

research, as to glorify the factious policies of her heroes the Huguenots. For its high price the book is somewhat meagre, and it is only occasionally that Mrs Grew expands her account sufficiently to make one of her characters come to life. She does this with the sympathetic figure of the Protestant minister de Chambrun, and one can only wish that Mrs Grew had lived to write a far larger and more interesting book.

PAUL FOSTER, O.P.

MITRI OR THE STORY OF PRINCE DEMETRIUS AUGUSTINE GALLITZIN. By Daniel Sargent. (Longmans; \$3.50.)

This is a charming book. Mr Daniel Sargent has already given us an excellent life of St Thomas More and in this volume he has shown again his power of evocative writing and his ability to make a character live. The publishers refer to his 'rugged, pulsing, scholarly prose'; presumably by the first epithet they mean his occasional habit of using an adjective for an adverb; but apart from this minor defect the writing is admirably suited to the presentation of a delightful and inspiring character. The story opens in the Europe of the Enlightenment, with Prince Gallitzin's mother as the friend of Diderot and Goethe and there is a vivid description of aristocratic intellectual circles. In this atmosphere the young prince grew up, almost completely overshadowed by his brilliant mother who, however, on becoming a Catholic, saw to it that her children should also be taught the faith. The young prince then went on the Grand Tour which, in his case, brought him to the United States in 1792 and in that new world he discovered his own liberty of action and determined to become a priest. He became the apostle of a remote district in the Alleghanies and lived on to an advanced age to become an almost legendary figure. This is essentially the story of a priest, though of one with a romantic and unlikely origin, a most lovable, human priest, with many faults and more virtues. In this capacity he was the initiator of a great Catholic agricultural settlement in the wild district he chose as his sphere of work. The one fault one might find with this delightful biography is that it does not sufficiently describe for European readers the eventual fortunes of the community Prince Gallitzin established at his Loretto in the Alleghany Mountains in the early years of the nineteenth century, where he lived for so many years and became the patriarch and friend of a great section of the infant Church in the United States.

PAUL FOSTER, O.P.

A TREATISE ON THE NOVEL. By Robert Liddell. (Cape; 9s. 6d.)

'Fiction is the delineation of character in action', says Mr Liddell, and his *Treatise on the Novel* may be simply described as the most exact, as it is certainly the best written, treatment of that process which has yet appeared in English. Mr Liddell starts with notable advantages in a literary critic. He has an almost clinical accuracy of