

Blackfriars

tion of *Le Sillon*—and perhaps was the means of grace which guided that movement to sacrifice all its dreams to obedience. It was the book which delighted that brilliant spirit—Giosue Borsi, the Italian convert and writer who fell in the Great War. For those of us who are not scholars or even students, but only those who try not to commit the sin of omission by failing to love God effectually with the powers of our mind, this book may not be of practical use throughout, but it will be of (this word must be qualified with ‘almost’ and ‘curiously’ *angelic* good to us. It will stir us strangely. We must all read it. And to read it will be to make us determine to possess it, even though the shillings have to be saved separately. We owe the publishers our gratitude for keeping the price so moderate.

C.H.

A SAINT IN THE MAKING. By John Oxenham. (Longmans; pp. 208; 5/-.)

This study by an avowed ‘sound and staunch Protestant’ is typical of the mind that can appreciate but cannot believe in Catholicism. ‘We are broad enough in our sympathies and keenly interested in humanity to recognize and rejoice in a unique personality wherever we find one’; the Author thus introduces us to his life of the Curé d’Ars. We suppose that the majority of subjects of biography are sympathetically treated, are human and are to a certain extent, in their several spheres, unique, but hagiography requires something more than mere comprehensiveness and a keen interest in humanity. Enter this field of research with the necessary qualifications and there can be no perplexity when faced by such an anomaly as the learning of Latin grammar by a Pilgrimage to La Louvesc (pp. 29, 30).

By taking certain legitimate liberties Mr. Oxenham has given a clear narrative, from first to last unflagging in its interest. At times it is exciting. Always the theme is handled with reverence and sincerity with no pietistic emotionalism.

G.A.F.

THE SECRET OF THE CURE D’ARS. By Henri Ghéon; translated by F. J. Sheed; with a Note by G. K. Chesterton. (Sheed & Ward; 3/6.)

The same saint is here presented, but by a Catholic and a Frenchman. The result is a little masterpiece of moving simplicity, admirably translated and now re-issued in its fourth impression at a price which leaves no one with the excuse for not having read it. Every priest should possess a copy.