

## BLACKFRIARS

ideals, are brusquely dismissed as 'pagans and enemies of Christ.' The book demands painstaking reading, for the thought is sometimes abstruse, and its expression, in translation at least, not always lucid.

V.W.

**DE EUDAIMONIA SIVE DE BEATITUDINE.** Select texts, introduction and notes by J. B. Schuster, S.J. (Rome, Gregorian University; pp. 55; Lire 4.)

A useful booklet for the student engaged with the first problem of morals, the nature of human happiness. A selection of texts from Aristotle, the Stoics, Plotinus, St. Augustine, Boëthius, St. Thomas, it is the seventh of a philosophical series published by the Gregorian which should at least help to widen the groove of the ordinary Scholastic course.

T.G.

**THE RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHY OF BARON F. VON HÜGEL.** By L. V. Lester-Garland. (Dent & Sons, Ltd.; 5/-.)

This book, published last March, deserved earlier notice, for it has an excellent purpose and will serve it excellently. The author 'seeks to draw attention to the main features of the religious philosophy of a profound and original thinker.' He is happy in the points he emphasises and in the quotations and references he gives, so that his book will be useful as an introduction to those who are not yet acquainted with Von Hügel's works, and as a reminder to those who are. Of modern writers on the Philosophy of Religion Von Hügel is certainly the most tonic. As Mr. Lester-Garland notes, he knew that the mind and soul live by contact with what is external to them, by looking outwards and upwards; self-imprisonment means degeneration, and ultimately death. All he wrote was instinct with his great sense of objective Reality. Religion, for him, 'begins with a full affirmation of Reality, is essentially affirmation of Fact, of what *is*, of what aboriginally, supremely *is*.' And because of this supreme '*otherness*' and '*isness*' of God 'the first and central act of Religion is *adoration*,' adoration of a God 'infinitely more than a mere assuager of even all men's wants.' What a fruitful application, too, he makes, in the service of Religion, of the truth that knowledge begins with the senses! Mr. Lester-Garland's book will, we hope, make better known the writings of one who, he thinks, is the only religious thinker in England in recent times who can claim to be of the same importance as Newman.

L.W.