

BOOK REVIEWS

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We gladly join our voice to the chorus of praise and welcome which the appearance of this new review has occasioned. A very distinguished group of writers and a wide diversity of subjects characterise this first number. If each month's issue contains an article on the same high level as Dr. E. J. Mahoney's paper on Matrimonial Consent and Divorce, the editors will have succeeded in providing exactly the type of review that English-speaking priests require. We have overheard the criticism (justifiable, we think) that the 'setting' is not always worthy of the subjects: the printed pages, especially the smaller type at the end, are crowded, there are many misprints and signs of hasty sub-editing; but this is only to say that the body is more than the raiment, and that we should have expected a more elegant presentation of such very good matter.

The facts that the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Cardinal Primate of All Ireland, the Archbishops of Cardiff, Tuam, Cashel, Birmingham, and St. Andrews and Edinburgh are patrons of the review, and that its editorial board is made up of the Archbishop of Liverpool and the Presidents of a long list of English seminaries at home and abroad, give the work a certain official character and sanction. As a link between the seminaries and the dioceses *The Clergy Review* is full of glorious possibilities. Newman's dream of a Catholic University—definitely relegated long ago to the realm of fine, impossible fancies—might seem less absurdly ideal if the hierarchy and the seminaries could more often and more easily meet and exchange and pool their talent. The system of examination in our seminaries needs revision: it is apt in its present imperfect state to foster an unwholesome intellectual in-breeding. If this very distinguished editorial board were to form the nucleus of a central examining authority on the lines of the University of London as it was first instituted, an enormous impetus would be given to the higher education of our clergy; and perhaps the University envisaged by Newman Your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams.