

Book Reviews

The translator has somewhat handicapped himself by his scheme of rhymes, and though he does his task well enough to awake interest, he does not quite achieve his justification. Only in some stanzas does one feel the ease of mastery; in many of them one is perforce reminded of the 'prentice hand. For those who have served no sore apprenticeship, nor felt the need, this is a very good little souvenir to send (with best wishes for a Happy Christmas) to all beginners at the Divine Office for instance.

J.O'C.

THE ROYAL LAW. Little Chapters on Charity. By Abbot Boniface Wöhrmüller, O.S.B. Translated from the German of the sixth edition by Dom Ernest Graf, Monk of Buckfast Abbey. (Burns, Oates & Washbourne; 6/-.)

For the most part there is nothing very original in these 'Little Chapters,' but, on the other hand, there is no real need that there should be. Their subject is the daily small faults of mankind.

The real merit of the book is in the manner. Every word is direct and personal; the comments and criticisms flow from the writer's experience. The matter has been 'worked over' by one who is both gentle and observant.

There is great economy of words, and therefore the temptation is to read too fast. The same comment, of course, applies to another Ecclesiasticus, who, like this one, ended his collection of moral reflections with praise of famous men. Perhaps the famous men and women selected by Abbot Boniface serve most to increase one's great interest in the Abbot.

The translation is excellent. A very helpful book to a slow reader.

N.H.

AUGUSTINIAN MISCELLANEA. Edited by the Rev. E. A. Foran, O.S.A. (Burns, Oates and Washbourne; pp. 96; 1/6.)

The centenary of the Doctor of Grace has been celebrated all over the world, and it was a happy thought on the part of Father Foran to give us some account of the Congress at Carthage, of the meetings at Hippo and of the celebrations at Pavia, Florence, Viterbo, and Rome. Ireland and England, too, had their festivities, and various sermons preached on the occasion are given here. Two notable addresses were delivered in Ireland, one by Father Doolan, O.P., on Grace, the other by Father Mahoney, O.S.F.C., on St. Augustine the Christian