

indeed somewhat akin to the Hebrew, but in the prophecy we have an interesting performance because of course Nahum is not in the least Basic Hebrew. A comparison of these passages with the Hebrew or with a usual literal translation will repay study.

This edition is a complete Bible (without Apocrypha), but the New Testament had been issued separately in 1941.

SEBASTIAN BULLOUGH, O.P.

VADEMECUM THEOLOGIAE MORALIS. Dom M. Prummer, O.P. (Barcelona 1947; issued by B. Herder, London, W.C.; 10s.6d.)

Since its first appearance 28 years ago Fr Prummer's *Vademecum* has gone into six editions. Its modest aim is to serve as a clear and yet concise help to memory. Its format and remarkably full index ensure the one and its pocket-size is a sufficient guarantee of the other. This sixth edition must only serve to establish further its popularity as a valuable little reference book. The same edition has also been printed and published by Herder's in Freiburg (im-Breisgau).

INITIATION A ST JEAN DE LA CROIX. By François de Sainte Marie. PRESENCE A DIEU ET A SOI-MEME. By François de Sainte Marie.

(Series *La Vigne du Carmel*. Seuil; Paris.)

These two books are both new editions of extremely useful works. In particular we would recommend anyone who is anxious to become acquainted with St John of the Cross to read *Initiation* before attempting the Saint's own works. In English we have a translation of the competent introduction to the Mystical Doctor by Fr Gabriel; but this book will be found more suitable to the true beginner because it describes the system of poem and commentary as well as the relation of the doctrine to the Gospels and the general development of the life of the soul described by St John of the Cross. The other book is a helpful outline of the idea of 'presence' in regard to God and to self and the way these two must meet.

L'EXPERIENCE DE LA PRESENCE DE DIEU. By Frère Laurent de la Résurrection. Edited by François de Sainte Marie. (Series *La Vigne du Carmel*. Seuil; Paris.)

Brother Lawrence was a seventeenth century French Carmelite who reached a high degree of holiness and proficiency in the ways of the interior life. His doctrine is characterised, like his life, by a great simplicity truly fitting his Carmelite vocation. This volume reproduces the contemporary accounts of his life and teaching together with his 'Maxims' and Letters.

A SOUL OF SILENCE. By M.M. Am. du Coeur de Jesus, O.D.C. (Mercier Press; 2s.)

This little book concerns the spiritual background of silence which was one of the secrets of the sanctity of Sister Elizabeth of the Trinity. It consists of the words and deeds of this holy Carmelite in so far as they were related to this great instrument of perfection, and it develops the theme from exterior silence to the more interior