

MORE ABOUT DOM MARMION. Translated from the French by the Earl of Wicklow. (Clonmore and Reynolds; 7s.6d.)

This small book consists in the main of essays published in *La Vie Spirituelle* in January 1948 (not February, as the Foreword states). Various well-known French and Belgian writers contributed to a memorial number, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dom Marmion's death. It was well worth while to turn a number of their contributions into English. The translator has added a short biographical sketch, drawn largely from Dom Thibaut's *Life*; and also a chapter on our Lady, from Dom Marmion's unpublished book, *Christ the Life of the Priest*. Among the essays, the most valuable is perhaps that bearing the awkward title 'The Christocentric Quality in Dom Marmion', by Père Boularand. Another, by Père Buzy, on his knowledge and use of St Paul, is also of great interest. But would it be ungracious to say that Dom Marmion's originality in this respect must not be over-stressed? He was not the only Benedictine abbot, forty years ago, to be making common property the treasures of the Pauline Epistles. He is, however, perhaps the best known; and his influence has been and still is very powerful in popularising the great central doctrines concerning Christ, which, contained not only in St Paul but in the whole New Testament and the Liturgy, have been widely neglected.

The English version of the essays is uneven, and sometimes lamentably fails. This is more to be regretted as Dom Marmion has rarely been well presented to English readers. The present work seems to have been produced in haste; words have dropped out here and there, and a number of printers' errors can be found.

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