

THE IRISH DOMINICANS. By Daphne D. C. Pochin Mould. With a Preface by the Most Rev. Fr M. Browne, O.P., Master General. Dominican Publications, Saint Saviour's Priory, Dublin; (21s.)

To have compressed 733 years of Irish Dominican history into a volume of less than 300 pages is admittedly something of a literary feat, but not only has Miss Mould succeeded in this task, she has given us a narrative both full, vivid and unflagging in interest to the last page. Moreover the book is profusely and admirably illustrated with ninety-six photographs and sketches, nearly half of them the author's own work. Most of her own photographs are of the ruins of the forty ancient priories destroyed in the days of persecution. Perhaps the most arresting part of her story lies in the chapters dealing with the persecutions and martyrdoms. Under Elizabeth more than sixty Irish Dominicans suffered death for their faith, including the complete communities of Derry and Coleraine who were slain to a man. Nine others are alleged to have been drowned, being thrown overboard from their prison, a man-of-war, lying in the Shannon off Scattery Island. Under James I and his son Charles only six were put to death, but under the Parliament and the Protectorate of Cromwell the number rose to thirty-five; finally under William of Orange and Anne eight more died in prison for their priesthood.

Amongst these martyrs we may mention the heroic Fr Richard Barry, Prior of Cashel, who on 14th September, 1647, the day following the massacre of three thousand Catholics in that city, was led out to be tortured for two hours in a slow fire before being put to death by the sword, a martyrdom similar to that meted out to the martyrs in Japan at the same period. In 1653 Fr Thaddeus Moriarty, Prior of Tralee, before being condemned to death, was like his Divine Master most barbarously scourged. He was hanged at Ross Castle, Kilkenny. During this same persecution three Tertiaries, Lady Honoria de Burgo, Margaret of Cashel and Honoria Magaen were slain by the Protestant soldiery for assisting priests to escape, or warning them of the enemy's approach.

The restoration of the Stuart kings brought some amelioration to Irish Catholics and the Dominicans took advantage of the lull to re-open some of their old priories but with the fall of James II came a long dreary time of harsh and relentless persecution. When this period began they numbered 320; in 1829, the year of emancipation, their numbers were only eighty-five, and of these twenty-six were working abroad. Today the figure stands at 350 in Ireland, with many more at work in the West Indies and Australasia, the latter forming an independent Province since 1950.

The author has deserved well of the whole Order for her excellent

history of one of its most glorious Provinces, and has performed in the words of the Master General 'a work that has long been desired.'

WALTER GUMBLEY, O.P.

GOLGOTHA AND THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE. By André Parrot; (ios. 6d.)

THE TEMPLE OF JERUSALEM. By André Parrot; 9s. 6d. (S.C.M. Press Ltd, 1957).

These are two handbooks of biblical archaeology, both of which throw a great light on the gospel stories as on a great deal of Israelite history. Both are eminently readable and should delight all discerning readers of the Scriptures; both are scholarly too, and behind them both we sense the sure hand of a great authority as is Professor Parrot.

What in effect has Professor Parrot done? He has synthesised and summarised the soundest findings of archaeological schools in Jerusalem and notably those of the Biblical School of St Étienne (thus he is quick to acknowledge his debt to Fathers Vincent, Abel, De Vaux, Stève, etc.), and has presented us with a recognised and established body of historical and archaeological facts which would be accepted by most of those competent in the matter; he has also been able to show that in some particulars there is room for debate and diversity of opinions, e.g. as regards the site of the Praetorium, or in the matter of the 'Third' or 'Fourth' Wall of Jerusalem.

Still, a body of historical and archaeological lore, we might call it 'palestinology', built up by years of patient work, much of it the work of Catholic scholars, is now made available to English-speaking and a different circle of readers, by the enterprise of the S.C.M.

*Golgotha* is a fascinating survey of the available facts and problems relating to the site of our Lord's crucifixion. Due emphasis is placed on the Gospel facts, which are particularly telling when related to archaeological data (e.g. a *new* tomb, *near* the city, etc.). Professor Parrot quietly and reasonably sets out the evidence for the traditional site, and very rightly dismisses the 'Garden Tomb' dear to General Gordon and many others who have sought balm for their emotion rather than plain truth. A further chapter tells the story of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which through the long ages has drawn thousands in love and prayer. And though the church is now decrepit and a shame to all Christendom, still it draws those who would approach to the scene of our Lord's crucifixion and burial. A last chapter tells of tombs and burials in ancient Jerusalem. This section in particular throws light on the gospel narratives.

The Temple of Jerusalem was, from the time of Solomon, a major part of the ancient city, and, most important, a centre of years of