

Steuart' speak. Her task was not easy, for Fr Steuart was one of those men who spoke constantly with inspiration while he published little—though his few books are still the most balanced and theologically sound spiritual treatises in English. Followers noted his retreats in long and short hand; but such reports can never be the same as the *ipsisima verba* spoken or written by the author. Miss Kendall reports honestly at the very beginning of the book a remark of Fr Steuart's: 'So-and-so has let me have shorthand notes of what I said, and it ought to be quite easy, but it isn't . . . I find I have practically rewritten it all'. Nevertheless, what she has captured here by the help of these notes from devoted listeners is surely very close to the 'authentic' Fr Steuart. He here gives a retreat to lay people, another to religious, five conferences on the Sign of the Cross and ten on various subjects. From all who hear him he expects, or rather demands, complete holiness, as Fr Lyons, S.J., remarks in the introduction; but his demand is gentle and his own words are full of the true sort of enticement: 'What Christ tells me to do, he does in me; what he calls on me to do, he calls on himself to do. Is there anything he cannot do? I am now a Christ-person, and I stick at nothing.' That is authentic. Those who have already heard Fr Steuart will find here a most effective soundboard to their memory; those who never had that privilege will find much of deep value to remember.

CONRAD PEPLER, O.P.

THE ROMAN RITUAL: VOLUME II: CHRISTIAN BURIAL, EXORCISM, RESERVED BLESSINGS, ETC. Translated and Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by the Revd Philip T. Weller. (Bruce; \$8.75.)

It seems scarcely necessary to review in detail the last volume (in order of appearance) of Father Weller's English translation of the *Rituale Romanum*, for what was said in an extended notice of the first volume in LIFE OF THE SPIRIT for August, 1950, is generally true of this one also. Some of the material here is less familiar: the rite of Exorcism, no less than the blessing of Bread and Water in honour of St Adelheid. The latest edition of the Ritual still retains the Vulgate text of the psalms, but the translations take into account the new version of the Psalter and are on the whole rhythmical and direct in meaning. It is perhaps to be regretted that the English versions of the Litanies (especially that of Loreto) have not been attempted *de novo*, but here the familiarity of the faithful with existing translations makes innovations a perilous business. As before, the typography (in red and black, with a clear setting for plainchant) is very successful.

I.E.