

NEW BOOKS.

We have received from the publishers (Whitcombe and Tombs, Ltd.) a copy of 'Exercises in English for the Public Examinations of New Zealand.' The book (by A. N. Burns, B.A., edited by J. Hight, M.A.) contains spelling lists, unpunctuated passages for punctuation, exercises in turning direct into indirect narrative and vice-versa, exercises in synthesis of sentences, spelling notes, subjects of essays set in the public examinations, questions on synonyms and English composition, and sentences for correction. The book is published in two forms, A and B; the former (with keys, etc.) being recommended for adult and private students, the other (without keys but with additional exercises) for pupils of Standard VII. and high and secondary schools. We strongly recommend this useful little book to those in charge of Catholic primary and secondary schools (pp. 96, cloth limp, 1s).

Finn Brothers, Sydney, have brought out an interesting little book by Father Shearman, C.S.S.R., entitled 'The Veneration of St. Agnes, V.M., Mary's Waiting-Maid.' Father Shearman has made a life-study of the story of St. Agnes and in the present book has gathered together a great amount of interesting matter dealing with his subject from saints, popes, and cardinals, religious Orders and societies, from literature, liturgy, and art, and from the history of different countries. Father Shearman wields a facile pen and has produced an exceedingly readable and interesting brochure on his favorite saint. (Pp. 116, paper cover, 1s).

The best and most compact thing yet produced on the Rosary is, we think, the 24-page booklet by our esteemed friend 'Petronius' of the 'Austral Light.' It is entitled 'The Rosary and How to Say It,' and contains a series of apt and well arranged quotations from the Holy Scriptures appropriate to the different mys-

teries. In the course of a highly commendatory notice the Archbishop of Melbourne describes the little Rosary Book as 'simple in thought, in arrangement, in form, in appearance.' His Grace writes in terms of praise of the forms of meditation, the reflections which follow the announcement of each mystery and the passages of Scripture bearing thereon. 'I earnestly recommend,' says he, 'this little book for public and private devotion, for personal and family use.' (One penny, W. P. Linehan, Publisher, 309-311 Little Collins street, Melbourne).

We have received from the publishers (Burns and Oates, London) 'A True Historical Relation of the Conversion of Sir Tobie Matthew to the Holy Catholic Faith; with the Antecedents and Consequences thereof.' The book is now published for the first time and is edited, with a preface, by his kinsman, A. H. Matthew. Sir Tobie was a Jesuit and knight and passed through the strenuous times of the persecutions of Queen Elizabeth and her successor. He was the son of a famous Protestant divine who was notorious in the North of England for his severity towards 'Popish recusants.' Young Matthew was noted for his skill as an orator and disputant, and was the life-long and intimate friend of Francis Bacon. A visit to Italy in 1605 led to his conversion, and he was received into the Church in Florence. Later on he studied for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained in that city by Cardinal Bellarmine in 1614. The story of his life, his conversion, and his work as told by himself in the volume before us, which, for its intrinsic interest and literary finish will commend itself to all who are interested in seeing, with the eyes of a contemporary, what Catholic life in England was in the stormy days of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The book is faultless in paper, type, etc. (Pp. xvi.-178, 3s 6d net).

The books mentioned above can be obtained through any of the booksellers whose announcements appear in our advertising columns.

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