

THE COUNTY REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

The County Reports to the Board of Agriculture rank among the most important source works in English local and trade history as well as in the literature of agriculture. The volumes of course vary in their quality and in their emphasis as well as in their length. The best, such as those written by Arthur Young, the Board's Secretary, rise above the level of ordinary reportage and may be read as much for enjoyment as instruction. But all contain a wealth of factual detail. They tell of farming history and practice, of enclosures, drainage and the treatment of the poor, of wage rates, machinery, crop husbandry and experimentation, of the very philosophy of those who ran the English countryside during the Napoleonic wars. They also have useful comment on the role played by canals, the improvement of the roads, the factory system, and the public's changing taste in food.

David & Charles plan to reprint the majority, if not all, of the county volumes over the next few years, beginning with the three volumes listed on page 2. First, however, they are republishing William Marshall's Review and Abstract, which summarised the County Reports, in a uniform style in five volumes published in 1818.

The works are being reprinted in their entirety, though where economy can be achieved without any loss of material or clarity a very limited amount of rearrangement is being made in certain contents. For instance, some folding tables are rearranged to appear on double-page spreads within the volumes proper.

No new introductions or other material is being added to the original volumes, but eventually a new book will discuss the significance of the project as a whole together with critical comment.

STANDING ORDERS. A 20% reduction applies to standing orders for the main series of GENERAL VIEW OF THE AGRICULTURE OF . . . and this reduction also applies to the five-volume REVIEW AND ABSTRACT listed at the top of page 3 when ordered in addition to the main series. The volumes are published at two prices, with a rise approximately six months after publication. The standing order discount of 20% is off the lower price providing the standing order is effected before the date of increase of the price of individual volumes: If the standing order is effected after certain volumes have already gone to the higher price, the 20% will, of course, be off that higher price.

GENERAL VIEW

OF THE

AGRICULTURE

The first of the individual County Reports (or General View of the Agriculture of the County of) to be reprinted (in 1969) will be:

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Devon, by Charles Vancouver. 1808. 84s until 1 Jan 1970, then 105s

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Lancaster, by John Holt. 1795. 63s until 1 Jan 1970, then 84s

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk by Arthur Young. 1804. 84s until 1 Jan 1970, then 105s

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Oxfordshire, by Arthur Young. 1813. 84s until 1 Jan 1970, then 105s

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Suffolk, by Arthur Young. 1813. 84s until 1 Jan 1970, then 105s

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Worcester, by W. Pitt. 1813. 84s until 1 Jan 1970, then 105s

A number of other volumes, including all the titles by Arthur Young and Farey's famous three volumes on Derbyshire, are in active preparation, and it is planned to complete publication of the whole project at the rate of about six to ten volumes per year.

Among works already reprinted by David & Charles are several of interest to agricultural historians, such as:

English Land and English Landlords: An Enquiry into the Origin and Character of the English Land System with Proposals for its Reform. George C. Brodrick. 1881. 75s

To be published August 1969:

Neve's City and Country Purchaser and Builder's Dictionary: or, The Compleat Builders Guide. Shewing the Qualities, Quantities, Proportions, and Rates or Value of All Materials relating to Building; with the Best Method of Preparing many of them. Reprint of the second edition, originally published in 1726. Richard Neve. 63s until 1 Jan 1970, then 84s

Among other works to be reprinted are the *Second Statistical Account of Scotland*. 1845, in 16 volumes. Full details will be announced in our twice-yearly catalogue; please ask to be placed on our mailing list.

We are also reprinting the whole of the first edition of the *One inch Ordnance Survey of England and Wales*; a separate prospectus is available on request.

THE
REVIEW AND ABSTRACT
OF THE
COUNTY REPORTS
TO THE
BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
FROM THE SEVERAL
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENTS
OF ENGLAND

William Marshall

CONTENTS

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