

instance, on the use of the Middle or Active Voice in Mark and Matthew, p. 24). All these things help us to get to know more intimately, and so to love ever more, the Sacred Authors, and this is the ultimate value of the book. There are, of course, many things one would like Professor Moule to have told us about: what does he think about the definite article in John 3, 10 (*the teacher*), or what about St Matthew's use (or misuse?) of the word 'Then'? But we cannot think of grumbling when he has given us such wonderful fare and so much to think about, and moreover always in such an enthusiastic way. It is a book one will often go back to. We need hardly add that the University Press has produced the book with unimpeachable grace and elegance.

SEBASTIAN BULLOUGH, O.P.

LE LIVRE DES ANGES. By Erik Peterson. Préface de Jean Daniélou. Translated from the German by Claire Champollion. (Desclée de Brouwer; n.p.)

Erik Peterson is professor of ancient Christian literature at the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archaeology in Rome. Even in French this little book bears the marks of an involved Teutonic style, but the matter is interesting as well as scholarly, and makes a noteworthy addition to the scanty theological literature on angels.

Peterson once again stresses the fact that the liturgy of the Church is an integral part of the worship of God in heaven by the angels and saints; we share in their official mission in the city of God which is praise and worship; and they in turn share in our attempts to honour God by means of the official prayer of the Church. The author demonstrates this by an enlightening analysis of Chs. 4 and 5 of the Apocalypse, of certain passages from the Old Testament and of the Sanctus from the liturgy of St Mark. He gives an account of some interesting passages relating to the angels in the writings of the Fathers, and describes the share the angels were thought to have in the sacraments (especially baptism and the Eucharist), in the Divine Office and in prayer in general. In the concluding section on the angels and the mystical life we may read of our constant spiritual need of the angels who 'show us the great possibilities of our own nature, and of a higher and more intense degree of our own spiritual being'.

Père Daniélou's own more general book on the angels (*Les Anges et leur Mission*, 1951), written after the appearance of the present book in the German original, develops similar ideas more fully.

ELISABETH STOPP