

to extend their sympathy to these victims, did they not find themselves pulled up by the recollection that they have victims of their own, and victims, moreover, for whose fate a Catholic queen was mainly responsible. Up and down the land one comes across their monuments; and it must be conceded that the treatment meted out to them has done much to alienate the goodwill of our non-Catholic fellow countrymen'. It should hardly be necessary to state that, in spite of the title, this is not a children's book, though adolescents could profit from its careful reading.

D.A.

ST JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL. By Janet Mary Scott. (Sands; 5s.)

This little book of 112 pages contains in miniature the main facts of the life of one of the most notable founders of a great religious Order. In the beginning she is shown as an impulsive, affectionate woman, though even in early youth signs of her bias towards sanctity were not wanting. Her mother died young, but Jane, with her brother and sister, was trained by an unworldly father in the habits of obedience, self-control and compassion for the poor and suffering, which distinguished her throughout life.

She lived in the latter part of the period which saw the growth of Protestantism and her contribution towards the checking of this spiritual dis-ease was the Order which she founded under the direction of and in association with St Francis de Sales. She had, however, already shown the quality of her spirit by her generous acceptance of the spiritual mortifications which she endured after her husband's death when, with three young children, she went to live with her father-in-law, and leaving the gaiety and pleasures of a gay and pleasant world, set out along the path of suffering.

Her middle years were filled with amazing activity, for she founded no fewer than eighty convents, while for the most part she remained at Annecy and directed the affairs of the fast-growing Order. After the death of St Francis sorrows again multiplied, for one by one her first companions and friends died. Her own gallant spirit never failed, however, and she was consoled by meeting two saints, one hardly known to us today, St Peter Fourrier, and the other world-famous—St Vincent de Paul.

There are a few misprints, and by the omission of phrases on pages 36 and 67 two paragraphs are not quite clear, but the story is simply and straightforwardly told and gives a picture of a remarkable woman who became a Saint by always accepting those mortifications of the spirit which are so much more painful than those of the body, and was actually the fore-runner of St Teresa of Lisieux in teaching that 'there is a martyrdom called of love, and God sustains the life of His servants so that they may be both Confessors and Martyrs. . . .

MARY DUNCAN.