

THE SPIRITUAL LETTERS OF FATHER HUGHSON. (A. R. Mowbray; 15s.)

The late Father Hughson, of the American Episcopalian Order of the Holy Cross, was famous as a preacher and retreat-giver. In his own Order he had been both Novice Master and Superior. For nearly forty years he was Chaplain to the Sisters of St Mary, Peekskill, New York. This collection of letters reveals Fr Hughson's profound knowledge of Catholic spirituality, past and present. There are frequent references to Father Augustine Baker, Père Grou, Abbot Marmion, Père Garrigou-Lagrange, etc. Some of the most interesting letters deal with the need to establish a purely contemplative community in the American Episcopal Church. Again and again as one turns over the pages of this book one is reminded that the ethos of the Order of the Holy Cross is 'to glorify God rather by endeavouring to use his creatures aright than by not using them at all', also that its spirit is intensely American.

P.F.A.

THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD. By Gregory Dix. (Dacre Press; 6s. 6d.)

This book is a retreat edited by the Abbot of Nashdom from the post-humous notes of Dom Gregory Dix, who was perhaps best known for his works of scholarship on the early Church. Those who know Dom Gregory's more famous work will not find their expectations unfulfilled in this small book of spiritual guidance. Nothing is more valuable than conferences and sermons based on sound dogmatic theology, and few things are more difficult to do well. The same painstaking industry that fashioned such a massive work as *The Shape of the Liturgy* was devoted to this slight volume. The slightness is deceptive. Here is the whole of Dom Gregory's detached yet dedicated understanding of the Incarnation applied to the humble details of everyday life, prayer, Holy Communion, sin. He writes with scarcely any of the élan or verve of a journalist, but with all the clearheadedness of a scholar he places our lives in the scheme of redemption. In this way he throws light on many other questions such as the nature of freedom and the obligation of the individual to the Church. Because of his detached scholarship Dom Gregory does not uncover in the written word the personality that presumably fired his spoken word. This is therefore a book for meditation because it is closely written. It is a book which brings the study of theology to the assistance of prayer.

G.M.

SELECTED LETTERS OF POPE INNOCENT III CONCERNING ENGLAND (1198-1216). Edited by C. R. Cheney and W. H. Semple. (Nelson; 30s.)

During the reign of Pope Innocent III the 'Clericalist' theory of the relationship between Church and State reached its apogee. 'Kingdom and priesthood, like body and soul, for the great good and profit of each, are