

expression of Highland culture by a scholar of international repute who is at the same time a native Highlander who has kept his roots firm. It is an intensely personal book based largely on the author's meetings with people on the mainland, when collecting folklore material for academic archives. Because it is so personal it is sometimes less informative than some readers might wish, especially on economic questions and details of social structure. Almost on every page it will remind other Highlanders of some person or place, some fact or story, which might be added to its contents. But then we remember that books must have their limits, especially when they belong to a series. This one within its limits is packed richly with description and comment, informed, affectionate, fair and greatly charitable, even when dealing with the atrocities of 1746 and the brutality and tragedy of the Clearances. There is no romantic high colour in these pages, no attempt to attribute monopolies of virtue or vice to any group of people. This is a faithful book, which no one genuinely concerned with the Highlands will miss.

ANTHONY ROSS, O.P.

CALLIGRAPHY. By Johann Georg Schwandner. (Dover Publications, Inc., New York; Constable, London; \$10.00.)

'Among the more elegant of those arts which commend and ornament a man of quality, calligraphy—I am sure there will be no dispute—scarcely deserves to be assigned to the lowest place. . . . Calligraphy is a word of Greek root. . . . It means nothing other than the art and manner of writing with beauty and grace. . . . Calligraphy is dedicated to elegance of writing and illuminating [whilst] tachygraphy . . . is devoted to speed. . . . While the characters drawn in calligraphy are elegant, with large letters that do not touch their neighbours, tachygraphy, by a natural adaptation, uses casual, gracile, elongated letters which for speed's sake are joined to one another.'

I think it is as well to make these quotations from the introduction to Schwandner's *Calligraphia Latina*, here under review, in view of the widespread interest in and revival of the Italic hand during the past decade or so. Four years ago we were given a facsimile of a handwriting manual written in the sixteenth century and it may be necessary to point out that the present book under review is not another handwriting manual. Essentially, at least in Schwandner's opinion, calligraphy consists of *drawn* letters or characters, and here we have a collection of ornamental initials, decorative frames and panels, calligraphic pictures, ornamental flourishes, which is a tribute not only to the artist but also to the engraver. Not only is it a collection which in itself is a most beautiful and remarkable plate book for anyone interested in

calligraphy, but also it is one that will prove invaluable as an inexhaustible source of decorative material for all those who are interested in the graphic arts, commercial or otherwise.

Schwandner's *Calligraphia Latina* was first published in Vienna in 1756 and until now has never been reprinted. The original publication is very rare and we are indebted to Dover Publications for this unabridged reproduction which has made more widely available this remarkable collection of continental calligraphy; a collection beautiful, useful, and at a price not beyond the means of most.

MICHAEL PLATTS, O.P.

FATHER FLANAGAN OF BOYS' TOWN. By Foulton Oursler and Will Oursler. (A Cedar Special. The World's Work; 5s.)

This is a new paper-back edition of a book first published in 1950. Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney must have been the first to make Father Flanagan famous this side of the Atlantic with the film *Boys' Town*. There, as in this book, it was made clear that though Father Flanagan's guiding belief was that 'There is no such thing as a bad boy', he had no doubts about the fact of original sin; he used humane and shrewd methods to combat it. This popular edition of the story of this great priest must reach a large public.

G.A.M.

A WELSH TUTOR. By Myrddin Jenkins. (University of Wales Press; 8s. 6d.)

There has been a great need for a straightforward Welsh grammar, written in English, which might provide for the upper forms of grammar schools as well as for the private student. Mr Jenkins has used the resources of modern grammatical teaching (as well as sensible typographical arrangement) to provide a clear introduction to the essentially logical structure of Welsh. Even such special difficulties as the mutation of consonants are intelligibly set out, and the book should be invaluable for anyone who wants to know a living language which has a literature of the greatest interest and variety.

I.E.

THE LOVE ETHIC OF D. H. LAWRENCE. By Mark Spilka. (Dobson; 21s.)

Though this study of Lawrence's beliefs offers no new insight it is a fair presentation of a common middle-of-the-road view of Lawrence. It sees the religious dimension of Lawrence's beliefs because it sees the true nature of love. It sees also the shortcomings of Lawrence's position without exaggerating them. It detects his manicheism but does not quite get round to saying that his very 'earthiness' and proclamation of the absolute goodness of the flesh was a denial of the Incarnation.

G.A.M.