

REVIEWS

not attain to synthesis, possible only to those who walk with the Spirit—a confirmation of the old teaching of the Schools that the power to apprehend universals is something divine. There can be no unity of thought severed from the supreme Unity). To Abelard, even at the height of his passion, comes a glimpse, a summons :

‘ “ Peace in Thy Heaven ”—the words rang in his head, coming from he knew not where. He stood dumb, a slow fear mounting in him like the uprising of a cold spring. It was as though he had seen his destiny : *and having Thee to have naught beside.*’

The terrible climax casts its shadows before : in Abelard’s terrors and forebodings ; in Heloise’s wild prophecy, on the eve of their marriage, ‘ The grief that is to come will be no less than the love that went before it’ ; in a grim chapter from Origen, how ‘ it is a far graver thing to bear one’s sin, than to pay the fine of death ’ ; in a searing moment of vision, that ‘ somehow, some day, they would take her from him. And he would live, live years, live his long life, without her.’

But that climax, when it comes, is but part of a greater pattern. At the end of the book, to Abelard, maimed and outcast, when the intolerable waters are at his throat, and he is broken, not so much by the physical injury (in which he could see the penalty of his sin), but by the cruel injustice of the Council of Soissons at a time when—we have his own words—‘ from sincere love of our holy faith I had written all that I did,’ there comes the comfort of the Holy Ghost of which he speaks, the mystical revelation of God.

There the author leaves him. ‘ Through what sore discipline of body and soul, through what crucifixion of his pride must he still go, before he saw the Kingdom of God?’ It is the forecast of the years of anguish at St. Gildas, the final humiliation of Sens ; a tale, but for that underlying pattern, almost too sore for telling. And yet we hope that she will tell it, and soon.

B.B.C.

‘ *ECCÆ HOMO* ’? By Francis X. McCabe, C.M., LL.D. (The Bruce Publishing Company, Malwaukee ; \$1.00.)

This popular demonstration of the divinity of Christ from the Gospels may do much good if it can be got into the hands of the many professed Christians who hold Our Lord’s Godhead to be a matter of doubt and even of indifference.

M.B.