

In a letter to Tyrrell, von Hügel pleads for '... deep recollection, purification, quietness, intuition, love . . . ; not all the wit, vehemence, subtlety, criticisms, learning that you can muster (and *how* great they are!) will ever, without those, be other than ruinous to others as well as to yourself'.

Against that sombre background, the figure of the Baron stands out in all its sweetness and attractiveness, radiant with a completely selfless love of God, of our Lord and of his Church, despite a consciousness of the transient blemishes that will to some extent always mar her on this earth. 'Von Hügel was all of a piece, if any man was, and those who imagine that the increasing devotion, indeed sanctity, of his later years, with their ever greater *emphasis* on conformity with the Church and their warnings against the deviating errors of Modernism with its fatal consequences for so many, implied a decisive change of orientation within him, are mistaken.'

THOMAS CORBISHLEY, S.J.

HENRI BRÉMOND. *The Life and Work of a Devout Humanist*. By Henry Horgath. (S.P.C.K.; 13s. 6d.)

The sub-title of this book gives rise to hopes that it is to be a life of Brémond in the Brémond manner. In fact it is no more than an affectionate introduction to the life and works of the famous historian whose originality and charm have obviously won Mr Horgath's heart. But even on this basis the book is not without interest, and the numerous extracts (excellently translated) will stimulate an appetite to go to Brémond's works themselves. But if the reader should do so, I fear that he will in that case discover that Mr Horgath has neglected many things, and those not the least important. He betrays himself when, instead of going on to give a detailed analysis of volumes VII-XI of the '*Histoire Litteraire*', he writes: 'Thus the remaining books of the '*Histoire Litteraire*' form for the most part a devotional treatise of great value to those interested in this subject, but inevitably lacking in the psychological interest which commended volumes I-VI to the lovers of life and letters' (p. 137). I do not know what Brémond would have thought of such an appreciation; but even if he were not satisfied with it, he would readily have pardoned one whose work bears testimony to such a touching enthusiasm for this 'devout humanist'.

H. DE RIEDMATTEN, O.P.

JOHN CASSIAN. *A Study in Primitive Monasticism*. By Owen Chadwick. (Cambridge University Press; 15s.)

This is a well-written study, conscientious and profound without being fastidious. For a long time now Cassian has been calling for a good monograph such as the present volume. Cassian's importance