

" 'To thee will I give the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth shall be bound in heaven, etc.' " When he had finished, he turned to his companion and remarked, "Why, it was to one man Christ was speaking ! Thou and thee ! How personal and direct it all is. Peter held the keys of heaven." The two men looked each other in the eyes and saw the flash of conviction reflected there. Both became Catholics and both attributed their conversion to the force of the text calmly conned from its most appropriate page, the dome of the world's cathedral.

The polished manners, the high-bred bearing so difficult of attainment,—all that goes to constitute a gentleman ; the carriage, grace, gestures, voice ; the ease, the self-possession, the courtesy ; the talent of not offending, the generosity and forbearance — these qualities, some of them come by nature, some are found in any rank, some are the direct precept of Christianity.—Cardinal Newman.

Gotthold, a devout farmer, had accustomed himself to contemplate everything in a religious sense, and to compare the doings of nature with the doings of men, in order to draw wholesome lessons from everything that came under his notice. This becoming known, he was often sought out by persons who wished to profit by his study and meditation. Thus a friend one day told him that he had seen a hawk descend from the air for the purpose of stealing a fowl, and asked whether such an incident could suggest any good or useful thought. "Why not ?" rejoined Gotthold. "That bird is a figure of a worldly-minded man, who, while wearing an appearance of godliness, denies the power thereof. That bird soars aloft, and would seem to aim at heaven, while its sharp eyes are constantly turned towards the earth, watching for prey. Such are

all hypocrites. Their conversation is on sublime topics ; they go to church, and even approach the Sacraments ; they pray, read and sing, but their hearts are on the earth."

BOOK REVIEWS, ETC.

Catholic Home Annual for 1902. Benziger Bros., New York. Price 25 cents.

This charming and progressive annual, now in its 19th year, comes again in bright attire, replete with good things for its many admirers. Pretty and well-selected pictures, bright instructive stories, large and curious information on pertinent subjects, as heretofore, characterise its make-up. A new feature has been added in having prominent writers give short original stories. This will prove a boon to our largely increasing number of young writers in thus affording them correct models of pure English. It will also teach these aspirants to a pure style how to strike the salient fact in a brief essay—by no means an easy thing. Another point not to be overlooked is the catalogue of books of devotion and instruction and entertainment, many of which ought to be in every growing family. Yet it is the constant cry of pastors for years past that the Catholic home is ill-provided with proper literature to meet the wants of the times. We cheerfully recommend this little Annual to all our readers, hoping also that it will find its way into every Catholic home.

Special Introduction to the Study of the Old Testament, by Rev. Francis E. Gigot, S.S., Part I. Benziger Bros., New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, 1901. Price \$1.50.

It would seem at first sight that a book like this should be put exclusively into the reviewing department of a magazine specially devoted to priests and seminarians. Time was when that would be the truth and the fact. But we have lit upon