BLACKFRIARS

TERTULLIAN'S TREATISE ON THE RESURRECTION the text edited with an Introduction,
Translation and Commentary by Ernest Evans, D.D. S.P.C.K.; 50s.

In his preface Dr Evans says that this will probably be his last edition of a patristic text. It is certainly worthy of him and of its subject. An excellent introduction outlines the argument of Tertullian's De Carnis Resurrectione and relates it to earlier Christian writings on the matter by Justin, Athenagoras and Irenaeus. Latin text and English translation follow, with 150 pages of Notes and Commentary, completed by four indices. The type is beautifully clear and legible. The treatise itself is of permanent interest, being a vigorous defence of a point of Christian doctrine, the resurrection of the body, which has always presented real difficulties both to the man in the street and to the philospher. The difficulties felt in the second century (as Tertullian states them) seem to have been much the same as those felt to-day; and though not all of Tertullian's arguments would be adopted by contemporary Christians, he is, as Dr Evans says, 'at one with us and with the Scriptures in representing Christianity in its authentic form as a thoroughly (though not exclusively) materialistic religion, and in affirming that this present life is not a mere period of soul-making but is a preparation for the conservation and sublimation of the whole of manhood, body, soul and spirit, in the life to come.'

K.F.

Notices

THE VATICAN FROM WITHIN, Harrap, 21s., by Corrado Pallenberg, is another digest of holy gossip, this time provided by a journalist who tells us he was baptized as a Lutheran in Rome but is no longer a believer at all. With these credentials he seems to have managed quite efficiently, and for those who like to know about the abracadabra of Vatican custom and ceremony he has gathered together just the sort of stories they want.

THE WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH, Darton, Longman and Todd, 28s., by William J. O'Shea, s.s., D.D., was noticed in these pages when it was originally published in America. The English edition should meet a real need in ecclesiastical colleges for a companion to Liturgical studies which provides a clear introduction to the history and present use of liturgical rites as well as some account of the setting of the liturgy in terms of the altar and its furnishing. The publishers have served a useful purpose by issuing a book of close on six hundred pages at what must nowadays be counted a very modest price.

THE GREAT PEACE OF KRASSNIKOVA, Holborn Publishing, 12s. 6d., by Franz Schaub, translated by Kenneth T. Dutfield, is a novel which achieved great success in