

Book Reviews

THE BRITISH CHURCH FROM THE DAYS OF CARDINAL ALLEN. By Father Paul, O.S.F.C. (Burns, Oates and Washbourne).

This is a compilation which should prove of great use to the historian of modern church history, for it supplies a complete list of the prelates who have, either as Vicars Apostolic or Diocesan bishops, ruled the Church in England since the days of Elizabeth. The author is to be heartily congratulated on having through his industry secured portraits of nearly all the Vicars Apostolic. We would have welcomed portraits of the English Cardinals since the Reformation and also of the auxiliary bishops, and this could have been done without unduly multiplying the illustrations of the book, seeing so many of the portraits are duplicated or even triplicated where a prelate happened to be transferred to one or two other sees. It is sixty-one years since the celebrated Anglican historian, Bishop Stubbs, of Oxford, published his 'Registrum Sacrum Anglicanum,' or Episcopal Succession in England, and if one is fortunate enough to possess this in addition to Father Paul's book he can see the complete success from Saint Augustine and his companions to Cardinal Bourne and the present hierarchy. W.G.

IN NEWNESS OF LIFE. Short Chapters on the Spiritual Life by Robert Eaton, Priest of the Birmingham Oratory, with a preface by Rt. Rev. Bishop Barrett. (Sands and Co.; 2/6.)

For busy people this is a valuable 'five-minutes book,' made up of twelve short chapters on the chief Christian virtues. As Bishop Barrett remarks in his preface, Father Eaton's readers will find 'themselves insensibly drawn, first to admiration, and then to desire of the acquisition of the simple virtues that make for true perfecting of spirit.'

The author's familiarity with, and use of, Scripture is one of the main features of the book, and it is chiefly this which makes it so admirable for its purpose.

M.S.