

IX.—GENERAL.

Professor C. Raymond Beazley in his *Note-Book of Mediæval History, A.D. 323-1453* (Clarendon Press; 3s. net) has provided for students a useful companion to their textbooks. Europe is treated as a whole; its history is divided into periods, the characteristics of which are marked; changes in culture and civilisation are emphasised; leading events are given in chronological order. Madame Duclaux, a lady of English descent who writes in her native language, in a *Short History of France* (Fisher Unwin; 10s. 6d. net), sketches in lively and popular style the story of Gaul and the State which developed out of it from the time of Cæsar to that of Napoleon. From the student's point of view the main defect of this interesting survey is want of proportion. The early history is treated very summarily; almost half the volume is devoted to the Revolutionary and Napoleonic era. *Russia from the Varangians to the Bolsheviks* is the subject of a volume in the "Histories of the Belligerents" series, published by the Clarendon Press (8s. 6d. net). Sir Bernard Pares has reviewed this book so fully in "History," Vol. IV., No. 13 (April, 1919) that detailed description is here unnecessary. Suffice it to say that Sir Bernard considers that "the new Oxford volume on Russia marks a stage in our study of that country." A short popular history of the same country is supplied in *Russia's Story*, by J. A. Shearwood (Jarrolds; 5s. net). Those interested in the affairs of the Celtic inhabitants of the British Isles will find new information in (1) *The Pictish Nation*, by A. B. Scott (Foulis; 25s. net), which is particularly full in its discussion of early Christianity in the north of the Island; (2) *Municipal Government in Ireland*, by J. J. Webb (Unwin; 5s. net), which traces the history of town-administration from the Norman Conquest to the Act of 1840; (3) *The Foundations of Society and the Land*, by J. W. Jeudwine (Williams & Norgate; 18s. net), which is valuable for the information which it gives concerning Celtic—particularly Breton—law. A brief but useful source-book of Imperial history, 1763-1917, is provided by Professor A. B. Keith in *Selected Speeches and Documents in British Colonial Policy* (Clarendon Press; 4s. net: 2 vols.). An interesting and illuminating *Sketch of English Constitutional History* comes from the authoritative pen of Professor G. B. Adams, of Yale University (Milford; 7s. 6d. net). It eschews details but is rich

in large generalisations and broad views. Two new volumes in the "Kings and Queens of England" series are *Henry II.*, by L. F. Salzman, and *Henry VII.* by Gladys Temperley (Constable; 7s. 6d. net each). Local history is represented by *Liverpool Town Books, 1550-1571*, edited by J. A. Twemlow (Liverpool Univ. Press; £1 11s. 6d. net), and *The Assembly Books of Southampton, 1602-1608*, edited by J. W. Horrocks (Cox & Sharland, 15s. 9d. net).

THE EDITOR.