulated for the diligence with which he has studied this byway of our history.

K. W. E. GRAVETT

## REVIEWS

*Lamberhurst School.* By William Morland.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in.  $\times$   $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. Pp. 44, 5 figs. and 2 pls. Phillimore & Co. Ltd., Chichester, 1972. (N.p.)

Mr. William Morland, whose booklet *The Church In Lamberhurst* was reviewed in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxiv (1969), has now written a work of similar calibre on the village school. It is a well documented and clearly expressed history of the Voluntary School in Lamberhurst from its inception as a National School in 1833 until its incorporation in the Kent maintained system as a 'controlled' school in 1949. The author begins with the earliest known reference to education in the parish when in 1712 Lady Hamby left £6 annually for teaching small children to read. In 1833 a start was made at establishing a school under the auspices of the National Society, the three trustees being the Rev. Robert Hawkins, Edward Hussey and William Alexander Morland. There were differences and disputes from the beginning, but the school was eventually built and still stands dominating the rise in the village street with a certain dash of architectural pretension in its spire-capped clock tower. To cater for children under seven, 'Mrs. Morland's Infants' School' (now the Youth Club) was built in 1854 on the opposite side of the road and continued to function until 1876.

The human interest is well developed, as in the account of the wrangles between the vicar and his fellow trustees over the management of the school. On one occasion His Majesty's Inspector reported favourably except that the Infants' School was 'sometimes lacking in vigour', and poor Mrs. Henley, who was beloved of her pupils, was consequently cautioned by the managers. There are achievements to be recorded with pride, as when in 1914 a productive garden was created in a few months from a piece of rough field by the exertions of the pupils. Seasonal occupations unfortunately played havoc with attendance, and at times boys had to be lectured for making a noise in the road or restrained from bringing catapults into the classroom.

Today there is still a Morland on the Board, maintaining the tradition of the family association with the school for nearly a century and a half. Not least in their services to the place is this latest labour of love in recording its history and commemorating the worthy part it has played in the life of the village.

P. J. TESTER

*Appledore, Kent: A Short History.* By Sir John Winnifrith.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{8}$  in. Pp. 90, 10 pls., 2 figs., privately published, 1973, £1.

This is a well-produced and documented booklet dealing at some length with the history of Appledore from Romano-British times to the nineteenth century and a model of its kind; it deserves to be widely

## REVIEWS

read and ought to become soon out of print, if only because any profit from its sale is to be applied to the restoration of Appledore church.

The author has clearly taken a great deal of trouble with the various periods of his short history, though it must be recorded that where he has relied on outdated information, as in the case of the Romano-British period, he is on treacherous ground. However, this does in no way detract from the pleasure the reading of this booklet gave at least one reader.

A. P. DETSICAS

*The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regimental Museum.* By K. J. Collins, M.A. 8 in. × 5½ in. Pp. 18, pl. 8. English Life Publications Ltd., Derby. 1973. 15p.

The booklet on the Royal West Kent Museum at Maidstone and its contents is an excellent account of the most interesting collection of relics preserved there, not only belonging to the West Kents but also to its predecessors the 50th and 97th Regiments of Foot. Illustrated by photographs of high quality, it makes no attempt to be a regimental history but explains clearly and well just what the visitor may expect to see. Mr. Collins is to be congratulated on what it is hoped will be the first of a series of booklets describing the various treasures of the Maidstone Museum.

A. C. HARRISON

*Mosaics in Roman Britain.* By Anne Rainey. 8¼ in. × 5½ in. Pp. 205, 27 plates and 64 drawings. David & Charles, Newton Abbot, 1973. £3.75.

This volume is a very useful gazetteer of Romano-British mosaics aimed at the 'interested amateurs who have no classical background', as the author so engagingly puts it in her foreword; it sets out to convey elementary information and in this it succeeds admirably. One of the virtues of this book is that it assembles conveniently for reference all the known mosaics of Roman Britain, and this alone should make it indispensable for specialist and amateur alike.

Printed pleasingly in offset litho, Mrs. Rainey's book contains a useful introduction of her subject and lists the mosaics in the alphabetical order of their find-spots rather than by county; it also includes a glossary of technical terms most of which are illustrated by drawings of rather variable quality, a selected bibliography and an index. As a quick guide to these mosaics and in anticipation of the *corpus* of

## REVIEWS

Romano-British mosaics now in preparation, this gazeteer is to be recommended to all interested in the subject.

A. P. DETSICAS

*Sturry—the Changing Scene.* Edited by K. H. McIntosh. 9 in. × 6 in. Pp. 112, 45 photographic and other illustrations + a map. Sturry, 1972. (N.p.)

The story of this Kentish village is here covered by thirty-five contributed articles varying in subject from flint implements and Roman roads to accusations of 'incipient idolatory' in the parish church in 1873 and a first-hand account of an air raid in 1941. Some of the contributors are of high standing in historical and antiquarian circles and the book is generally above the standard often found in such publications. The proceeds of the sale go to the parish church and copies are obtainable from the Vicar or the Editor.

There are, of course, the predictable notes on the Doomsday (*sic*) entry, the parish church and local worthies, but there is much else, including accounts of farming and natural history, with records of sporting activities, the last illustrated by nostalgic team photographs.

Although the subjects are arranged in chronological order, there is no attempt to compile a connected history of the locality. It is all very readable, and as interesting in many respects to those who live outside Sturry as to its present inhabitants.

In the description of the Palaeolithic implements found by Dr. A. G. Ince and others in the Sturry gravel pits, it should be noted that the terms 'Chelles' and 'Le Moustier' are not used today with the same meaning as when those discoveries were made and published in the 1920s. One might also observe that the correct title of the publication referred to in the first footnote on p. 7 is the *Antiquaries Journal*.

P. J. TESTER

*Roman Roads in Britain.* By Ivan D. Margary. 9½ in. × 5½ in. Pp. 550, 23 plates and 17 maps. John Baker, London. 1973. £5.

This is a very welcome third edition of our vice-president's classic work on the Romano-British road system. It is in effect a re-printing of the 1967 one-volume edition, though the opportunity has been taken to add a separate section at the end of the book containing references to work done since the second edition.

It is a well-produced book and to be highly recommended to those who do not already possess a copy; it is bound to be soon out of print!

A. P. DETSICAS

*Prehistoric Man and his Art—The Caves of Ribadesella.* By Professor Magin Berenguer, translated from the Spanish by Michael Heron. Pp. 168, 30 monochrome plates, 12 line drawings, 4 maps. Souvenir Press, 1973. £2.50.

Probably few people may have made a pilgrimage to study the prehistoric cave paintings of Cantabria in north-west Spain, and to those who have not this book provides an alternative pleasure. Not only does the author conduct the reader through the caves to examine progressively the paintings upon their walls; he describes with clarity the background to the prehistory of Man, the periods that led to his appearance as a thinking and reasoning being, and his rapid advance to the creation of artistic things, in primitive sculpture and in painting.

Man of the Upper Palæolithic is seen in this study to have been a creature of complicated impulses in his life and thought, the creator of the unique language of art as a vehicle of visual communication, a portrayer of naturalism which may have been combined with magic and ritual. Especially interesting is the chapter which the author devotes to Man himself as drawn by the prehistoric artists, with illustrations gathered from both Spanish and French caves; his suggested division into two differing yet contemporary types of human beings is intriguing.

The eight caves of Ribadesella in Asturias, which are introduced to the reader in this book, display an array of animals beautifully drawn and life-like—reindeer, bison, and horse—that rival the best examples at Altamira, which is itself a museum of prehistoric art. Altamira, Ribadesella, and Lascaux are probably the three most important centres of this art so far discovered in the world, and the contiguity of the group of caves at Ribadesella suggests that this was a closely inhabited area in prehistoric times.

This book is translated into clear language, scholarly and yet suitable for the ordinary reader who wants to know more of prehistoric man and especially of his art. The bibliography is comprehensive, particularly with regard to cave sites in Spain, and it includes the famous name of Henri Breuil, doyen of prehistoric cave art. Published at a modest price, it can be recommended warmly.

G. W. MEATES

*Southern England: An Archæological Guide.* By James Dyer. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  in. × 5 in. Pp. 380, pls. 76, maps and plans 38. Faber & Faber Ltd., London. 1973. Paper covers, £1.95.

This is the eighth of the series of archæological guides issued by the publishers and is a worthy addition to its predecessors. To any archæo-

logical 'tourist', interested in the prehistoric or Roman periods, it provides exactly the right information—location, including map reference, brief but adequate description of the site and, in most cases, reference to relevant publications. The plates are generally well chosen (Grimspound is an exception), the plans clear and informative and, in this reviewer's opinion, it represents good value.

A. C. HARRISON

*The Roman Land Surveyors: An Introduction to the Agrimensores.*

By O. A. W. Dilke. 8½ in. × 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in. Pp. 260, 1 colour frontispiece, 33 plates and 53 text figures. David & Charles, Newton Abbot. 1973. £1.75.

Professor Dilke's book, first published in 1971 and reviewed elsewhere (*Antiq. Journ.*, lii (1972), 378–9), has now been re-issued in paperback form. Little more need be added to what has already been said, apart from remarking that it is a pity that the vexed question of remains of centuriation in this country (e.g. at Cliffe in Kent, and at Ripe in Sussex) is uncritically accepted by the author as proved. Professor Dilke voices (p. 193) his misgivings because 'Rochester was not a colony' but allows himself to be convinced because 'this in itself is not an obstacle to such a scheme having existed'; unfortunately, the 'evidence' upon which all this is based (*Arch. Cant.*, lxxv (1952), 150–9) is not as convincing as the author of this book would have us believe.

A. P. DETSICAS

*Archæological Theory and Practice.* (Ed.) D. E. Strong. 6 × 9 in. Pp. 308, pls. 20 (1 frontispiece+3 in colour), figs. 59. Seminar Press, London and New York, 1973. £5.50.

To mark the occasion of the retirement of Professor W. F. Grimes from the directorship of the Institute of Archæology in the University of London, his colleagues have presented him with this *Festschrift*, edited by the late Professor D. E. Strong. It is a very fitting tribute to the recipient, and the variety of the contributions contained in this collection of essays renders ample witness to the breadth of Professor Grimes' archæological interests, which he did so much to foster during his tenure at the Institute.

The twenty-three papers in this volume reflect the work in the various departments of the Institute, and among them are to be found studies on environmental work, archæological science, primate fossils, the flint industries in the Swanscombe area, island south-east Asia and the settlement of Australia, an important paper by Professor J. D.

## REVIEWS

Evans on the problem of quantifying pottery studies, which should reverberate beyond the chronological limits of the pottery concerned, several papers on near-eastern archaeology, and a history of *fibulae*. Professor Strong contributes a study of 'museums' in the Roman world, whilst Mark Hassall argues cogently against the view that a *cohors urbana* may have been stationed in the Cripplegate fort and suggests that its garrison is more likely to have been the provincial governor's guard composed of detachments drawn from the legions serving in Britain, and Richard Reece supplies a topical study on the purchasing power of money after the Diocletianic reform of the coinage. For medievalists, there is a paper on medieval technology, and two concluding studies will attract those interested in the archaeological applications of various photographic techniques.

It seems that, in order to keep the cost of publication within the reach of the many who should read this book, it was decided to use the American system of references at the end of each contribution, but some contributors have additionally been allowed footnotes denoted by asterisks, daggers, etc., which lend the volume an archaic appearance; and whatever economies were thus effected must have been offset by the odd choice of the more expensive art paper for the printing of the entire volume which, if nothing else, makes it rather heavy to handle. It is a pity, too, that many irritating printer's errors refuse to be ignored (some papers are clearly better proofed than others) and culminate in the mis-spelling of the publishers' name!

However, mention of these minor blemishes must not detract from the real value of this symposium as a mirror-image of the teeming research quietly undertaken at the Institute whose status will remain a glowing testimonial to the energy, drive, sympathetic understanding and scholarship of the man whom this collection honours.

A. P. DETSICAS

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