

trinity: sometimes God is simply perfect beauty." (p. 296).

St. Paul the Apostle and St. Thomas are among those whom the author includes besides the generally recognized Fathers.

There is scarcely a chapter which does not direct particular attention to the "pride" or "hatred" of these saints. "Bernard hated all who opposed him, as only the saints hate." (p. 248). "Pride dogged him (St. Gregory). He was very conscious of his sin, for he speaks about pride so often that he was clearly obsessed with it." (p. 214).

In defense of St. Raymond who is introduced on page 287, and described as an ex-Dominican, we reply that he did not resign from the Order of Preachers to become a preacher in Spain (which seems quite incongruous anyway). He resigned his office as *superior* of the Order. Nor was St. Thomas present at the General Chapter of the Order in London in 1263, according to modern historians.

There are many more instances of distorted facts and lack of information, but Mr. Payne probably wouldn't be interested. He intends to go on grinding out six or seven books a year, so he won't find time actually to get acquainted with the Fathers of the Western Church.

D.M.N.

BRIEF NOTICES

Simple Rosary Meditations. By a Dominican Tertiary. Westminster, Md., Newman Press, 1951. pp. 164. \$2.25.

A perfect recitation of the Rosary must include at least an attempt at meditation upon the mysteries which comprise this special prayer to Our Lady. However, many find that the meditation is the most difficult part of this wonderful prayer. Their attention wanders very easily and the resultant distraction often leads to discouragement, and consequently to discontinuance of the prayer.

It is this difficulty that the author wishes to alleviate. The book is designed as an aid in keeping the mysteries of Our Savior's life constantly before the mind during recitation. With the message of Fatima in mind, the author first offers meditations on the mysteries, with peace as their theme; then the theological virtues and the seasons of the liturgical year. True to the title, the meditations are short and simple—composed for the average reader.

With the help of this little book, a more fruitful meditation is certain to result in a more perfect and efficacious prayer. "If we would truly raise our minds and hearts to God, therefore, we shall fill them with the knowledge and love of God made man."

T.M.