

Book Reviews

seminaries by the Prior of Bodmin is to be cordially welcomed. Always, of course, in the west of England, in the Devon of his birth and the Cornwall of his death, will Blessed Cuthbert Mayne be held in special veneration, but his martyrdom has also an historic importance—as Father McElroy is at pains to prove—for Anglicans and for others seeking the truth concerning the change in religion under Elizabeth. The Anglican historians have simply burked the plain facts of the trial and execution of the ex-Anglican parson, Cuthbert Mayne. Father McElroy quotes Green, S. R. Gardiner and Dr. Frère, and convicts them of mis-statement. Bishop Frère is, of course, incorrigible; his prejudice for the Established Church will not allow him to tell the truth when it comes to the story of what happened in the sixteenth century, and that's all that can be said about it. Father McElroy, in addition to setting out very clearly that all who will may read the life story of Cuthbert Mayne, adds valuable and interesting matter concerning the relics of the martyr and the families of Arundell and Weston, and gives an exceedingly helpful chronology and some appropriate illustrations. The case against Sir Richard Grenville for his part in the persecution and martyrdom—an evil part—is also stated. The book, in short, may be recommended to the general reader and to the student alike.

J.C.

GOLDEN MEMORIES : THE LOVE LETTERS AND PRISON LETTERS OF WILLIAM O'BRIEN. Edited, with a personal appreciation, by his widow, Sophie O'Brien. (Dublin : M. H. Gill and Son, Ltd., 2 vols., 5/- each.)

The gathering together of these Golden Memories has clearly been a labour of love. The compiler of them is the only one who could pass final judgement on the fitness of publishing letters which concerned her and her husband so intimately. Their most precious revelation to those who are interested in the public career of the late William O'Brien will be of the loyalty and love which bound two lives together. William O'Brien was one of those Irish leaders whose passionate patriotism led his associates to believe that no romantic attachment could come between him and his love of his land—the Dark Rosaleen of so many tragedies; and it was said that his marriage with the compiler of these memories was as impossible as the marriage of Cardinal Manning and Queen Victoria. But the impossible was achieved because of the love for Ireland which filled each life. The Letters speak throughout of

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that rare thing—a perfect marriage, a marriage of mind and heart in which love, patriotism and faith made two lives one.

C.N.L.

LIGHT AND LEADING: LIGHT LEADERS REPRINTED FROM *The Times*. (Methuen and Co., 6/-.)

I suppose no two persons read *The Times* in quite the same way. That strange person of monumental industry, with an infinite capacity for not being bored, who is said to read it diligently from cover to cover, beginning with the new baby named A and ending with the last house for sale at the end, may or may not be a myth: he is anyhow a rare bird whom I have not met. I know those who turn straight to the Sports page, those who first look to see who is dead, those whose first interest is the money market and the City page; and I must confess that my particular way is to open the paper at the middle and read the last leader. Condemn me, if you will, as a light-minded, irresponsible creature, unalert to the larger issues of life in the heavier and more serious leaders; scorn me for my depraved taste for the cocktails and the *hors d'oeuvres* of life: I cannot even say I am sorry and I am inclined to flaunt my impenitence by saying I am glad to see this book which contains nearly a hundred of my favourite leaders: its coming into my hands saves me the trouble of keeping all those clippings and pasting them into a scrap-book.

Journalism is justified of its children, or at least this one, when he can pack so much wit and humour into a neat, crisp essay and go on doing it every day.

The author commends the book because it can be opened anywhere, at any time, by anyone. It is almost indispensable for filling up the interstices which come into the busiest lives. It should be bought extensively and placed in waiting-rooms, telephone boxes, convent parlours, dentists' ante-chambers, and in all those places where people linger waiting for the next thing to happen. If those who linger read the essay on Book Borrowing and, acting up to its large principles, pocket the book, they will undoubtedly oblige the owner to buy another copy and thus assist the circulation of a book which can only add to the general gaiety.

C.N.L.

A HISTORY OF EUROPE. By Father Bede Jarrett, O.P. (Sheed & Ward.)

The price of this book is 8/6, and not 12/6, as was stated in a review of the book in these columns.