

the devout books which Dom Augustine Baker recommends to his disciples is 'Doctor Perin.' And when he was compiling his manuals of affective prayer he drew upon 'Dr. Perin's booke.' But, truth to tell, Father Baker might not have been entirely content with this edition, for the editor has seen fit to discard just those parts which Father Baker esteemed especially, *i.e.*, the direct prayers. And since these prayers are Dr. Perin's own, while the rest of the book is a translation, we must confess that we, too, are somewhat disappointed and have a feeling that the title has misled us. For the rest this edition is capably edited and very neatly produced.

LITURGISCHE VOLKSBÜCHLEIN: *Die heilige Taufe, Die heilige Firmung, Die Chormesse, etc.* (Freiburg im Breisgau, Herder, 1922-9. Prices from 30 pfennigs to one mark sixty.)

A series of liturgical manuals for the people edited by the monks of Maria Laach and in the interest of that liturgical apostolate to which their abbey is devoted. Some are German versions of the sacramental ritual with explanatory notes. Another gives the office of Compline in Latin and German. Another the Ordinary of the Mass. And so on. We were especially interested in the booklet entitled '*Die Chormesse*,' which gives careful instructions for what we might call the 'Community Mass.' We are not sure that its suggestions are really practical—outside of religious communities—but we welcome its effort to teach us that the Mass is essentially a community service. This series of manuals seems to us wholly admirable.

LITTLE PLAYS OF ST. BENEDICT. (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1929; 5/- net.)

The night of this world encompasses us and its dreams are vain; but we may, if we wish, catch glimpses of an outer day. That is the spirit of this little book, which strives to give us such glimpses by means of an imaginative presentment of saintly monastic personages. The scenes are very brief, hardly more than tableaux. The language is very carefully chosen and the whole work suggests devout scholarship. Some readers may possibly find that the scenes are so far suffused with 'poetico-monastic' feeling as to be untrue to any reality that ever was in this drab world of ours. Others—and we among them—will welcome these graceful moments in an ideal past. It is a book for those who like to

look sunward, and with faces golden
Speak to each other softly of a hope.