

what irritating to the ordinary reader, is doubtless intended as a little useful practice in these languages, otherwise they might possibly suggest a little affectation in the users of them. It is always to be remembered, however, that the book is intended to be profitable rather than entertaining, although it is by no means destitute of the latter quality, a fact for which we can vouch from experience and observation. Perhaps we can best illustrate its general character by the following extract, premising that archæology is evidently the author's strong point. Elise the '*chroniclerin*' *loquitur* :

'These fair domains,' said Elise, 'of which Naworth is the baronial seat, have been in the possession of four Border families, and have descended three times by female inheritance. Henry II. bestowed the Gilsland barony upon Hubert de Vallibus or de Vaux, of Tryermain. Maud de Vaux, heiress of her family, married Thomas de Multon, of Asker-ton, thus uniting the estates of the two families. Maud de Multon brought the estates to the Dacres, whose seat was Dacre Castle, now used as a farm-house.

'This once powerful family had their name from exploits of an ancestor at the siege of Acre, during the Crusades in the time of Cœur de Lion; the name was originally written D'Acre. The last Lord Dacre was killed when a boy, leaving three sisters joint heiresses, and the estates and titles again descended by female inheritance. The second sister died; Anne, the eldest, married Philip, Earl of Arundel, and Elizabeth, his brother, Lord William Howard, "Belted Will," the sons of that Duke of Norfolk who was be-headed by Queen Elizabeth for the attempt to release and marry Mary Stuart. The estates were for many years forfeited to the crown; after long delay they were restored—the baronies of Burgh and of Greystock were given to Arundel, and the barony of Gilsland to Lord William Howard; but even after this judgment was given in favour of the heiresses, possession was withheld for several years, and poor Arundel never enjoyed his position; he was imprisoned eight years, and finally died by poison.'

From this specimen it will be seen how richly the book is stored with information calculated to give a warmer interest in visiting the places described, although the enthusiastic young reader must be warned that travelling companions so high-toned, accomplished, and universally informed as Mr. Hopetoun, Elise, Fred, and 'Artist Annie,' are by no means to be met with every day. Perhaps it is as well, as their superior culture is occasionally just a little oppressive. The following little scrap of conversation, also from the encyclopædic Elise, might change places with the passage from Goldsmith quoted by the

mouse or the griffin, we forget which, in 'Alice in Wonderland' :—

'They are descended from Gôspatrie, Earl of Northumberland,' said Elise, 'who was related through his mother with Gôspatrie the Great, and a daughter of his house married one of the Christian family so prominent in the Isle of Man. Gôspatrie the Great was a descendant of King Ethelred through his mother Elgiva, daughter of that King; the family was connected with the Nevilles, and Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmoreland, was the common ancestor of three Queens, Catharine Parr, Mary Stuart, and Elizabeth Tudor.'

After this specimen of the erudition of Canadian young ladies, who will venture to assert that 'higher education' is neglected among us?

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