
Review

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descriptive, but are strangely lacking in such evidences of originality and poetic feeling as might have been expected. In the Durham area, in accord with the preponderating English influence, the names are for the most part personal.

Whilst both writers follow the same general plan, they betray slightly different tendencies, Mr. Jackson laying more stress on the rules of phonetic change, whilst Mr. Bannister warns his readers against trusting too much to these, having regard to the many changes which have crept in through pure carelessness. Like some other recent writers, he is sceptical as to the common interpretation of the element *ing* as denoting a "clan." Mr. Jackson is somewhat more apt to indulge in guesses at meaning, and his suggestions are not always convincing, though he distinguishes such cases from those which do not admit of doubt. The section of Mr. Bannister's book dealing with the name-elements is more valuable than that in Mr. Jackson's, which treats only of terminals and that very briefly. Throughout this book a certain curtness of style is apt to interfere with lucidity. Mr. Bannister supplies many instructive touches, as when he comments on the relative number of Herefordshire names denoting a ford and a bridge respectively. His lists of names containing the several elements are a useful feature, and so is his reference to varying forms occurring in other parts of England. Thus he shows that the terminal *-wardine*, characteristic of Herefordshire and Shropshire, represents the more usual *-worth* or *-worthy* through the West Mercian *worthign*.

Both books bring out clearly the danger of accepting popular explanations, and show how the early forms often prove the incorrectness of the more obvious interpretations. Thus Butterby has no connection with butter, but is a commonplace rendering of the original more romantic *Beau trou*. One of the early forms is *Buttry*, which suggests to Mr. Jackson that some in those days spoke French, like the Duke of Wellington, "with courage." Again, Eggescliffe is shown on linguistic grounds to have no reference to an eagle, nor to *Ecclesia*, but to contain the Anglo-Saxon personal name "Ecg." Eggleston on the other hand, if the form occurring in the earliest records is to be trusted, is thought to signify "Æthel's tun." A striking example of a suddenly introduced change of name is that of Durham itself, in which the *r* accidentally replaced the original *n* (Dunhelm or Dunholm) only in the twelfth century. The adoption of the mistake was natural in a county devoted to the chase, the first element being taken as representing the Anglo-Saxon *deor*, "deer," or "wild animal."

E. H.

Russia as I know it.— Harry de Windt. London: Chapman & Hall. 1917.

Pp. xii. and 232. *Illustrations*. 10s. 6d. net.

Through Russia in War-time.— C. Fillingham Coxwell. London: Fisher Unwin. 1917. Pp. 312. *Sketch-map and Illustrations*. 12s. 6d. net.

Both these books are of the same order, the outcome of an awakened interest in Russia and a demand for descriptive writing on the country, pleasant to read and not too informative. Mr. de Windt's is a collection of material from his experiences of travel in Russia and Siberia, many of them not very recent and all of them, we gather, before the present war. There is little that has not appeared in a slightly different form in one or other of his previous volumes, and the author makes no claim to present an authoritative volume on Russia. The chapters are arranged on no definite plan, and the whole volume strikes one as a collection of scattered articles rather than as a coherent book. But it is entertaining, and carries the reader easily and pleasantly through the

Russian Empire from Finland to the Chukchi peninsula of Siberia. Some of the information might with advantage have been revised, and surely the author's geographical wits have been wandering when he advises the reader, in order to appreciate the size of Siberia, to choose a map of the World on Mercator's projection ; and when he expresses the belief that the construction of the map of the lighthouses and beacons on the coast of Finland "must have entailed years of research."

Mr. Coxwell's book is the narrative of a journey in 1915 from Archangel to the Crimea and the Caucasus, and then back by the Volga to Petrograd and Finland. Such a journey in war-time with the author's scanty knowledge of Russian, on which he frequently insists, led to many difficult situations, but an admirable persistence carried him through on all occasions. The book smacks rather of the guide-book at times, but it succeeds in giving some vivid pictures of Russian life and scenery without being a volume of permanent value.

R. N. R. B.

Berlin and its Region (Sociological Society : Cities Committee).— H. J. Fleure, D.Sc. London and Manchester : Sherratt & Hughes. 1916. Pp. 15. *Sketch-maps.*

The subject of this paper by Dr. Fleure of Aberystwyth is geographical, but its nature is no doubt largely explained by the fact that it was contributed as a basis for discussion to the Sociological Society. It is unquestionably a weakness of geography that it attempts to estimate influences that cannot be measured. It is a weakness that geographers should always keep in mind, feeling that they are on surest ground when they are dealing with influences most nearly capable of measurement. The sociological point of view is perhaps apt to tempt one to venture on very sweeping generalizations, which, when they have geographical subjects, are liable to become the opprobrium of geography. The steppes and deserts of Western Asia "are the lands of Wandering where people so characteristically laid up treasure in heaven, having small occasion to do so on earth." "The Prussian creation has the forest between it and the spirituality of the East, and 'to this day the sky-line of Berlin is more unbroken by church-towers than that of almost any other city.' It was naked materialism that expressed itself here with the strength of 'not a giant but an athlete.'" Whose are the words that Dr. Fleure quotes is not made quite clear, though we are led to infer that they are those of Lord Acton. In any case Dr. Fleure adopts them. And we are entitled to ask him not only whether no religion preaching the renunciation of treasure on earth arose in a region entirely different from "the lands of Wandering," but also whether "the East" includes China, and whether China has ever been credited with a high degree of spirituality. We have equally questionable pronouncements with regard to race. At the bottom of p. 6 we have a reference to the "small capacity for peaceful assimilation" as apparently a characteristic that has always marked "the Teutonic warrior-aristocracy." It is difficult at any time to tell the characteristic traits of any people apart from the conditions in which they are living at the time, and what evidence is there of national traits remaining the same generation after generation? Some tell us that there was a time when England really was "merry England," but it is long since it would occur to any one to give it that appellation. And as for the Germans, Naumann in his 'Mitteleuropa' (p. 84) speaks of a time when they had an admirable gift of assimilation in virtue of "their natural joyousness, bluntness (*Derbheit*) and childlike disposition." Is this historically true or not? The present reviewer

x