

work of Mr. J. V. Lyle, are of the elaborate character we have been accustomed to in the previous volumes, and are very carefully compiled. There is an occasional mistake in the identification of proper names, but most of them are quite venial. Ought not the castle and prior of Ewyas to be sought for in the March of Wales rather than in the Wiltshire village of Teffont Evias, which derived its name from its sometime owners, the lords of Ewyas Harold? Were not the fifteenth-century priors of Llanthony located at Llanthony hard by Gloucester, and not in the wild abode of their distant predecessors in the region not very remote from the vale of Ewyas? But the only mistake of importance is that which indexes the *abbas de Fonte Neto* of p. 274 under the head of 'Wells,' instead of under 'Fontenai.' The Norman monastery of Fontenai was the mother house of the alien cell of Brimpsfield, with reference to which the entry is made.

T. F. T.

The first part of Signor Francesco Guerri's *Il Registrum Cleri Cornetani e il suo contenuto storico* (Corneto-Tarquini: Giacchetti, 1908), which is to head a series of *Fonti di Storia Cornetana*, is a verbose introduction to a promised full calendar of the volume in question, the cartulary of the corporate clergy of Corneto. Every possible point, historical, topographical, genealogical, or diplomatic, is discussed at wearisome length, especially the errors of one Dasti, a previous historian of Corneto. Signor Guerri cannot even quote from documents which he is shortly to print in full without registering all the palaeographical peculiarities of the original. The result has its value, especially as the index is good, although the facts elicited are usually of purely local importance, and often absolutely trivial; occasionally, as in the discussion of the methods of reckoning the indiction and the beginning of the year in the Patrimony of St. Peter, something worth noting is brought out. The author has learned how to do his work, but not how to suppress the details of the working. It is to be hoped that when he comes to edit the *Margarita* of the commune of Corneto he will be limited to fifty pages of introductory matter: the present volume contains xxij and 447. The work appears fairly accurate in detail, though *dampnatam memoriam Francischam de Vico* (p. 224) strikes us as unusual Latin.

C. J.

The relations of England and the Low German states during the first ten years of Edward III's reign, the marriages between the ruling houses, the joint campaigns in Scotland, and finally the elaborate negotiations, which led up to the first coalitions of the Hundred Years' war are set forth in great detail by Dr. W. Stechele in his *England und der Niederrhein bei Beginn der Regierung König Edwards III (1327-1337)*, which has appeared in two instalments in the *Westdeutsche Zeitschrift für Geschichte und Kunst*, xxvii. 98-151, 441-473. His work is a very careful and complete summary of the published documents relating to his subject, and subsequent writers will probably have few omissions or inaccuracies to lay to his charge. Though thorough and admirable in what he has attempted, Dr. Stechele has not exhausted the subject. He has not indeed neglected M. Pirenne's *Histoire de Belgique* and M. Déprez's

Préliminaires de la guerre de Cent Ans so far as they bear on his matter, but he has not aspired to the wide outlook and illuminating treatment of these writers. His own contribution to the subject is rather in points of detail.

L. B. D.

Mr. G. A. C. Sandeman's *Calais under English Rule* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1908) is very near being a good book. Mr. Sandeman has been happy in his subject, and has plainly worked with zeal, energy, and discretion; but it is a pity that he did not work out his points more thoroughly before he sent his book to press. With all its merits it remains a little crude and incomplete. Solid utilisation of unpublished documents is combined with undue reliance on secondary modern books of no great value. Some obvious materials such as the Calendars of Patent and Close Rolls are not used at all, and a more diligent scrutiny of the chroniclers would have yielded more fruit. There is often the suggestion of inadequate technical knowledge, notably in the section on the church, and some *obiter dicta* are regrettable. There are a good many bad mistakes of fact. Yet the discerning reader will easily correct Mr. Sandeman's little slips, and be grateful to him for putting together so much useful information on an interesting and little-known subject.

T. F. T.

In his *Documents nouveaux sur les Mœurs populaires et Le Droit de Vengeance dans les Pays-Bas au XV^e Siècle* (Paris: Champion, 1908), M. Charles Petit-Dutaillis has edited two series of documents from the *Chartes de l'Audience* of the Burgundian chancery under Philip the Good now preserved in the Archives Départementales du Nord at Lille. The first series are illustrative of the manners and to some extent of the politics of the time. The second and longer series is concerned with the right of private vengeance and warfare as practised in the Low Countries during the fifteenth century. Ultimately M. Petit-Dutaillis proposes to add a third series dealing with economic history. The first series is short, containing only fourteen letters of pardon for offences arising out of the troubled society of the time. As the editor points out, they represent the offender's version of the facts but are not for that reason less valuable as illustrations of contemporary life and manners. One, the story of how Antoine de Claerhout murdered her child by a low-born lover, has a peculiar interest since it may have furnished Antoine de la Sale with suggestions for two of the *Cent Nouvelles nouvelles*. The second and much longer series supplies the editor with the text for a full and interesting discussion of the practice of private war, the endeavour to regulate that practice by enforced truces, and the gradual process by which the state asserted its authority to suppress and punish crimes of violence in the public interest. It forms a striking chapter in the history of society and the growth of law. Old traditions died slowly, and though the documents deal chiefly with the sordid quarrels of ignoble persons the ancient practice asserted itself even in high quarters. The *amende honorable* had its recognised and formal place in the enforcement of a truce on private feuds, and it is interesting, as M. Petit-Dutaillis points out, to find its ceremonial observance stipulated for in the peace of Arras, under which the ambassador of Charles VII humbled