

p. 110, n. 58: for 'of' read 'cf.'

p. 111, n. 65: for 'E. Marsaux' read 'E. Massaux'.

p. 116, n. 5: for 'G.B.F. Brondon' read 'G.B.F. Brandon'.

ROLAND POTTER, O.P.

LOUIS OF GRANADA, by R. L. Oechslin, O.P.; Aquin Press, 21s.

Louis of Granada has long been regarded as one of the greatest of spiritual writers and Fr Oechslin estimates that his book *Prayer and Meditation* has gone through more than five hundred editions in various languages. His *Guide for Sinners* was as popular amongst persecuted English Catholics as the *Imitation of Christ*, and was very early translated by them in the period immediately following the great man's death. In this present volume the author presents us with a clear and careful analysis of Granada's teaching on the spiritual life, stressing his insistence on interior prayer as the means to achieve our desired union with God, a prayer which has as its object real devotion as described by St Thomas, not a mere emotion but a steadfast determination to act well, to obey the commandments of God and to accomplish what belongs to his service. This devotion 'consists in the promptitude with which one offers oneself, and the intensity with which one is disposed to do God's will.'

Louis of Granada, an energetic missionary and one who was well acquainted with the poor in scattered villages, realised that wide-spread ignorance was the principal cause of the relaxation of morals, ignorance too often due to a careless and decadent clergy. It was to remedy this evil that he had dedicated himself to preaching not only by word of mouth but by his pen. Needless to say, like all great apostles he got into trouble; and at a time when all books advocating interior piety were suspect in Spain, because of the introduction of Protestant works, it was not surprising that Louis' treatises, together with the works of St Francis Borgia, Bd John of Avila and others, were placed on the Index compiled by the Spanish Inquisition. This was in 1559 but Pius IV five years later ordered their removal from it. Trials came to him in plenty, and these he welcomed. What he shrank from were honours and amongst those offered him was an archbishopric and finally the red hat, both of which he escaped and was allowed to 'die in his little nest' full of years and virtue, aged 84, on the last day of 1588.

WALTER GUMBLEY, O.P.

ST AUGUSTINE ON PRAYER, by Thomas A. Hand, O.S.A.; Gill, 18s.  
THE FATHERS OF THE CHURCH, vol. 44, St Ambrose; C.U.A., Press.

Fr Hand's book is an excellently arranged catena of all that St Augustine has to say on prayer. It begins with the basic principles; that all men desire happiness; that therefore all men ought to desire God, because only in him can full, that is eternal, happiness be found; that to desire God is to love him; that prayer is the expression of this desire; that it is an unconditionally gratuitous gift of God;