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Shropshire: The Geography of the County by W. W. Watts

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furnished with a title or other means of identification, for though catalogued under numbers, and sometimes referred to by these in the body of the work, the numbers do not, unfortunately, appear on the maps themselves. Owners of the work will no doubt be able to supply them with the aid of the text, and will certainly be well advised to do so. Lastly, there is a valuable bibliography, which embraces all the literature of importance on the subject, whether in Russian or other European languages.

W. A. T.

## REVIEWS

### EUROPE

**Causal Geography of the British Isles.**— J. Martin. London: Longmans. 1919. *Maps and Illustrations.* 4s. 6d.

IT is with a rather unusual and commendable sense of the fitness of things that this text-book of the British Isles opens with a chapter on maps and map-reading, with particular reference to Ordnance maps. It is not otherwise marked by great originality, but it is very well produced, and the maps (except when over-elaborate, and occasionally, it would seem, old) are beautiful. The book offers a few texts for a sermon upon the avoidance of certain non-facts or dangerous statements, which seem to become stereotyped in our school-books. It is high time we should refrain from hailing any longer the Phœnicians as the first of the "great peoples" who "successively held sway" in the eastern Mediterranean. The familiar derivation of Teddington from "Tide-end-town" is a perilous *memoria technica*. Sevenoaks is not a gap town. It (or its nucleus) is 4 good miles from the Darenth gap, on the top of the Ragstone Ridge, and neither the main railway nor the main road through Sevenoaks runs through the gap. A gap may be a good geographical factor, but not when it becomes a pitfall.

O. J. R. H.

**Shropshire: the Geography of the County.**— Prof. W. W. Watts. Shrewsbury: Wilding. 1919. Pp. x., 254. *Maps and Illustrations.* 2s. 6d. net.

We gather that this book was written for the Cambridge series of County Geographies, but was too long and too fully illustrated to fall into line with the other volumes. It is therefore published independently, though the general style and get-up of that excellent series have been so closely copied as somewhat to obscure the fact. Taken by itself there is no reason to regret the greater fullness of detail: we would not, indeed, have lost any of it. It approaches the perfection of local geographical study, and we need not enlarge upon this assertion, but merely advise any who love Shropshire, or (for that matter) the geography of England at large, to read it.

O. J. R. H.

**Ireland the Outpost.**— Prof. Grenville A. J. Cole. London, etc.: Oxford University Press. 1919. 3s. 6d.

This little volume, after a long course of text-books and travel-narratives, comes indeed as a literary refreshment. Its basis is geological, as we should expect from the writer, but he reveals also his wide knowledge of the history, anthropology, and literature of the island, and the resulting composition is a true geography. It sets out to prove no new idea: it is "an attempt to regard

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