

as 'escapism'. The second sort of reader is the man who has some knowledge of the nineteenth century. He will be delighted. Lady Charlotte was supremely and triumphantly the product of her age, and knits together the golden age of Whig aristocracy with the gas-lit splendour of the new industrial feudalism, which the fashion of the last twenty-five years has so absurdly misrepresented. In her diary the reader can watch the latter in all its strength and in all its weakness. The transition from Dowlais House to Canford becomes intelligible.

Moreover this book would provide—and the consideration is illuminating—an admirable means of testing a claim to appreciate the age of Victoria. Here is a mine from which the well-read can entertain themselves by extracting a series of gobbets: 'explain and comment on the following . . .'. Among such I should place first Lady Charlotte's reaction to *Manon Lescaut* (p. 267). And coupled with it would be the threat of an unconditional gamma for any attempt to treat it in the style of the late Lytton Strachey. Or, again, if the reader can appreciate the exact connotation of the adjective 'useful' he will be able to claim with some justice that the Victorian age is not unintelligible to him.

Catholics will find the chapters on the restoration of the hierarchy highly enlightening. The predominant impression which they leave is the remoteness of the Church from English life, and it is perhaps significant that in 1951 the editor sees nothing odd in his grandmother's conviction that the prelate who was so inconveniently invited to Dowlais House by Mrs Hutchins was 'the Bishop of Merthyr'.

The book is disfigured by some bad proof-reading where Welsh place-names or words are concerned. Presumably, for instance, it was 'gosteg!' rather than 'goshcy!', which caused the miners at Dowlais to smile (p. 51). Probably the book was in the press before Miss Gregory's important article on the 'Cymreigyddion y Fenni' appeared in *Llên Cymru*; but the English reader needs explanatory notes on the significance of such figures as Lady Llanover, Tegid, Carnhuanawc and Lord Aberdare, if he is to appreciate Lady Charlotte Guest's achievement.

T. CHARLES EDWARDS.

## NOTICES

A TREATISE ON INDUCTION AND PROBABILITY. By G. H. Von Wright. (Routledge and Kegan Paul; 30s.)

We have read no book on a notoriously complex and muddled subject which proceeds with such delicate and successful confidence as does this. Anyone even moderately competent at discourse in the calculi of propositions and predicates, to which all the formal procedure sticks very close, will be able to follow most of it easily, and will find

himself enriched by so doing. The author regrets lack of application to concrete scientific examples and promises that for the future, but the lack is probably a good thing and assists the reader to follow the author on his determined way through the *logic* of induction. Matters of mathematics, psychology, metaphysics and logic are nicely and persistently discriminated, proofs are given with an adequate but no inhumane degree of formality, and history is helpfully summarised. With remarks on the value of the section on Sufficient and Necessary Conditions the reviewer is in cordial agreement.

IVO THOMAS, O.P.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA PHILOSOPHICA. 1934-1945. Edited by G. A. De Brie. Vol. I: *Bibliographia Historiae Philosophiae*. (Brussels, Editiones Spectrum; n.p.)

The two-volume *Bibliographia Philosophica* of which this, dealing with the history of philosophy, is the first, aims at removing the need to refer to numerous bibliographical publications, and even supplying their lack for the war years 1939-45. While it does not claim to be absolutely exhaustive, the range is very wide indeed. It lists full-length studies, articles and the reviews of the more important periodicals in many languages, and covers in detail not only Western philosophy from the pre-Socratics to Heidegger and Marcel, but, too, the philosophy of the East, thus embracing the whole domain and period referred to. The book is beautifully produced, its system of reference clear and ready, and its method of giving a paraphrase in parentheses, where a title is not particularly informative, most useful. It is a work which will save the learned many tedious hours, and will be a great blessing in any library.

A.S.

ANALYSIS OF SOCIETY. By Leo Silberman. (Hodge; 15s.)

Against a background of the comparatively modern study of sociology, the author explains to the reader who will take a little trouble the modern forms of social analysis, with their limitations and with the contribution they have to make to man's understanding of his life in society. The book is a marvel of conciseness, every school of thought being given a fair showing, with more than adequate references for further reading. One may single out for special praise the chapters on 'The Education of the Governing Classes', which is a penetrating critique of the recruitment and training of the higher Civil Service, and 'Methods of Social Research', which gives the reader the tools to evaluate the opinion survey which is so popular in these days.

J.F.

MILTON CRITICISM. Selections from four centuries, edited by James Thorpe. (Routledge; 21s.)

This is a typical and valuable piece of modern American scholarship. After a brief but useful introduction there are sixteen substantial extracts from all the important critics who have written about Milton, from Addison—Hanford, of course, included—to our contemporaries. It is good to see a penetrating introduction by Charles Williams reprinted here. The book is completed by sixteen briefer excerpts from other poets about Milton, although it is a romantic illusion to suppose that the poets have always wise words to say of one another. If we wish to measure the perspicacity of Mr Thorpe's selections it is only necessary to examine what he offers us from Dr Tillyard's commentary. It is Chapters III and IV of Part III of Dr Tillyard's large work on Milton; these chapters study the 'conscious and unconscious meanings' of *Paradise Lost* which is not only the heart of Dr Tillyard's Milton criticism (and therefore an excellent specimen of his work) but one of the most important modern contributions to this study. For this sort of reason Mr Thorpe has produced a first-rate source book.

THE CATHOLIC YEAR BOOK FOR 1952 (Burns Oates; 6s.) is a useful source of information, ranging from the Calendar to the composition of Roman congregations. Up to date and admirably arranged, it should be especially valuable to journalists and indeed to all who need an accurate picture of the contemporary Church.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, Dostoyevsky's great novel, now appears as a Penguin Classic, in an admirable new translation by David Magarshack (5s.). The translator's introduction provides a useful background to the novel, whose deeper meaning was never so relevant as it is today.