courage answerable to my place as ever my father had. I am your anointed Queen. I will never be by violence constrained to do anything.' But 'far above all earthly treasure she esteemed her people's love'; and it was her pride to describe herself, as she often did, as 'mere English'.

D. T. B. WOOD.

Mary Davies and the Manor of Ebury. By CHARLES T. GATTY, F.S.A. Two volumes. $9\frac{1}{4} \times 6$; pp. x + 294; viii + 285. Cassell. £3 3s.

Mr. Gatty has made the story of Mary Davies and her match with Sir Thomas Grosvenor the centre of a history of the district now known as Belgravia. No one will complain that the author has allowed the opportunities, which a familiar acquaintance with the muniments of the Duke of Westminster has afforded, to lead him sometimes rather far astray from his principal theme. Nearly a quarter of the first volume is taken up with an account of the early history and topography of the manors—Eia, Hyde, Neyte, and Ebury—which ultimately formed part of Mary Davies's inheritance. On the site which gave the Hundred of Ossulston its name Mr. Gatty has been able to bring together evidence which confirms fully Mr. G. J. Turner's discovery of a place called Ossulston on the plan of Ebury Manor published by the London Topographical Society. This plan was made about 1664 and proves to be a copy of an earlier one dating from 1614, where Park Lane is called 'the way from Ossolstone towards Tiburne'. Ossulston cannot therefore have been at Tyburn, and Mr. Gatty is able to show that the true position must have been near the west end of South Street.

Before the author could take up Mary Davies's own story he had to dispel the fictions that had gathered about her life. The true story leads him into an account of Hugh Audeley, the seventeenth-century moneylender, who grew so rich that he became in legend the typical usurer and miser. If Audeley had added field to field, he was a very different person from what his detractors have pictured, and in telling his real history Mr. Gatty gives us an interesting, if not in itself very important, sidelight on London in the years before the Restoration. One of Audeley's heirs was his great-nephew Alexander Davies, not as the common story alleged a rich London alderman, but a young man with ambitions to develop the property which he had inherited. Alexander Davies only held Ebury three years, and when he died in 1665 his daughter and heiress was an infant less than a year old. The rest of Mr. Gatty's two volumes is occupied with her upbringing as a great heiress, the projects for her marriage, the match with Sir Thomas Grosvenor, the home life of the young couple at Eaton, her early widowhood and mental aberration, her inveiglement into a pretended second marriage and the consequent lawsuit. For all this history full use is made of the muniments at Eaton, and the resulting narrative has much of the charm and interest which always attaches to old letters, with their distinctive pictures of social life.

If Mr. Gatty's two volumes are, as has been hinted, somewhat discursive, they will be not less welcome to all who are interested in the

history of a great family and its homes. Particular attention may be directed to the information which Mr. Gatty is able to give not only about the rebuilding of Eaton, but about the site of Goring House (in which Audeley had an interest) and about Peterborough House at Chelsea which was originally built by Alexander Davies and ultimately became the first London home of the Grosvenors. It must be added in conclusion that the two volumes are admirably illustrated with portraits, views, and plans. They are a valuable contribution to social history and London topography.

C. L. KINGSFORD.

The History of the Family of Dallas, and their connections and descendants from the twelfth century. By the late JAMES DALLAS. 10 x 7½; pp. xi + 611. Edinburgh: privately printed by T. & A. Constable. To subscribers, 42s.

To those interested in the name this book will be extremely welcome. It is well printed and has an index. The editor by his apology disarms criticism; it is always a difficult task to deal with the collections of another, more especially in the case of a Scotch pedigree where the material has been collected from a distance and possibly without a profound knowledge of the district. 'Easter Urquhart' (p. 147) may be a printer's error for 'Easter Urquhill'; but it is more difficult to recognize Kenneth Mackenzie of Brahan (presumably) in 'Frennocht M'Kenze of Brayne'. A larger insight too into local families might have (e.g.) expanded 'Duncan Forbes, an Inverness merchant' (p. 239) into 'Grey Duncan', grandson of Forbes of Tolquhoun and first of the family of Forbes of Culloden. Incidentally he and his son had more mortgages than this one in the shires of Inverness, Nairn, and Ross.

In comparison with others of the neighbourhood, the family of Dallas seems to have played but a small part in the affairs of the nation; and there is nothing fresh to be gleaned as to the events of 1745-6 from the account of James Dallas.

Certain of the name find their place in the *Dictionary of National Biography* (though they are of those who wandered far afield), and the correspondence (pp. 410 et seq.) should be of some interest, particularly to those who have studied the India of Hastings and Wellesley. The letters of Sir George Dallas are emphatically expressed. 'Of the Government of this country', he wrote from Calcutta in 1785, 'I will say nothing, as your friends will write to you volumes thereon—however, they will only amount to this—that it is degraded by deplorable imbecility and infatuated credulity'.

Again on the Irish question, 'The rebellion in Ireland forms an important period in the history of your administration and it is that part of it which is the most assailed by misrepresentation'.

At the end of the book are extracts from parish registers, valuable to genealogists; though it is not to be supposed that all those bearing the name are necessarily descended from a common stock, more especially in the case of a churchman (p. 57) or apprentice.

There is a short account of the present owners of Cantray, to which might be added that the late Major Davidson was the author of