

thanks to his sensitive introduction, they should feel at home with St. Teresa—the mystic who was yet an indomitable woman of affairs, the gentle mother with a will of flint: “We can die, but we cannot be conquered”.

ILLTUD EVANS, O.P.

THE INTERIOR CASTLE OF THE MANSIONS. By Saint Teresa of Jesus. Done into English by a Discalced Carmelite. (Sands, 8s. 6d.).

Here is a new translation of St. Teresa's deepest mystical work, written when her interior life had attained to the fullest maturity. It traces the progress of the contemplative soul from its conversion to the heights of the Mystical Marriage. With admirable spiritual insight she describes the various stages of prayer, and her classification of meditation, recollection, Prayer of Quiet, Prayer of Union, Ecstasy and Mystical Marriage has since become universally accepted. The more is it to be regretted that the present edition falls short of the standard which a work of such importance demands. In the case of an abstruse subject such as the high mystical states described in this work an idiomatic English translation is essential, especially as St. Teresa writes a very racy and colloquial style, as is shown so convincingly in Professor Allison Peers' fine little book, *Mother of Carmel*. Possibly from a mistaken reverence for the letters of the original the translator leaves its long, involved, and often elliptic sentences as they stand, which makes them difficult to understand. The production of the book, too, leaves much to be desired; the very close print is tiring to the eye, and may it be asked why such a sentimental picture of the Saint was selected for the frontispiece? There is a curious Index at the end of the book, containing such items as these: “File . . . the devil like a muffled file”; “Jubilation . . . of Nuns in escaping from the world”; “Needs . . . God knows and supplies our n.” The present reviewer, who is a great Index fan, frankly confesses inability to see the use of these and similar entries! H.C.G.

MARJORIE AND ME. Bernard Basset, S.J. (D. Organ; 6s.).

A wise, witty and most readable collection of short stories, which will teach sound doctrine to many who would not digest it, or even touch it, under any other form. Its appearance could be more cheerful.

S.B.

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Blackfriars, March, 1946 (Vol. III, No. 25). Price 6d. if purchased separately. The Ditchling Press, Hassocks, Sussex.