

whatever comes from his pen is sure to be welcomed by general readers as well as by students. His chief merit lies in his thorough knowledge and comprehension of the small as well as the large facts of history, and his skill in using his vast materials in such a way as to present to the mind of the reader complete pictures and not a mere chronicle of successive events. We are made to see the peoples who eventually came to be united and known as English, in their social and industrial as well as their political life. In recent years the contributions to the history of England have been both numerous and of extraordinary merit. Many of these, and some of the most valuable, are devoted to special eras or dynasties. In this way the writers have been able to do ample justice to their subjects than they could do if they spent their time and energies upon wider themes and more extended periods of history. In illustration of this idea we may refer to Macaulay's History, to Freeman's Norman Conquest, Stubb's Constitutional History of England, to Gardiner's monographs, and to other works of the like order and scope. In the volume now before us, Mr. Green begins at the period of the first invasions of Britain by the Jutes, and brings his narrative down to the union of all England under King Egberht; that is to say, from about 449 A. D., to about 830. This is preceded by a brief sketch of "Britain and its Foes," from the time of the Roman conquest (55 B. C.) down to the Jutish invasion mentioned above. The successive chapters are entitled: The Conquest of the Saxon Shore, 449-500; Conquests of the Engle [or English], 500-570; Conquests of the Saxons, 500-577; The Settlement of the Conquerors; The Strife of the Conquerors [for supremacy], 577-617; The Northumbrian Supremacy, 617-659; The Church and the Kingdoms, 659-690; The Three Kingdoms, 690-830. This is the period—from 449 to 830—in which the foundations of the English nation were laid upon a firm basis, so firmly fixed, indeed, that the Norman conquest, a little more than two centuries later, was not able to overthrow it. That conquest enlarged the institutions and modified the civilization of England, but in no essential degree did it change the character of the great masses of the conquered people or wholly displace their institutions. It is this portion of English history which, more than any other, has been overlooked or inadequately studied. Mr. Green has done a great service by this fresh contribution. He tells the reader in a few words all that modern research, aided by a thousand new lights, has been able to discover respecting that interesting period, which he very properly calls the "Making of England." The volume is printed in excellent style, and the text is supplied with a large number of useful maps.

(Through Robert Clarke & Co.)

THE MAKING OF ENGLAND. By John Richard GREEN, M. A., LL. D.; Honorary Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford; author of "History of the English People," etc. With Maps. New York: Harper & Brothers. Pp. xxii, 434. 8vo.

This author has so established his reputation as a writer of English history, that