

result of deep study and careful preparation, characteristic of all the books written by the Brothers. If we are to judge of the education imparted by the Brothers from the quality of the literary efforts of members of their order, we can say that no better proof of the excellence of their methods could be given than the high standard of this book as well as of the many other able treatises on English which are the fruit of their labors.

A small volume, entitled "Suggestions on English Literature," accompanies the text book, and is designed as a sort of companion volume to it. It contains numerous valuable explanatory notes together with quotations, on the authors reviewed, taken from many eminent critics.

NOTES ON ENGLISH GRAMMAR. By A. A. Brockington: The Copp, Clark Company, Limited, Toronto.

The above is a short treatise on English Grammar, containing many useful remarks; yet, it seems to us to lack that thoroughness, simplicity, and clear system which should be the especial characteristics of all books placed in the hands of the young student. There is a tendency now-a-days among compilers to depart from old methods, and particularly is this true of writers on grammar. Definitions are almost entirely neglected, and a knowledge of the subject sought to be imparted rather by insinuation. This method, we believe, is far less clear and far less satisfactory than that formerly used. There is much in these old grammars that may justly be called out of date; nevertheless, they certainly excel in simplicity and clearness.

SAGGIO DELLA METAFISICA DI S. TOMMASO D'AQUINO. By Rev'd J. Lemius, O.M.I., Member of the Roman Academy of St. Thomas, Consultor of the Sacred Congregation of Studies.

This is the first of a series of dissertations on the Metaphysics of St. Thomas to be read before the Academy of St. Thomas in Rome. That Academy founded by Leo XIII. has for object a special study of the teachings of the great Scholastic Doctor. The claims of St. Thomas on the patronage of the Pontiffs and on the

study of Catholic Theologians are eloquently set forth in the brief eulogy with which our learned author begins his dissertation. "Endowed with genius of the higher order, both in its extent and acumen, St. Thomas embraced and penetrated the universe, conceived it in his mind and then expressed it in his works. This, the name Angelic Doctor, ascribed to him through ages, proclaims, as if he rivalled those sublime spirits who receive the impress of God's works from the hand that created them."

The present essay, an introduction to the field which the author purposes to explore, deals with the nature of intellectual knowledge. The method is synthetic, bringing together from all parts of the works of St. Thomas his doctrine on that abstruse question. The little work evinces throughout a profound study of Scholastic Philosophy and a thorough acquaintance with the writings of the Angelic Doctor. In the introduction we have a brief but lucid explanation of the mysterious union of the soul and body. The scope of intellectual activity is then defined; the role of the senses and the line of demarcation between matter and spirit are pointed out with clearness and precision. We have read this dissertation with great pleasure. It is just what we expected from a man of eminent abilities who has made the works of St. Thomas the study of his life. The remaining essays we hope will soon be forthcoming; they will contribute in a great degree to elucidate some of the most difficult points of Scholastic Philosophy.

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## SOCIETIES.

### DEBATING SOCIETIES.

Again the season for debating societies has come upon us, and the students of '95-'96 are not backwards in following the path laid down by their predecessors in the College halls. The Senior English Debating Society has been organized during the past week, and promises to be a great success, if we may judge by the enthusiasm shown in the class-rooms during the election of the representatives for each form. The Rev. Father Patton has been