

## REVIEWS

the verses printed as in the *editio princeps* of 1490. Again, it is to be regretted that no Perdigon or Pseudo Perdigon is included among the Provençals. No lyric could have illustrated more aptly the resemblance and divergence of Romance and Latin devotional approach than

*Verges en bon' hora,  
Portes lo Salvaire*

Yet such slight criticisms do not affect the unique value of Mr. Brittain's achievement and no recent study has illustrated so aptly the diversity within the unity of 13th century culture.

GERVASE MATHEW, O.P.

EASY ESSAYS. By Peter Maurin. (Sheed & Ward; 3s. 6d.)

Peter Maurin, Christian and Social Philosopher, has invented a new and very telling form of journalism. By it he is enabled to get over simple and primary truths, in the most simple of language and without trappings of example, and yet in such a form that they cling to the mind. This he achieves by having only one idea to each line in his printing—so that you get the full weight of it before you go on—and by giving his prose a rhythm which makes it attractive. Here is a good example:

What we give to the poor  
for Christ's sake  
is what we carry with us  
when we die.

Again:

A common belief  
is what makes the unity  
of a community.

Reading him you do not so much learn more as realise more. He strings out his rhythms over the whole field of Catholic Social Ethics—sometimes with American slickness:

Modern Society  
calls the beggar  
bum and panhandler  
and gives him the bum's rush.

This small book, carried in the pocket, would stimulate much good thought.

Ada de Bethune's forceful woodcuts of Christ the Worker, the Black Blessed Martin of Porres, the Driving of Usurers out of the Temple, etc., help too.

FINBAR SYNNOTT, O.P.