

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY. By T. W. Manson, D.D. (Hodder & Stoughton; 6s.)

The Rylands Professor of Biblical Exegesis has published four lectures, of which the subject was suggested by a study of the recent Anglican symposium 'The Apostolic Ministry', edited by Dr Kirk. The present author is a Congregationalist. His aim is critical and conciliatory. He wishes to find a basis for the mutual recognition of Anglican and Free Church ministries, of the hierarchic and charismatic traditions. His attempted solution is that of acknowledging only one 'essential' ministry, that of Christ himself. All others are derived from this and are mere functions of Christ's Body, the Church. Ministries are made valid by Christ's call and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Their validity is manifested by their fruits, the 'signs of an Apostle'. The part of ecclesiastical authority is not to confer the ministry, but to recognise and accept it. In this solution, the hierarchical element, one of those that were to be reconciled, seems to have vanished. The author has not realised that both elements are in fact preserved in harmony in the historic Catholic Church.

DOM J. HIGGENS

CANONISATION AND AUTHORITY IN THE WESTERN CHURCH. By Eric Waldham Kemp. (Oxford University Press; 12s. 6d.)

The aim of this study is 'to trace the history of the public recognition of saints and thus to throw light upon one aspect of the development of ecclesiastical authority'. Here we have, in the light of history, an examination of the cult accorded to the Saints in the early Church and through the ages, and of the process of canonisation. The work is accomplished in eight chapters with three appendices. With true scholarship Mr Kemp has made a valuable contribution to learning and to the study of an intricate question. It would appear that he masses his historical materials to make them converge on the question of authority to which one chapter is devoted. The book is full of detail and rich in sources. The writer is certainly to be congratulated for the competence with which he has handled his materials. The English causes which are summarised or referred to have an especial interest. Both the successful and the unsuccessful processes are listed in an appendix. They are dealt with in greater detail in the text.

AMBROSE FARRELL, O.P.

THE BARQUE OF PETER. By Olive Mary Scanlon. (5s.)

MARY'S ROSARY. By Father Canice, O.F.M.Cap. (3d.)

(Both from Gill and Son, Dublin.)

*The Barque of Peter* consists of ten stories, concerning such things as Indulgences, Confession, Miracles, etc., or telling quite simply about conversions. Two of these are true stories, one that of the authoress herself. The book should be a real help to many and may