

PLATE XXXVI



FLORENCE ELIZABETH HARMER

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1890-1967

FLORENCE ELIZABETH HARMER was born at Mitcham, Surrey, on 14 May 1890, the elder daughter of Horace Alfred Harmer and Harriett Frances Butler. Her father, who was engaged in the export trade with South Africa and Rhodesia, soon brought his family to Stamford Hill, North London, and there Florence spent her childhood. She attended the City of London School for Girls, from which she went to Girton College in 1908 with a college scholarship. She read for the Medieval and Modern Language Tripos—in those days a separate English Tripos did not exist—and was placed in the First Class both in 'Mays' in 1910 and in the Tripos in 1911. Simultaneously, since this was before a Cambridge Tripos gave to a woman even the title of a degree, she took an external London B.A. Honours degree, obtaining a Second Class. She studied French as well as English, and she never lost her interest in French language and literature, and always enjoyed visiting France. The English syllabus included papers in Old and Middle English, and Florence stayed on a fourth year at college to take what was known as Section B, which consisted of more advanced Old English, and of Old Norse. In this examination also, in 1912, she obtained a First Class. During this final year she worked with a group of very keen students, most of whom made a name later in Anglo-Saxon or Norse studies; they included Nora Kershaw (later Mrs. Chadwick), Margaret Ashdown, Daisy Keatch (later Mrs. Martin Clarke), and Bruce Dickins. From him I gather that, though it was not until 6 October 1912 that Professor Walter Skeat died, to be succeeded as Elrington and Bosworth Professor of Anglo-Saxon by H. M. Chadwick on 26 November, most of the study of Old English and Old Norse was done under the latter; but I believe that Florence Harmer also attended classes given by Dr. Anna C. Paves, my own former teacher, a distinguished philologist and an excellent teacher.

Florence, though little given to reminiscence, always seemed to look back with pleasure on her Cambridge days, and to maintain an affection for Girton College. It is reported that she was rather reserved and shy at that time, mainly interested in her

work, but she did take a prominent part in running what was called 'The Yellow Back Library', which aimed at providing a supply of novels and other light reading. Throughout her life she never lost this interest in contemporary literature. The quality of her work was recognized by the college with the award of prizes in 1910 and 1912, and of a fourth-year Higgins Scholarship in 1911; and in 1912 she was awarded a college research studentship, which enabled her to stay on in Cambridge and begin to work under Professor Chadwick's supervision on the charters which she published in 1914 with the title *Select English Historical Documents of the Ninth and Tenth Centuries*.

This subject was suggested by Professor Chadwick, who already in Professor Skeat's time had begun to widen the scope of Anglo-Saxon studies in Cambridge from too exclusive a preoccupation with philology and with literary texts so as to include historical studies. He had realized that one of the big gaps in Anglo-Saxon studies was the lack of good editions of the vernacular charters, and Florence Harmer was the first of his students whom he set to the task of supplying this need.

Few charters of the pre-Conquest period, Latin or Old English, had been edited with an apparatus adequate for their criticism and interpretation. The great exception was the edition by A. S. Napier and W. H. Stevenson of *The Crawford Collection of Early Charters and Documents*, in 1895; only three vernacular documents were included in this. This book supplied later editors with an excellent model, and it would be hard to give higher praise to any edition than the comment of a reviewer of Florence Harmer's book, that she maintained the standards of Napier and Stevenson. Her edition consists of twenty-three documents of considerable variety, and includes some of very great interest, such as the wills of King Alfred and King Eadred; the agreement of Ethelred of Mercia and Æthelflæd with Werferth, Bishop of Worcester, about the fortification of Worcester; a remarkable letter to Edward the Elder which sheds light on King Alfred's legal decisions and on his reputation; and some accounts of litigation which are important for social as well as legal history. She provided accurate texts and sound translations; working through all surviving charter and chronicle material, she was able to date more accurately some of the texts; she provided for the first time a number of correct identifications of place-names, at a time when little reliable work on this subject was available,

and when it was usually necessary to collect the forms of the names and trace the history of the estates in order to establish their identity; and she was able to go beyond the dictionaries in her interpretation of some words. As reviewers pointed out, the notes were a valuable part of the book, for they showed a remarkable range of both historical and linguistic knowledge; many of these notes are still the best brief accounts on a number of topics. Her book has stood the test of time so well that when I included several of the same texts in my *English Historical Documents* in 1955, or in my revision of *Sweet's Reader* in 1967, I found that the long intervening period had added remarkably little; and when one remembers that she was working without the help of important contributions published by scholars such as J. Armitage Robinson and F. M. Stenton after 1914, one grasps more fully the extent of her achievement. The value of the book was immediately realized—by Dr. A. C. Paues, among others, writing in the *Girton Review*—and it was praised for its learning, accuracy, and good judgement. W. J. Sedgefield, however, noted with disapproval that her notes were 'frequently hesitating and inconclusive'—not altogether without reason, for she tended to put queries after identifications which were undoubtedly correct, and at times to state the views of other scholars without letting it be seen where she stood herself. It is hardly a vice to refrain from over-confident statement, especially in a young scholar; yet Professor Sedgefield had put his finger on a characteristic which she never completely outgrew, a caution and over-modesty which sometimes led her to express her views too tentatively and to claim less than her evidence warranted. This same modesty, an essential part of her character, made her, in later years at any rate, reluctant to initiate a line of action, though she could be a stout supporter of others whose views she shared.

This book was produced within two years. Between 1914 and her taking up of a lectureship in English Language and Literature in the University of Manchester in the Lent term of 1920, she taught English and French in various schools, from 1914 to 1917 at the Central Secondary School, Sheffield, from October to December 1917 at the King Edward VI High School for Girls, Birmingham, and from January 1918 to December 1920 at the Streatham Hill High School. One may surmise that she took those positions while waiting for an opportunity to do academic work. She appears never to have spoken to her later friends about these years of school teaching, but that means

little, for she very rarely spoke about herself at any period, not merely because of a modest reticence, but also because she was always so keenly interested in the present, and had such a lot of other things to talk about, that there was no time for personal reminiscence. I have come across two brief, mainly descriptive, reviews by her in the *Modern Language Review* during these years, one on A. R. Benham, *English Literature from Widsith to the Death of Chaucer*, in 1917, and one on Hubert Ord, *London shown by Shakespeare, and other Shakespearian Studies*, in 1918.

The whole of her academic teaching career was in Manchester, from 1920 until her retirement in 1957. She was made a Senior Lecturer in 1949 and a Reader in 1955. In 1964 the University of Manchester paid tribute to her services and to the honour which the distinction of her work had brought to it by awarding her an Honorary Doctorate of Letters.

Former students tell me that she was an excellent teacher, sound and stimulating, who lectured well, with great clarity and straight reasoning. She expected them to work. One of them writes of 'her galloping energy', and adds: 'However hard we tried, we could never keep pace with her, but her energy caused us to make greater efforts, week by week. She set us an objective, even though we could not reach it, and she made us desire to reach it.' Some of her students stood in awe of her, but all respected her integrity and fairness, and she aroused the affection of those who came to know her best. Her students were aware that her own work engaged much of her interest, often taking her away from Manchester, and that she had little time for trivialities, but they never felt neglected. She was warmly interested in them as persons, a stout defender of their interests, ready to help and advise in cases of trouble.

It is likely that, like many of us, she had to give most of her time in her first two or three years as a lecturer in deepening her knowledge of the subjects she had to teach. In 1923, however, she consented to take over the task of completing an edition which had been begun by E. Classen, which appeared in 1926 in their joint names as *An Anglo-Saxon Chronicle from British Museum, Cotton MS., Tiberius B. IV*. This work had been planned in accordance with a scheme devised by W. P. Ker, to produce 'a simple plain text with a minimum of notes, apparatus and preliminary matter, but with such help to the student as a short introduction and a careful glossary could give'. It is implicit in T. F. Tout's preliminary note that Florence Harmer

was not in full sympathy with this plan, and she confirmed this to me in later years. In this she was right. This version of the Chronicle, usually cited as 'D', deserved a much fuller treatment, and an edition without extensive notes to bring out the peculiar features of this version could be only of limited value. Had she been allowed to supply the desirable apparatus, she would doubtless have seen that this version supplied the key to the advance of the study of the Chronicle beyond where it had been left by Plummer. She had seen the lines on which further investigations should proceed, for years later, when I was working on these problems, she spoke with some appreciation of an article by Sir Henry Howorth in *Archaeological Journal*, lxi (1912), which, though not acceptable in its entirety, had realized Plummer's failure to pay adequate attention to the possibility of conflation of versions of the text. She was herself inclined to dismiss Classen's and her edition as of small account; but in this she was unfair to it. Since it supplies an accurate text of an important manuscript, some sensible emendations of corruptions, a good glossary, and a reliable list of place-name identifications, it is a useful book, as was recognized by the few persons who reviewed it.

Perhaps it should not be regretted that she was prevented from handling this text as she would have wished, for this might have deflected her from her scheme to produce a corpus of Anglo-Saxon writs, which was to be her major contribution to learning. Lady Stenton tells me that she came to Reading on 26 June 1926 to discuss this project with Sir Frank. She probably talked it over with Professor Chadwick about this time, on a visit to Cambridge, when through the good offices of Mrs. Chadwick I first made her acquaintance. She was very kind to me as a shy young research student, though I recollect that she put some searching questions about my work on Anglo-Saxon wills, which was then in progress.

To collect all the extant Anglo-Saxon writs and publish them in an adequate edition was a very big undertaking, and it involved much travel in search of all the surviving copies. She was single-minded in applying almost all the time she could spare from her teaching work to this task, very rarely letting herself be deflected from it by publishing articles or by writing reviews. In 1936 she published in the *English Historical Review*, li, 'Three Westminster Writs of Edward the Confessor'. These writs had never been printed before, and contained matters of interest, such as the mention of a 'churchwright', Teinfrith; he

was presumably connected with the building of Westminster Abbey, and she argues convincingly for the continental origin of his name. In the careful notes which she supplies, and in the acumen and sound sense with which she examines the problems of authenticity and of the relationship of these writs to other Westminster documents, we get a foretaste of the quality which distinguishes her later big work on writs.

In her early work, *Select English Historical Documents*, the choice of texts had meant that she was not brought face to face with the problem of authenticity to any great extent. Whether or not she was aware of Sir Frank Stenton's dictum in *Folk-Lore*, xvi (1905): 'It is a pretty safe rule that a land-book should be regarded as spurious until it has been proved to be genuine', she was careful to note any discrepancies in the indications of date in those Latin charters to which she referred and to record that a text was starred by Kemble or suspected by W. H. Stevenson; but she did not add views of her own either in confirmation or in refutation of these suspicions. But by 1936 she was much more concerned with the establishment of authenticity, and, of course, was familiar with the various works in which Sir Frank Stenton had illustrated the proper methods of dealing with charter material. In 1938 she made an important contribution to the study of Anglo-Saxon diplomatic in an amusing article in the *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, called 'Anglo-Saxon Charters and the Historian', which was occasioned by the fear that some false statements in J. E. A. Joliffe's *Constitutional History of Medieval England* (1937), based on mis-translation of vernacular texts or on uncritical acceptance of dubious documents, should receive a wide currency. Yet the article is more than a demonstration of individual errors and mis-statements, for it begins with a valuable, lucid exposition of the criteria for assessing the authenticity of vernacular documents, which had far too often been taken for granted. She makes clear the degree of familiarity with the Old English language, especially with the usages of charter Old English, and with the later developments of the language, that is necessary before linguistic criteria can safely be applied, and she illustrates the importance of studying what was 'common form' in the royal secretariat. Not long after this article she criticized A. J. Robertson's *Anglo-Saxon Charters* both in the *Girton Review* (1939) and in the *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research* (1940-1) for its failure to pay due attention to the question of the authenticity of the charters edited or referred to in the notes. She admitted,

however, that 'the editing of Anglo-Saxon charters is a task of great difficulty and complexity', and expressed appreciation of the many good qualities of Miss Robertson's edition.

She contributed an article to the volume of studies which was begun in 1945 in honour of Professor Chadwick by a group of his former students and, after his death in January 1947, dedicated to his memory and published in 1950 as *The Early Cultures of North-West Europe*, edited by Sir Cyril Fox and Bruce Dickins. This article, '*Chipping and Market: a lexicographical investigation*', is in part a by-product of her preoccupation with the problem of authenticity of alleged pre-Conquest documents, for some claims regarding the use of these terms in Old English had been based on dubious texts. With characteristic modesty, she says that her main concern is with terminology, but it is obvious that with equally characteristic thoroughness she has studied all the English and continental evidence relating to markets, fairs, tolls, and trade in general, and has brought together a lot of information of value to the economic historian.

As her presidential address to the Viking Society for Northern Research she spoke on 'The English Contribution to the Epistolary Usages of Early Scandinavian Kings', and this was published in the *Saga-Book* of the society, 1949-50. Like the article just mentioned, this shows the tremendous thoroughness and range with which she investigated any subject even remotely connected with the writs. Once again, her claims are modest; she says: 'I have merely attempted to provide a basis for further investigation and study.' But what she has provided is a detailed account of the use of seals in western Europe and of the devices, especially that of the ruler enthroned in majesty, employed on seals used in England and Scandinavia, as well as an important discussion of the influence of English diplomatic practices on Scandinavia, seen on a background of the general history of the relations between these countries. She argues with probability that the earliest known Danish royal seal, that of King Cnut the Saint, is descended from a lost seal of Cnut the Great. The interest of this study goes beyond that of English diplomatic, though it is of importance for this.

These articles gave an indication of the great range and depth of the work she was all this time putting into her edition of the writs. She was not free to give undisturbed attention to this. In addition to her lecturing, teaching, and examining in Manchester—not to mention the additional strains and labours of the war years—she was in demand as an external examiner in

other universities, including London (1948-52); and she was generous in giving time to answering the queries of research workers who consulted her. She became more and more involved in various learned societies. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 1939, and used to come up to London to some of its meetings; she was regular in her attendance at the annual meeting of the English Place-Name Society, which she had joined as early as 1924, almost at its inception; after her election to the Society of Antiquaries in 1948 she was fairly frequently present at its meetings; she served on the Council of the Philological Society from 1942 to 1951, and was President of the Viking Society for Northern Research from 1948 to 1951. She greatly appreciated the contacts with other scholars which these visits to London gave her, but they were a drain on her time. Another cause of delay in the appearance of her book on writs was her meticulous conscientiousness, which caused her to check and re-check, and to reconsider conclusions previously arrived at. She continued this process even when the work was in proof; in her zeal for absolute accuracy she was ready to alter in a way that seemed to me reckless, sometimes for very minor gain. One had to convince her that the value of a suggested alteration was questionable, before she would let what she had written stand. This meant that the book took some time in going through the press.

Though some of us waited with impatience, when *Anglo-Saxon Writs* appeared in 1952, the wisdom of her refusal to be hurried was manifest. This book was, as Professor F. Mossé says, 'une véritable édition monumentale'. Sir Frank Stenton refers to it in his *Latin Charters of the Anglo-Saxon Period* as 'an edition which from whatever standpoint it may be regarded is a model of its kind'. Several reviewers used the word 'definitive'. The book gives a completely reliable text and translation of a set of documents of immense importance for assessing the quality of the administration of the later Saxon kings. Dr. H. M. Cam wrote in the *Girton Review* that previously 'no full-scale attempt had been made to set the Anglo-Saxon writ firmly in its place among the instruments of English government'. Yet it is far more than a definitive edition: it is an important contribution to the science of diplomatic, and its introduction, in addition to containing a skilful treatment of the problems of authenticity, and accounts of the history of the writ, of its relation to the diploma, of the methods and personnel of the royal secretariat, and of judicial and financial rights conferred

by writs, includes an excellent study of the intellectual background of the later Anglo-Saxon period. The book is also a positive storehouse of precise information on all manner of topics, both in the sections introducing the writs of individual religious houses and in the notes, while the list of Biographical Notes is a piece of exact scholarship of which the usefulness cannot be overvalued. Perhaps only those who have worked long on the sources of this period can fully appreciate the vast amount of labour that lies behind these succinct little biographies. It is therefore not only the authoritative work on writs; it is an indispensable reference book for the historian, linguist, literary historian, and diplomatic scholar.

This work brought her well-deserved recognition: she was awarded the degree of Doctor of Letters in the University of Cambridge in 1953; she was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1955 and awarded its Sir Israel Gollancz Prize in 1957; she was appointed a Reader in the University of Manchester in 1955; and she was made an Honorary Fellow of Girton College in 1957.

Apart from reviews, she published only one piece of work after *Anglo-Saxon Writs*, namely an article in the volume of studies presented to Bruce Dickins on his seventieth birthday, *The Anglo-Saxons: Studies in some Aspects of their History and Culture*, edited by Peter Clemons, in 1959. In this article, 'A Bromfield and a Coventry Writ of King Edward the Confessor', she edits two writs which had escaped her net earlier, handling them with the mastery and the grasp of all relevant material which we had come to expect from her. The Bromfield writ, the only surviving writ relating to Shropshire, gives interesting information on an Anglo-Saxon 'minster' of secular canons, but its text is corrupt, and no one else could have emended it so successfully; the Coventry writ, of which she had only known a Latin version previously, is shown by this vernacular version to be, as she had surmised, genuine, and it lends itself for comparison with the forged charters of this house discussed in the *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, xxvii (1954), by Miss Joan C. Lancaster, who called Dr. Harmer's attention to this modernized version of an Old English writ.

Though she published no other studies after 1952, she was by no means idle. She held her Readership in Manchester until 1957 and continued to act as external examiner, even after her retirement, when she examined for the University of Bristol from 1959 to 1960, and for that of Cambridge in 1962. She also

continued to attend the meetings and functions of the British Academy and of various societies. From 1960 to 1963 she was a member of the Council of the Royal Historical Society and of its Library and Publications Committee, and from 1963 to 1966 she served on the Committee of the Ecclesiastical History Society, of which in 1961 she had become a foundation member. During all this time she was an active reviewer.

As long as she was engaged on the writs, she rarely accepted books for review, but between 1952 and 1957, the year of her retirement, she reviewed a dozen books, and, after this time, twenty-two. Taken as a whole, they make a useful contribution to Anglo-Saxon studies. She was fair-minded, quick to recognize quality and express appreciation. She never wrote to display erudition or cleverness, and they are often short. But she was very conscientious in examining closely the work under review, not taking its accuracy for granted, and her judgement was shrewd. She could see when some insecurely based idea was becoming accepted owing merely to repetition, as when she warns against the view that the West Riding was part of Mercia in the time of Penda and after, or that William the Conqueror's writs written in English must of necessity be dated early in his reign. A very valuable feature in many of her reviews is an admirable, succinct account of previous work on the subject, so as to put the new work in its proper setting. While unstinting in praise of sound additions to knowledge, she was careful to ensure that previous writers should not be robbed of credit due to them. Few persons were so well equipped to perform this service over so wide a range of subjects; she reviewed works on general Anglo-Saxon history, on Chronicle studies, on Anglo-Latin authors, on numismatics, on runes, on place-names, on manuscripts, and, of course, on charters.

Though I only came to know Florence Harmer really well after about 1942, my impressions of her personality have received confirmation from several persons who knew her also in her earlier days. She struck one as essentially a stable person, with firm convictions and strong loyalties, but free from dogmatism. She was a churchwoman, who supported her parish church at Withington and later at Pinner. She was devoted to her family, deriving great pleasure and support from their society throughout her life. One of her nephews has told me that she was a wonderful aunt, able to enter into their interests at all stages; he recalled childhood treats, travels with her in France later on, patient help with the mysteries of Latin and

German, and continued interest in their careers and in their families. She was a social and warm-hearted person, though undemonstrative. Some of her students have written to me about her keen personal interest in them, her tactful understanding of their social and other problems, and her generosity with time, encouragement, and practical help; and several colleagues have expressed similar appreciation of her readiness to help them in work and other matters, and especially of her kindness to younger members and her gentleness with those lacking in self-confidence. She often made newcomers to the University of Manchester feel welcome; for many years—until rationing made it difficult—colleagues tended to congregate over mid-morning tea in her room, which thus provided a much-needed centre for departmental intercourse. She was a staunch friend to many people; one could always rely on her for sympathy and understanding, for sound advice and honest criticism. She was generous with financial help to friends or students in any difficulty, and a close friend has told me that she denied herself many things in order to help others.

Sound common sense, and a trenchant sense of humour, helped to make her excellent company, at least among those with whom she felt at ease. Yet she could be formidable, for she had a sharp eye for foibles and an astringent tongue, and had little patience with persons she thought arrogant or affected. She was a modest person, reticent about her own achievements and concerns, and any expression of appreciation seemed to cause her surprise as well as pleasure. A certain element of self-distrust showed itself in an over-anxiety in matters of administration, and may have helped to create her dislike of this.

To those who knew her well, one of the most striking things about her was her zest, a robustness both of mind and body, an infectious enjoyment of the good things of life. She had a wide range of interests. She was a voracious reader of modern literature, newspapers, and journals, and she took delight in art and all beautiful objects, though she did not collect such things. She was a keen traveller, having begun to visit Belgium, Switzerland, and Germany in early days with her family, and later going abroad almost every year, especially to Italy, her favourite country. She travelled much in Britain also, and a friend who sometimes accompanied her speaks of the amazing amount of information she had of art and architecture, antiquities, country houses and their families, and of wild flowers. This intellectual vitality was accompanied almost to the end of her

life by remarkable physical vigour and strength. In her early days at Manchester she was fond of dancing, badminton, and tennis. She was a keen gardener and a tireless walker. Even when she was nearing seventy she would refuse my offer of a taxi and set off from Newnham to the station, cheerfully carrying a suitcase and an armful of books, declaring: 'But I like to walk through Cambridge.' In fact, I can most easily visualize her as laden with books or parcels or luggage and seeming unhampered by them, and one of her Manchester friends describes her arrival in the war years, carrying great packets of paper, huge tomes, her typewriter, and a generous contribution to the weekly rations. I used to wonder at the energy which brought her from Manchester to London, leaving at some very early hour, and returning the same evening; even the discomforts of war-time travel did not prevent her from making this journey, sometimes to pay a lecturer the compliment of hearing his (or her) lecture.

She gave the impression of having made a serene life for herself in retirement, taking pleasure in her house and garden at Pinner, where she was not far from her sister's home, and making new contacts among her neighbours. She was conveniently near the station, and greatly enjoyed being able to get up to London easily, to meet her friends, to attend meetings and lectures, to visit exhibitions, and to combine these activities with shopping. Cambridge now was easy of access, and she came many times, sometimes to attend functions as an Honorary Fellow of Girton. Her time was adequately filled with her reviewing, her reading, and her dealing with the queries of those who consulted her, without her letting these activities cause any undue sense of strain or urgency. It was not until late in 1965 that her health began to fail. Several of us were concerned to see her look so ill at the January meetings of the British Academy in 1966, though she made light of it herself. On 11 November 1966 she went into hospital, and though after a few weeks she was able to return home for a few months, during which she still wrote letters to me on scholarly and other matters, the convalescence was only apparent, and she died on 5 August 1967.

Anglo-Saxon Writs will long keep her memory alive among all interested in the Anglo-Saxon period. Her death leaves a great gap in these studies, as well as in the lives of the many persons who miss her warm and generous personality.

DOROTHY WHITELOCK

LIST OF PRINCIPAL REVIEWS BY F. E. HARMER

- ANGLO-SAXON CHARTERS, ed. by A. J. Robertson, Cambridge, 1939. *Girton Review*, Michaelmas, 1939, pp. 16-18; *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, xviii, 1940-1, p. 119.
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- ENCOMIUM EMMAE REGINAE, ed. by Alistair Campbell, Camden Third series, lxxii, Royal Historical Society, London, 1949. *History*, xxxviii, 1953, p. 178.
- THE PLACE-NAMES OF CUMBERLAND, by A. M. Armstrong, A. Mawer, F. M. Stenton, and Bruce Dickins. English Place-Name Society, vols. xx, xxi, xxii, 1950-2. *Review of English Studies*, n.s. v, 1954, pp. 213-16.
- THE ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE, translated with an introduction by G. N. Garmonsway, Everyman's Library, 1953. *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, vi, 1955, pp. 98-9.
- THE ANGLO-SAXON MISSIONARIES IN GERMANY, by C. H. Talbot, London, 1954. *Ibid.* vi, 1955, pp. 230-1.
- THE PLACE-NAMES OF OXFORDSHIRE, by Margaret Gelling. English Place-Name Society, vols. xxiii, xxiv, 1953-4. *Review of English Studies*, n.s. vi, 1955, pp. 215-17.
- ENGLISH HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS c. 500-1042, ed. by Dorothy Whitelock, London, 1955. *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, vii, 1956, pp. 84-5.
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- THE PETERBOROUGH CHRONICLE, ed. by Dorothy Whitelock. Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile, 4, Copenhagen, 1954. *Review of English Studies*, n.s. viii, 1957, pp. 51-4.
- THE LATIN CHARTERS OF THE ANGLO-SAXON PERIOD, by F. M. Stenton, Oxford, 1955. *Ibid.*, pp. 176-7.
- CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS CONTAINING ANGLO-SAXON, by N. R. Ker, Oxford, 1957. *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, ix, 1958, p. 237.
- THE PETERBOROUGH CHRONICLE, 1070-1154, ed. by Cecily Clark. Oxford English Monographs, 1958. *Ibid.*, pp. 268-9.
- TEXTUS ROFFENSIS, PART I, ed. by Peter Sawyer. Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile, 7, Copenhagen, 1957. *Medium Ævum*, xxvii, 1958, pp. 179-81.
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- THE HOMILIES OF WULFSTAN, by Dorothy Bethurum, Oxford, 1957. *History*, xliv, 1959, pp. 42-3.
- FACSIMILES OF ENGLISH ROYAL WRITS TO A.D. 1100 PRESENTED TO VIVIAN HUNTER GALBRAITH, ed. by T. A. M. Bishop and P. Chaplais, Oxford, 1957. *Medium Ævum*, xxviii, 1959, pp. 76-9.
- THE EARLY CHARTERS OF ESSEX, by Cyril Hart, Leicester University Press, 1957. *Ibid.*, pp. 145-6.
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