

## Reviews

*Medieval Glass at All Souls College.* By F. E. Hutchinson. Faber & Faber, 1949. Pp. 67 ; 3 colour and 31 halftone plates. 21s.

This book owes its origin to G. McN. Rushforth who, in 1935, on behalf of All Souls College, accepted the task of writing an account of the medieval stained glass surviving in the chapel. In the event death claimed him before he had completed the work and, after the return of the glass from safe keeping during the 1939-45 war, the manuscript came to Canon F. E. Hutchinson for revision and publication. This was done and the vicissitudes of the glass during previous restorations and repairs were recorded, together with notes on similar glass elsewhere and on its iconography. To the regret of all, Canon Hutchinson did not live to see the book through the press and this latter stage was completed by Professor E. F. Jacob. The photographs were taken by the late Sidney Pitcher and the colour plates were made from drawings lent by the Rev. Dr. Christopher Woodforde.

The text consists of an account of the glass formerly in the chapel and that at present to be seen in the east, west and north windows of the ante-chapel. The glazing, begun in 1441, was the work of John Glazier of Oxford. That in the large west window was made in 1447 and most of this had disappeared by 1717 ; excepting that in the two smaller windows, the present glass was inserted by Hardman in 1861. In the twenty-four lights on the east side are the twelve apostles in the upper part and in the lower are holy women, both sets being mainly in original glass. A restoration of these, conservative on the whole, was carried out by Clayton and Bell in 1870. In the two smaller west windows and in the north window is some of the glass, of about 1441, originally in the Old Library, and which may be the work of John Prudde of Westminster, the King's glazier. The figures are of kings, ecclesiastics and the founder. There is a photograph of each figure which throughout is described in some detail and the iconography discussed.

The book is welcomed as being a scholarly exposition of the beauty and great interest of this remarkable glass, and, as such, those interested in the subject will certainly wish to possess a copy for permanent reference. It is unfortunate, however, that the opportunity was not seized to replace some of Pitcher's photographs with some better ones taken while the glass was available at ground level during its replacement in 1946. All twelve photographs of the apostles in the top rows of the east windows show marked distortion, which detracts considerably from the full appreciation of the design. The same comment applies to the figures of the upper lateral lights in the west window.

There is a pardonable mistake in the captions under St. Simon and St. Jude (Plates x and xi) which should be transposed ; the names at present inscribed under each figure were due to an error of the nineteenth century restorers ; the emblems held by each apostle identify them and this is made clear in the text. The accuracy of the drawing in the coloured plates may be compared with the photographs and not, it is feared, with favour. On p. 7 ' Rushworth ' should read ' Rushforth ' and

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his initials should be 'G. McN.' and not as given. On p. 14, 'Twenty years after Symonds . . .' should presumably be seventy years if the footnote (2) is taken into account. It does not matter very much if clerestory is spelt clearstory, but it is well to be consistent in one and the same book (pp. 18 and 19). On p. 22-3, note 2 on p. 22 should be note 1 on p. 23 and the present note 1 on p. 23 go as note 2 on p. 22. On p. 24, under St. James the Less, 'No. 10' should presumably read 'No. 11'. On Plate xxii, 'Sir' should read 'S'. As will be readily agreed, these are minor blemishes in what may be fairly described as a useful, competent and adequate account of the All Souls glass. The price is moderate, considering the number of plates provided.

P. S. SPOKES.

*Recollections of Thomas Graham Jackson, 1835-1924.* Arranged and edited by Basil H. Jackson. Oxford University Press, 1950. Pp. xiv+284; 24 halftone plates and 5 text figures. 25s.

To those who live in Oxford particularly, and to those elsewhere whose interest lies in the history of local architecture in general, this book of the recollections of the Victorian architect Sir Thomas Jackson will be very welcome. From his early days as a scholar at Wadham (of which college he afterwards became a Fellow) Jackson's great interest in life was the study and practice of architecture. He travelled widely and wrote books on his chosen subject and also produced a history of his college. In 1904 he began to put together his recollections in a form originally 'intended for the eyes only of my family', but fortunately it was recently decided to publish those parts which would appeal to the general reader. Jackson witnessed the evolution of the Gothic Revival and the later styles of such men as Norman Shaw, the Blomfields, E. P. Warren and Lutyens.

Beginning as a pupil of George Gilbert Scott in 1858 he found the Gothic Revival in full blast, the five orders and the Palladian Classic being viewed as pure pedantry; in that atmosphere anything medieval was held in honour. He remembers Thomas Garner, a fellow pupil, falling into raptures over a hansom cab as being 'so truthful and so medieval'. But Jackson reacted against this fanatical medievalism; he could not see that the convenient sash window must be converted into Gothic by placing the outer half of a stone mullion in front of it. That the old art could be recaptured by copying bad drawings of medieval figures he could not believe. Rather did he come to realize that masqueraders dressing up in bygone costumes could never walk the street of real life. 'There was no revival in this, no living again.' They, the Gothic Revivalists, had got the old dead style on its legs and propped it up, but they could not make it walk. He therefore set himself to develop a style which was to be the expression of its own age and of no other. Did he succeed? The answer can, we think, be found in the study of the buildings which he designed and which he describes in these recollections. The development of the Jackson 'style' can be traced from the first buildings, teeming with ideas he longed to realize, to its final restrained culmination in Oxford in the Examination Schools and the Brasenose front. The midway mark can perhaps be best seen in the design (Plate vii) for the Belfry Tower at Christ Church—'the finest thing ever rejected' as Acland told him after Bodley's design had been accepted.

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The account of the designing of the Examination Schools in 1876, more than perhaps anything else he did, reveals Jackson's remarkable ability in producing a homogeneous style by blending a Jacobean nucleus with Gothic mouldings and Renaissance ornament (Plate xv).

We also learn of the care and thought which went into the designing of other well-known Oxford buildings, such as the new blocks at Lincoln and Somerville, the Merton Street house for Corpus Christi College, the remodelling of Beam Hall, and the cricket pavilion in the Parks and the Boys' and Girls' High Schools; also of his work in the interior of Oriel chapel, his Hertford College chapel and bridge, the library at All Souls, the Radcliffe Library and the organ case in the Sheldonian Theatre; the latter, we think, would have received Wren's approval. His larger works at Trinity and Brasenose are well known, but the details here given of the trials and difficulties in their designing and execution which were ultimately and triumphantly overcome provide an insight into Jackson's character which up to now has not, perhaps, been wholly appreciated.

There are interesting and illuminating descriptions of his work at some ten public schools and at Blenheim chapel, of his churches, of his relations with the Royal Academy and with other members of his own profession. His meeting with Oxford personalities of the day including Jowett, Ruskin and Dodgson provide shrewd comments. And who can remain unaffected by F. Madan's spirited letter to Jackson describing the head-of-the-river bonfire in the front quad of Hertford and the 'concomitant festivities' of fireworks which threatened the Bodleian, the Schools Tower being at the time under repair and swathed in woodwork: 'We stayed on the scaffolding till 2 a.m.'; for it would have been, as Jackson comments, 'A disaster, had it occurred, to which the loss by fire of the great library at Alexandria would have been comparatively a trifle'.

His account of the repair of Buckler's work on the tower and spire of St. Mary's church is enlivened by details of the reactions of the 'anti-scrape' protagonists, William Morris and Richmond, examining in his company the statues on the swaying scaffolding high above the High. Jackson suffered much in this connection with 'the gratuitous interference of amateurs and faddists', although the work interested him.

Jackson's part in combating what he called the pernicious notion of making architecture a profession hedged around by certificates and diplomas, shows in high relief his opinion that architecture was an art, involving close collaboration with the painters and sculptors, rather than a profession. In company with Norman Shaw, Blomfield, Alma-Tadema and Burne-Jones and others he successfully prevented a Bill for the registration of architects being considered and thus, in the event, postponed the measure for some forty years.

These Recollections may be considered really as an autobiography of one who truly loved and served his Oxford well; nothing, he says, pleased him more than to hear himself spoken of as 'Oxford Jackson'; he was indeed 'Artifex Oxoniensis'. Although he lived only a generation ago, many of us must have hitherto asked ourselves, in our partial ignorance, what sort of man was this Jackson who left such an indelible impression on Oxford architecture. Here in this book we have the answer, and we confidently recommend our members to read it with profit and delight.

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*Notes on Archaeological Technique: Third Edition.* Ashmolean Museum, 1950.  
Price 1s. 6d.

This revised edition of the original pamphlet by members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society has, as explained in the Foreword, been published by the Ashmolean but without change in its co-operative authorship. The notes 'were prepared initially for members of the Oxford University Archaeological Society, whose main excavating function is rescue-work in the Oxford neighbourhood', and in general give an admirable picture of the responsibilities of even an undergraduate rescue-digger in these days of exacting standards in field archaeology. While one has nothing but praise for the aims of this pamphlet, there are criticisms, which are made here in the hopes that they may be thought useful in the next edition.

I feel in the first place that the very restricted scope of the *Notes* should be made clear even in the title: they are restricted in fact to sites likely to occur in earth, gravel or chalk and to consist primarily of pits and ditches. There is no mention of the techniques and equipment necessary when dealing with sites in which stones play a predominant part, either as dry walling or as masonry—the identification of wall faces, the distinction of tumbled from placed stones, the relationship of floors to walls on or in them, and so forth. Picks are rather grudgingly admitted as excavating tools, though taking a second place to forks, and crowbars and steel pegs (instead of wooden ones) are not mentioned. A rescue dig in the Cotswolds (surely not outside the Oxford sphere of influence?) might land the readers of these *Notes* into very difficult situations, and should a member of the O.U.A.S. living in Cornwall or Wales, Derbyshire or Scotland, wish to apply his knowledge of archaeological techniques to local problems, he will find himself almost starting from scratch apart from general principles as he confronts the horrors of a collapsed stone wall robbed of its facing blocks and built partly on rotted rock and partly on boulder clay!

If the *Notes* are defined by title as being primarily concerned with Thames Valley sites, no one is likely to be misled; alternatively they should recognize the problems of the Highland Zone or similar geological formations. One point, though, that applies to any site in Britain—why is no mention made of location by means of the National Grid?

STUART PIGGOTT.

*A Short History of Anatomical Teaching in Oxford.* By H. M. Sinclair and A. H. T. Robb-Smith. Oxford, at the University Press, 1950. Pp. 82; 1 folding chart, 21 plates. Price 3s. 6d. net.

An exhibition to illustrate the history of anatomical teaching at Oxford was held in the Radcliffe Science Library from 20 February to 29 July, 1950. It was arranged under the direction of the Superintendent of the Library, Mr. H. F. Alexander, and those who saw it will appreciate the care with which he succeeded in building up a picture of the gradual but successful development of a subject which is now one of Oxford's strong features. This book includes at the end a brief descriptive catalogue of the exhibits—portraits, paintings, manuscripts and books. A notable feature of the catalogue proper is the fine series of thirty-nine illustrations. The Oxford scenes will be of considerable interest to future historians. There is a slight slip in the table, in which Ogle's date of birth should be given as 1792. It should be noted that the title on the cover differs slightly from that on the title-page, given above.

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The greater part of the book is devoted to the history of anatomical teaching. The joint authors begin the study proper with the appointment of Thomas Clayton as first Tomlins Reader in Anatomy in 1624. Then they deal with the brilliant and versatile Petty, Willis, Lower, Boyle, Musgrave, Hyde and Pitt. Boyle could hardly be called an anatomical teacher, but he certainly helped to popularize the methods of anatomical injection. Towards the close of the seventeenth century Edward Llwyd wrote of 'the Italian that teaches Anatomy, at Oxford': one wonders who he was. In the eighteenth century section the authors devote much space to James Keill, Frank Nicholls, Nathan Alcock and the foundation of the Dr. Lee Readership in 1767 by the appointment of Dr. John Parsons as the first Reader. Though none of these men were 'great' anatomists, in the sense that some of the Continental anatomists were great because of their discoveries and their widespread influence, these Oxford men were sound teachers. Nicholls's *Compendium Anatomicum* went through several editions between 1732 and 1746, and it was still used in Oxford in 1780.

Space does not permit of any detailed description of the later anatomists, such as John Kidd, who was certainly using the microscope for anatomical work as early as 1816; and of Henry Acland, who held the Dr. Lee Readership for twelve years before his long tenure of the Regius Professorship of Medicine.

The authors have succeeded in writing a most human document, enlivened by many anecdotes which are amusing and little known. We read of the escapade of Petty and Willis, who revived a murderess, Ann Green, who had been executed by Jack Ketch himself, and declared dead by the Sheriff. We read also of Hearne's catalogue of the Anatomy School about 1705; there were five skeletons, one being of a woman who had had eighteen husbands, and killed four of them. We read also of George Rolleston's diffuse lectures, and how on one occasion he began: 'Our subject this morning is the stomach of the dog: I therefore propose to explain to you the stomach of the cat.'

Drs. Sinclair and Robb-Smith are to be highly congratulated on the success of their 'Short History'. Despite its modest appearance and low cost, this book is, in the opinion of the reviewer, the most important contribution in English to the history of anatomy which has appeared in the last twenty-five years.

E. ASHWORTH UNDERWOOD.

*The Progress Notes of Warden Woodward round the Oxfordshire Estates of New College, Oxford, 1659-1675.* Transcribed and edited by R. L. Rickard. Oxfordshire Record Society, 1949 (for 1945). Pp. 100.

This is one of those books that brings the past to life. The Warden of New College makes notes for his own use as he visits the College estates, and some of his casual remarks give a vivid picture; 'The Bedd I lay uppon was musty, soe that for the smell thereof I could not sleepe well.' Again: 'wee tooke horse for Ciciter, the weather faire, but the wayes very bad & full of water, very dangerous', but another day 'wee rode towards Swalcliffe heareing by the way the Bells of Bloxham, very sweet and delightful bells, I was so affected therewith that I sent unto the ringers 12d.'. At Adderbury 'Wee went to dinner about 2 of the clocke, divers strangers there, the provision was very great, a chine of beef and a venison pastie with other answerable dishes, & at last a dish of fruit, Peaches, Grapes, Plumbes,



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Walnutts, etc. that almost bent the dish. About eight we had a supper, though few could eat anything.

We see the Warden taking careful note of the property of the College. At Adderbury, on his first visit, he notices the School house 'might be made very good', but the Parsonage house 'is very large containeing much building, but very ill-disposed of and impossible to be made convenient and handsome without pulling downe'. Also 'the tenants of our court there were very clamorous and unruly'. He is careful to enquire whether his decisions are going to make awkward precedents for the College, and he is very conscientious in watching over the use of the timber he grants for repairs, as well as enquiring whether new trees have been planted to replace those cut down. Timber was of prime importance for building, repairs and fuel, while the rate of cutting in England was reducing the supply at an alarming pace. Sometimes the tenants are troublesome, like Mary Cox at Stanton St. John 'where she is building a little house, soe she wanteth more timber. . . . She asked for 3 small ashes. I granted one of them, but she pressing for three and uncivilly, wishing me to take that one and burn it my Selfe. I therefore for her saucy reply answer, would allow her none.' He is told of suspicious cart-loads of wood being taken to Oxford for sale and notes that he must look into this, and he walks round the woods to choose a tree for his parlour floor and fuel for the Fellows.

Disputes about property come to him for settlement, some of the stories re-appearing year after year. In Heyford James ffletcher quarrelled with the other parishioners about a tree and a right of way on his ground and 'also for that having a cow that was sick and died of the horse disease, when he had took off the skin, he cast it into the spring-head, the water whereof doth run into his neighbours' gates, particularly through Mr Merry's yard, thereby to have murrend all their cattell, yea, a neighbour seeing it, complained unto him of it, yet he let it lie. A malicious act in him, & shows that he is not indeed what he would seem to be.' Six weeks later 'Mr. Merry had a bullock and three other heifers died of the murreyn and he fears ffletcher's poisoning of the water, but he cannot positively aver that.

At Kingham there was a long story of 'a poor sickly man, the Cryer of the Court' who had built a little house upon the waste. After his death the parishioners wanted it for a town house. The 'poor man, the Cryer, had two daughters, both of them lame and weake', and year after year there are problems about the ownership.

At Stanton St. John there was a dispute about old Widow Wilmott's house, the final settlement being 'that the old widow should suffer the young widow to live in her house, which she promised so long as she behaved herself civilly, modestly and lovingly and withall, did no wrong to the housing'.

In Kingham there are three lords. This manor was divided among three sisters' and we see the poor Warden trying to unravel the rights of the college from the other claims, measuring out a meadow in which the size of the holding was disputed 'making our ground about 6 feet narrower than it was'. We only get glimpses of courts and procedure, but they are illuminating, the Warden seems very patient when he asks repeatedly for a terrier, and after four years' waiting is told that it is written but has not been brought.

The introduction has some very interesting particulars about the Courts and customs of New College properties, including some not in Oxfordshire, also explanations of many of the matters referred to, such as heriot, lop and top, and a few details of Warden Woodward himself.

VIOLET STEED.