

as men and women—into places which had previously been little more than villages as regards their municipal organization. The war on the trade unions is examined in some detail, and the final chapters of the book are devoted to an analysis of the mental attitude of the rich—the old and the new rich—toward the victims of the industrial system and of the mental attitude of the poor toward the conditions of their own life. Like *The Village Labourer* by the same authors, published in 1911, this volume is intensely interesting and of great value as a contribution to the history of the English common people.

*The English Village*, by Julia Patton (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1918; x, 236 pp.), will be welcomed by students of social problems and of the development of what is sometimes called “the social spirit.” Although primarily “a literary study”, in that the raw material is found in the writings in prose and verse which picture village life and village character in England from 1750 to 1850, the author’s interest is less in literary origins and developments than in the “chapter in the social history of England” which is unconsciously spread upon the record through the medium of imaginative literature. The village of literature changed markedly in the course of the century that is studied, reflecting both the actual changes in social and economic conditions which were in progress and the growing knowledge and sympathy on the part of the public. “By 1850 it was no longer a place of idyllic beauty and charmed life, where ‘strong Labour’ and ‘contented Virtue’ dwelt in unbroken peace; it had become a real flesh-and-blood, stone-and-timber village, still beautiful, still quiet and rose-embowered, but the abode of people whose lives encompassed both happy and sad in a range of experience normal to human life everywhere.” As this development is followed by Miss Patton through the multitude of writings which she seems to know with an unusual intimacy—by many an obscure verse-maker as well as by Crabbe and Goldsmith and Cowper and others more familiar—a fresh and poignant sense is aroused of the widespread hardship among the agricultural classes in the period between 1760 and 1830, of their hatred of the work-house and their horror of the poor-house, of the increase of the pauper population under the allowance system and of many other features of the social and economic history of the century.

The title of Lord Prothero’s book, *English Farming: Past and Present* (second edition, London, Longmans, Green and Company, 1917; xv, 504 pp.), is not sufficiently inclusive. It fails to indicate, or even to suggest, many topics in English agrarian history with which the book deals. Lord Prothero has, in fact, given us a compre-

hensive account of English agriculture from the time of the manorial system to the eve of the great war, so complete and thorough that it is impossible to suggest any aspect of farming or of rural economy which it does not discuss. In narrating the history of English agriculture during six centuries, the author describes the evolution of rural England and traces the changing relations of social classes to each other. The book, furthermore, supplements the histories of modern English industry, describing the exodus from town to country of men who had accumulated wealth in commerce or in manufacture and the effects of this on rural economy. In showing how the industrial revolution affected English farming and how the enclosure of the commons added to the labor supply in the factory towns, Lord Prothero makes a new and valuable contribution to the history of industrial England. This is a book which cannot be ignored by any student of English history who is interested in the disappearance of the old open-field system of agriculture, the rise and economic fortunes of the governing territorial class, the history of land tenures, the relations of tenants and landlords, the operation of the corn laws from the middle ages to 1846, or the old poor law as it affected rural England.

Some twenty-five subjects are discussed by Mr. J. H. Balfour Browne, K.C., in *Recollections, Literary and Political* (London, Constable and Company, 1917; vi, 311 pp.). Several of them are of interest to students of English politics of the pre-war period. The essay on "Politics and Parties" has a distinct value from this standpoint. So has the essay on "Humor at Elections". In particular the discussion of socialism and syndicalism is worthy of mention in view of Mr. Browne's long acknowledged position at the English bar.

For a volume of collected papers—there are nineteen contributors—*Experts in City Government* (New York, D. Appleton and Company, 1919; xvi, 363 pp.), edited by E. A. Fitzpatrick, exhibits an unusual degree of homogeneity, if not of systematic discourse. This is due in part, no doubt, to the fact that most of the papers are not reprints but were written specifically for the book. There is as usual wide variation in the merits of the several contributions. There is also not a little contradiction in respect to facts and points of view. For example, Mr. Pollock concludes (page 85). "that the independent boards whose membership is non-salaried and overlapping, have been one of the biggest single influences in developing expert service in municipal administration", while Dr. Beard thinks (page 341) "not that the lay board should be utterly rejected, but that reliance upon it