Under the title of *St. Paul's Cathedral and Old City Life: Illustrations of Civil and Cathedral Life from the Thirteenth to the Sixteenth Centuries* (London: Elliot Stock, 1894), Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson has put together a pleasant volume of miscellanies in supplement to his more systematic works on the history of Old St. Paul's. He gives us a commentary on the medieval and later inventories of the cathedral treasury, which he was the first to publish, and collects a variety of notices relative to Paul's Cross, of which he supplies four illustrations. In his account of the sermons preached there he prints long extracts from two by Dean Feckenham and Dr. Glasier (1555), which are of considerable interest. The miscellaneous facts and curiosities gathered together in this beautifully printed book are made available to students of church antiquities in general by means of a full index.

A Classified List of Printed Original Materials for English Manorial and Agrarian History during the Middle Ages, by Frances Gardiner Davenport, A.B. (Radcliffe College Monographs, No. 6) (Boston, 1894), seems to be an excellently well arranged hand-list of those printed materials that any one who is studying the economy of English medieval manors will find useful in his work. It evidently represents a great deal of well-applied labour, and can be confidently recommended to such as desire a guide to the extents, court rolls, account rolls, and the like.

CORRESPONDENCE

SHAKESPEARE AND THE JEWS

THERE seems to have been some misunderstanding by Professor Hales (ENGLISH HISTORICAL REVIEW, October 1894, p. 652) as to my meaning when I said that the supreme genius of Shakespeare has been used to incite hatred and suspicion against the Jews. It is a fact that the character of Shylock has been by many people interpreted to mean a villain without excuse or qualification. Professor Hales himself surely admits as much when he says, 'At a superficial glance one may perceive only a fiend in human shape; and perhaps Elizabethan audiences, furious with prejudice and bigotry, saw only what was devilish in the wretched being they derided and loathed' (p. 657). It is also a fact that Jews have been the victims of unjust hatred and suspicion. I merely drew the inference that the former has contributed something to the latter. It is a matter of common observation, and I have noticed instances of it myself. We may regret it, but it is so. I did not enter into the larger question of the moral intention of Shakespeare, and what he meant the character of Shylock to teach. He has not put his meaning on record, and there have been different opinions expressed about it. In consequence it is a literary rather than an historical matter, and would almost require a volume for adequate treatment.

ARTHUR DIMOCK.