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that Sir James Ramsay's full and temperate treatment of the subject should be. The citations from Stubbs to illustrate the problem of scutage (p. 42) are unfortunate, and in view of the following quotation from McKechnie, superfluous; reference to Round, Maitland, and Baldwin would have been more to the point. In his use of proper names Sir Archibald shows an irritating disregard alike of ordinary usage and self-consistency—thus he uses Roncaille and Roncaglia, Gaufrid and Geoffrey, Waldeve and Waltheof indifferently, and surely it is rather late in the day to be writing of Benedictus Abbas and Matthew of Westminster. Misprints, not of a very serious character, occur on pp. 16, 32, 33, 95, 109, 138, 302; on p. 21, line 18, *nostrī protectionis* should probably be *nostra protectione*; on p. 232, line 20, an *eo* seems to be wanted, and on p. 249, for Julius, read Lucius.

There is a copious index and the book is well printed on light paper that makes it pleasant to hold.

GAILLARD THOMAS LAPSLEY.

*Types of Manorial Structure in the Northern Danelaw.* By F. M. STENTON. *Customary Rents.* By N. NEILSON. [Oxford Studies in Social and Legal History, edited by Professor PAUL VINOGRADOFF, volume II.] (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1910. Pp. iv, 96; 219.)

THE two papers included in this second volume of the scholarly series edited by Professor Vinogradoff refer to a period that lies midway between the two essays in the earlier volume. One of those papers concerned itself with the later Roman Empire, the other with the eve of the Reformation. These belong in the Middle Ages proper. They are on closely allied topics. Although one purports to be a description of certain types of rural organization in northern England, the other an explanation of various customary rents paid by tenants, they reduce themselves alike to studies in the terminology used in the records of medieval manors.

Such studies are very laborious to the writer, but most useful to other students. They require minute and prolonged investigation, skill in analysis and comparison, and a sustained enthusiasm to carry through what must at best be a meagrely rewarded task. And yet such accurate studies lie at the basis of all subsequent constructive work, if the work is to be solidly founded. It was the great distinction of the late Professor Maitland that he performed both functions with equal effectiveness. It can hardly be considered derogatory to Mr. Stenton to say that he does not show a skill in presentation or a power of imagination that gives his work great constructive value, and that it must be estimated on the basis of its contribution to our knowledge of detailed facts.

The "Danelaw" to which he refers is the six modern counties of York, Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, and Rutland. In this region the author makes a careful study of the meaning and connotations of the terms, "berewick" and "soke", as used in Domesday and

other early documents, and finds marked differences from the social conditions characteristic of other parts of England. The classes of men and their duties, as described in the *Rectitudines*, for instance, which probably refers to southern England, bear no real or close correspondence to what is found in the Danelaw. The second part of Mr. Stenton's essay is devoted more particularly to the meaning of the word "manor" itself as used in his district, or in varying senses in different parts of his district, and there is much of suggestive interest in his analysis, though it can hardly be even summarized here. In their bearing on the greater problems of early English history, Mr. Stenton's researches seem, to the reviewer at least, clearly to look toward the greater rather than the less freedom of the peasantry in earlier times; and to minimize the influence of the Norman conquest, except as it hastened and somewhat modified changes already in progress.

No living student probably is better fitted to compile a glossary of manorial terms such as forms the second paper in this volume than Miss Neilson. Her former studies of the manors of Ramsey Abbey, and others, were marked by insight and power of comparison, as well as tireless industry, and this enumeration of various kinds of customary "rents" paid by medieval manorial tenants shows the same qualities, and is drawn from an astonishingly large group of sources, printed and manuscript. The word "rents" as applied to these varied payments, however convenient, seems to us unwise. The modern suggestion of that word is entirely different, laying stress rather on simplicity than on diversity of payment; nor as a medieval term has it that recognized technical meaning. The almost infinite variety of manorial payments cannot, as this essay proves, be simplified by applying a single name to them. Apart from this general name, however, we have in this list the first extended, inclusive, and authoritative classification and definition of these terms, and it will be of the greatest service in manorial study. Some six or seven hundred such terms are defined, or at least discussed. Many of these innumerable forms of "silver", "penny", "gavel", "Scot", "bote", and "geld" are doubtless the same payments under different names, but even with this deduction their number and variety are striking. Miss Neilson, in addition to defining them as far as possible as they are used in contemporary documents, has introduced some degree of simplicity into the mass by classifying them according to their origin, as payments made primarily to the landlord, to the king and the Church, and subordinately to this, according as they arose from the agricultural duties, the servile status, the duties of purveyance, church responsibility, piety, contract, or other source. As a result there are few aspects of the life of a medieval peasant that do not come under review as a result of this enumeration.

E. P. CHEYNEY.