

BLACKFRIARS

How much is clear thinking on the fundamentals of international relationships needed! No better instructor than M. Folliet, whose *Droit de Colonisation* earned him a few years ago the degree of Doctor of Thomist Philosophy at the Institut Catholique of Paris. Like his former work, his *Morale Internationale* treats in three parts, first the facts, secondly their false interpretations, lastly the Catholic solutions of the problems discussed.

As for the clarity of thought and expression, I give at random some illustrations: "The Totalitarian State claims that outside of itself nothing may exist, except by a tolerance which is revocable *ad nutum*." "The existence of fatherlands (*patries*) is a result of contingency, but not of caprice." "The sovereignty of a State consists in its power to judge as a last instance the common weal; but it can only be called absolute in the provisional sense, so that hitherto in history no international organization has been able to limit it definitively."

As a matter of fact, man has always aspired to organize humanity politically as a whole: but hitherto every such attempt has been that of one portion of humanity wanting to dominate the rest. This was the mentality of the Roman Empire towards the Barbarians, of Christendom towards the Infidels, of the White Man towards the Natives: three periods, the last of which is coming to a close before our eyes. Three periods, three failures. Hence the birth of the federal idea, of the need to organize humanity as a federation of essentially equal States, none of which is called to lord it over any other. And the League of Nations has failed just because it is based on Nationalism and not on Federalism; because it wanted to combine World Government with National Sovereignty.

The only minor criticism of the book that I venture to make is that the chapter *War and Peace* seems to me too long and not topical enough, inasmuch as it deals chiefly with a type of war which is dead and gone, and does not sufficiently concentrate on the kind of war which all countries are now so feverishly preparing.

H. C. E. ZACHARIAS.

ITALY IN THE MAKING (June, 1846—January, 1848). By G. F. H. and J. Berkeley. (Cambridge University Press; 21/-.)

The Italian Risorgimento was to a great extent the effect of an efficient propaganda and it was a natural corollary that its history should long be clouded in controversy and described by partizans. The primary value of the present volume lies in its calm, detached objectivity. It deals with the most critical eighteen months in the course of the movement; it is characterized by a patient scholarship and it presupposes the use of much fresh manuscript material

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both in the Italian libraries and in the Staats Archiv at Vienna. But its significance is derived less from the study of new sources than from the use of a new perspective for the study of the old. For it is history as a record of the past treated in terms of the past, not as a record of the past treated in terms of the present; the leaders are studied from the viewpoint of 1848 before they had the time and the opportunity to acquire their distinctive legends. Thus Pius IX appears as the most influential among the makers of a new Italy, strong with the vitality that was the secret of his charm, open and spontaneous in thought and action, yet already driven by that overburdening recognition of a dual responsibility which was first to cause and then to nullify his reforms.

Yet in spite of the careful weighing of personalities the final effect of this study is to suggest how little an individual can achieve. New Italy was created less by personal action than by the growing recognition of a fresh concept, Italy the nation. The success of the new propaganda was rendered possible by cultural factors, and economic factors may have rendered it imperative. But the unity of Italy marks the victory of an idea rather than of a race or of a cause. *Italy in the Making* is something more than the record of an Italian movement; it is also a study in the origins of the Nation State.

GERVASE MATHEW, O.P.

NOTICES

MANUAL OF PATROLOGY and History of Theology. Vol. I. By F. Cayré, A.A. Translated by H. Howitt, A.A. (Desclée et Cie, Tournai; 10 Belgas.)

An English translation of the most comprehensive and useful introduction to the work of the first Christian thinkers; a masterpiece of condensation and an indispensable book of reference, not only for the professional and amateur theologian, but for every intelligent Christian. Unique in that it combines information regarding personalities, their literary characteristics and doctrines. An unnecessary section of the Introduction on *Elementary Notions of Mystical Theology* contains several highly disputable assertions; an excessive use of italics and thick type tends to defeat its own ends. The usefulness of the book is much enhanced by a Doctrinal Index.

V. W.

PASSIO SS. PERPETUAE ET FELICITAS. Vol. I. Ed. C. J. van Beek. (Nijmegen: Dekker.)

A doctorate thesis of the Catholic University of Nijmegen, containing the *Passion* of St. Perpetua in Greek and Latin, the later Latin *Acts* in two recensions, and a long introduction discussing MSS. and editions. Vol. II will add notes on the text and