

## *Blackfriars*

and Dona Luisa de Carvajal, reflect that refreshingly balanced and illuminating judgment which is apparent in the appendix of notes on historical sources. Similarly the account of the last night of the condemned priests and in especial the description of the Blessed James Duckett and his bookshop carry the conviction of an essential accuracy of feeling. In dealing with the Elizabethan Court and particularly with its non-Catholic elements the author seems on less sure ground. It is only necessary to compare the short sketch of Dona Luisa with that of the courtier FitzUrse. The adulation of the courtiers is presented, but not their wit; while, although the hero Captain Whitlock is a Court poet, there is no indication of that overheated literary atmosphere which the names of Essex and Harrington suggest. Still, in so far as it deals with Catholic life, this book presents an unique picture. 'I started with my brethren,' the author states in her preface, 'and I became distracted by the glitter of the Court.' It is delightful when she abandons this distraction and writes with a rare understanding of the martyrs of her Faith.

D.M.

MIMES, SACRED AND PROFANE. By H. D. C. Pepler. (Samuel French, Ltd.)

THE FOUR MINSTRELS OF BREMEN. By H.D.C.P. (St. Dominic's Press, Ditchling Common, Sussex.)

'The art of mime consists in the doing of formal actions formally, relying upon gesture and not words to express the story to be told.' So Mr. Pepler tells us in his interesting preface, which serves as an introduction to the subject of mime. Mime is derived chiefly from the Church—the Liturgy and the Liturgical dramas, and secondarily from the nursery—the child is a natural mimic or imitator. Mime has nothing to do with the realism of the modern stage, though it is nearly related to the Ballet.

The sacred mimes in this book—the Rosary Mysteries and the Stations of the Cross—have the true spirit of the Liturgy; the profane ones, St. George and the Turkish Knight and a Harlequinade are real pantomime. The whole is fascinating, especially when Mr. Pepler is himself in his Notes and Introduction.

Mime-plays and Puppet-plays belong to the same family, for the mime-actor 'becomes a puppet but controls the strings.' The second book contains two plays for puppets, 'The Four Minstrels of Bremen,' founded on Grimm, and 'Two Robbers,' for a juvenile audience, both charmingly done in the right tradition of Puppetry. It is interesting to see that the Puppet-plays

## Book Reviews

are having a success in America, for there is an English-American Glossary at the beginning. Both books are beautifully printed by St. Dominic's Press.

F.M.

A missionary handbook on Africa. We direct attention to by far the most valuable handbook for the missionary in Africa which we have come across: *LE RÉPERTOIRE AFRICAÏN*, by Henri Dubois, S.J.; printed and published at Rome this year by the Society of St. Peter Claver. It is planned with the breadth the subject demands at this day, and developed with a thoroughness beyond praise. It begins with the name 'Africa' and ends with precious booklists; every subject connected with Africa, physical, racial, political, ecclesiastical, which may concern the missionary, or even excite his curiosity, is treated summarily and well, and often most usefully from points of view other than those of missionaries. It has no index; perhaps it is better without, for the contents are admirably displayed. The typography is excellent; we have not noticed a single error, notwithstanding the variety of languages the book has to employ. The maps are unworthy.

J.G.

**MISSIONS AND MISSIONARIES.** By Georges Goyau. (Sands; pp. 287; 5/-.)

Occasional exaggeration and the quaint spelling of many proper names reduce the value of this translation of M. Goyau's popular history of the Catholic missions, but it contains much of interest and the last three chapters form an admirable commentary on recent Papal policy.

**THE THINGS THAT ARE NOT CAESAR'S.** By Jacques Maritain. (5/-.)

**A NEWMAN SYNTHESIS.** By Erich Przywara, S.J. (5/-.)

**CHRIST OUR BROTHER.** By Karl Adam. (3/6.)

English Catholics already owe a great debt to Messrs. Sheed and Ward. Their new editions in 'The Hart Library' serve both to emphasise and to increase it. Thus although *The Things that are not Caesar's* is hardly so good a book as *La Primauté du Spirituel*—M. Maritain's style is sometimes very difficult to translate—we possess no better treatise in English on the relations between Church and State. Dr. Adam may irritate us by an occasional over-emphasis but his *Christus unser*