

ANTIQUITY

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS. H.M. Office of Works. CORBRIDGE Roman Station (Corstopitum) Northumberland. Official Guide by ERIC BIRLEY, M.A., F.S.A. *London: His Majesty's Stationery Office.* 6d, postage 1d.

There are guides and guides. This is one of the best sixpennyworth that we have seen. It combines a useful account of the site with a brief description of those parts which are still to be seen and the objects found. The description of Corstopitum as a 'station' is perhaps misleading to some, but it was an important road station during the greater part of the Roman occupation, and it was perhaps only the death of the emperor Severus at York in A.D. 211 that prevented it from becoming a legionary fortress. An adequate description of the finds could hardly be contained in the four and a half pages allocated to this section. Mr Birley more than hints that Corstopitum may have had some sub-Roman existence after the close of the 4th century, and the fact that the names of Corstopitum and Luguwallium (Carlisle) alone of all the Roman sites in Northumberland and Cumberland are still partly incorporated in the modern names of the sites is suggestive. Corchester was the name attached to the site of Corstopitum, and the Anglian *chester* of the one gives place to the Celtic *caer* of the other. W.P.H.

Books Received

- THE ANCIENT BRIDGES OF WALES AND WESTERN ENGLAND, by E. Jervoise. *Architectural Press, 9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.* 1. 1936. pp. XII, 180, 91 *illus.* 6s 6d.
- YORK MINSTER AND NEIGHBOURING ABBEYS AND CHURCHES, by Gordon Home. *J. M. Dent, 10-13 Bedford Street, W.C.* 2. 1936. pp. 192, numerous *illustrations.* 2s. 6d.
- ANCIENT BURIAL-MOUNDS OF ENGLAND, by L. V. Grinsell. *Methuen, 36 Essex Street, W.C.* 2. 1936. pp. XII, 240. 24 *plates*, 11 *text-plans.* 12s 6d.
- THE NORMANS IN GLAMORGAN GOWER AND KIDWELI, by Lewis D. Nicholl. *Cardiff: William Lewis, 39 Penarth Road.* 1936. pp. 208. 8s 6d.
- PARISH CHURCHES OF NORFOLK AND NORWICH, by C. J. W. MESSENT. *Norwich: H. W. Hunt, 14 Orford Hill.* 1936. pp. 298. 7s 6d.
- NIEUWE DRENTSCHE VOLKSALMANAK, 1936. *Assen: Van Gorcum and Co.*
- MEDIEVAL INDIAN SCULPTURE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM, by Ramaprasad Chanda. *Kegan Paul and Co., 68 Carter Lane, E.C.* 4. 1936. pp. XIV, 78, 24 *plates.* 10s 6d.
- THE ROMAN INVASIONS: A SAGA OF THE CALEDONIAN RACE, by Laurence O. Pitblado. *George Allen, Museum Street, W.C.* 1. 1935. pp. 160, *with maps.*