

Blackfriars

“ WE ENGLISH ”

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS, SIR,

Father Bede Jarrett's article "We English" commands my entire respect up to a certain point. He is an honest Englishman, but he sees too straight, and runs in blinkers. There are honest Englishmen who do not run in blinkers, as, for instance, another of your contributors, Mr. Robert Keable, who knows more than the newspapers are allowed to tell. Let me refer Father Bede to Mr. Keable's article in your issue of last December, "Slave, Serf, Citizen—and the Way Back."

It may teach him where to direct his honest indignation and warn him against letting himself go about "brutal murders" in Ireland of spies and *agents provocateurs* of the English Secret Service.

The author of the article on "Browning and the Catholic Church" has in my opinion weakened an excellent article by mistaking the tendency of Bishop Blougram's Apology. It would take too long to point out that it is not so much the apology for Blougram as a blasting to the skies of the shallow journalists who attacked Cardinal Wiseman in the days of the No Popery agitation of bankrupt politicians. The thesis is broadly: a man may be a man of the world and yet believe in the supernatural. He may enjoy a certain ease of position without having sold his soul for it, and he can have a mind, and a very big one, without being at pains to manifest it to a world which does not want to understand him. Whereas you Gigadibs (what scorn in a name!) have no ease in this world and no prospect for any other, because you have no mind and you have chosen not to work with your hands!

Yours faithfully,

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

V. REV. FR. BEDE JARRETT'S REPLY

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS, SIR,

May I thank "A Constant Subscriber" for his courteous letter, and say that I have evidently not made my meaning very clear?