

to the general reader. Mr Doughty expresses hope for his future, but realises that, even for one who 'has not demonstrated the undemonstrable . . . but has fortified the probable', appreciative readers can only be a 'select circle'. Mr Doughty's insight and delicacy of perception are seen at their best in his treatment of Crashaw. On only one small point does he seem to fail: here and there (notably on page 17, with reference to Quarles) he gently upbraids infelicities of speech which surely are due simply to the changed meaning or associations of certain words.

D. A.

SALT OF THE EARTH. A Discourse on the State of Priesthood. By Fr S. M. Shaw. (Burns Oates; 8s. 6d.)

This book is a notable achievement. The author has mastered by long practice and experience all that he sets out *contemplata tradere*.

The craft of prayer is expounded with a freshness that swerves not from traditions, its development is ably traced. The overcoming of difficulties and besetting perils is handled with especial skill, and a sense of humour comes into play to light up the shallow pitfall of priggishness that fancies itself spiritually advanced. Above all and through all runs an intense earnestness of purpose, the unrelenting war with self, the completeness of the holocaust demanded of the priest. Subtle forms of compromise and *rapina in holocausto* are ruthlessly detected and exposed, and yet the dominant note is encouragement. Our Master's yoke is indeed sweet and his burden light *provided* we seek not to evade the cross, which we must learn to welcome. Examples are well chosen and practical. It is not enough, he insists, to accompany our divine Lord to the light of Tabor; we must be no less ready for the darkness of Calvary. Signally beautiful are the chapters which *see* through prayer-purged eyes, many scenes and characters of the Gospels. 'He would initiate them (the Apostles) then into the deepest mysteries of God's love, a love that drove him to Gethsemani, to the pillar and to the cross. He, in his love for them that he would have them learn to love in the same way.' One point we could wish had been added, 'Distractions which are not deliberate are a trial, not a fault' (Boylan, *Difficulties in Mental Prayer*, p. 57). Designed for young priests, this work should be no less helpful to many no longer young. It will live and bear much fruit.

H. E. G. ROPE.

LIGHT OVER FATIMA. By Charles C. O'Connell. (Mercier Press; 8s. 6d.)

THE MESSAGE OF FATIMA. By Sister Mary Joseph, O.P. (The Irish Rosary; 3s.)

Men have no conceivable interest in inflicting war on each other. Yet the problem remains how to make the popular desire for peace effective against the present ascendancy of might and force. A way is initiated by our Lady herself who appeared to three children in Fatima in Portugal thirty years ago. She taught them with renewed