

To end on a pleasant note: Dr Kendall gives our Lady her due place as one dedicated to reparation, and gives patristic evidence in support of that fact. In short, what a grand book this would be if only corrected in places by a Catholic theologian. We venture to suggest Mgr Francis Davis, who like Dr Kendall has associations with Birmingham University.

ARTHUR VALENTIN

AS STARS FOR ALL ETERNITY. By the Brothers of the Christian Schools. (Thomas More Books; 15s.)

According to the preface, this is an abridged and revised edition of *Considerations for Christian Teachers*. It contains fifty-two meditations on such subjects as the nature and mentality of pupils, authority, natural affection, coercion, and the virtues essential to the teacher. Each meditation consists of considerations drawn 'from the holiest sources and saturated with the traditions and skill of more than two centuries', followed by a practical application. It embodies 'almost every appropriate scriptural text', besides quoting copiously from Fénelon, Bossuet, and of course St John-Baptist La Salle. The preface suggests that the book will be particularly helpful to teaching sisters, who will find it 'a veritable *summa* of calm reflection and profound practical insight into the great vocation of teaching the young'.

In spite of these high claims the book will have a very limited appeal. The teaching religious seeking the inspiration which will enable her to combine the role of Mary with the arduous and ever encroaching one of Martha will be disappointed at the absence of a christocentric approach to her needs and problems. The emphasis throughout is on duty as duty, and *les raisons du coeur* find little place. The author takes no account of modern developments in Catholic pedagogical and psychological thought, and uses an idiom which is certainly not contemporary. The quotations range from the obscure to the platitudinous. But the book deals carefully with some practical details in the pursuit of perfection (use of time, negligence, patience, etc.), and those who like traditional French spirituality will perhaps find it helpful.

A.F.H.

MATISSE FROM THE LIFE. By Raymond Escholier. (Faber and Faber; 63s.)

The value of M. Escholier's book is that we are presented not only with an appreciation of Matisse as painter and sculptor, but also with nearly everything of importance written by the artist. Here are collected his own views on art and on his place as an artist in the modern movement. Extracts from letters and comments from various other sources