

in the combat. This is a book to be meditated; a book which, on account of its spiritual application to our own times, deserves to be widely known. Walter Oden is to be congratulated on the excellent translation which offers it to English-speaking people; while Michael Ayrton's striking illustrations serve to emphasise its allegorical aspect.

In a book of such distinction it is, however, a pity to find technical errors in some of the references to Dominicans. It would be well to correct these in subsequent editions.

S.M.C.

THE NICHE OVER THE DOOR. By Mary K. Harris. (Sheed and Ward; 6s.)

This is one of the best Catholic children's books that has come our way for some time. Mary Harris understands children and writes for them as though they were rational beings, which is a rare virtue among children's authors, and one immediately appreciated by the children themselves.

S.M.F.

THE VEIL UPON THE HEART. By the Reverend G. Byrne, S.J. (M. S. Gill, Dublin; 5s.)

This is a book of great charm. It is beautifully written and well and pleasantly printed. It consists of eighteen chapters. We might describe them as spiritual essays. According to the 'blurb' on the jacket, it is a book on private prayer. We would rather describe it as a book which by its nature and its doctrinal contents led us to prayer. This it certainly does.

G.B.

THE FORERUNNER. By Teresa Lloyd. (Sands; n.p.)

The familiar Gospel story of St John the Baptist in a poetic setting. He who like the Master was from first to last 'led by the Spirit' through all the vicissitudes of the spiritual life is ever the model of all who sincerely seek to follow our Lord more closely, most of all of those who have to guide others in that way. To some of these this poem may show old truths in a fresh light.

S. M. A.

CHRIST IS ALL. By John Carr, C.S.S.R. (Sands; 5s.)

This is a sincerely written little book, addressed primarily to Catholics. It is 'chiefly of a moral and devotional nature intended to make belief in our Lord more vivid'. Generally it follows well-worn and pedestrian lines, which many may feel to be but an echo of what they have many times heard. We are not sure that the argument is cogent enough to carry conviction to the well-educated unbeliever. The use of scriptural texts as mere tags is lamentable. Surely the inner meaning of John 6, 58 can only be grasped when