

importance was attached to Vesta in historical times. He finds a stronger link where Aeneas, bidden by the Sibyl to vow and pray, shows his intention of supervising the cult of his city when founded, and promises the temples to Apollo, which in Virgil's time included the splendid erection on the Palatine, and a shrine for the Sibyl where will be kept her oracles and the secrets of fate revealed to his people. Incidentally Professor Rose notes how thoroughly Aeneas on occasion can be Augustus, for Virgil could not have imagined there would be temples before Rome was built and that was some centuries after Aeneas's time, and he knew that the Sibylline books were in the keeping of Jupiter Capitolinus until his own day.

Thus the modern scholar has found the real justification for the statement of antiquity, and Professor Rose when in conclusion he quotes the final words of the speaker in Macrobius, 'Do you not think I have made it out that without a knowledge of law civil and ecclesiastical the depths of Virgil cannot be sounded?' very justly claims that his essay clearly indicates the force of that question.

R. R. BRIDGES.

ITALIAN PROSE USAGE: A supplement to Italian Grammars. By Walter Shewring. (Cambridge University Press; 6s.)

Being 'addressed to those who are learning to write Italian', this little book can only be tested in practice. A first reading, however, gives confidence, as well as pleasure; for those who have enjoyed Mr Shewring's less technical writings will not find this one lacking in the precise and economical elegance they have learned to expect from him.

If Italian prose is but one strand in the web of our culture no one can write really well about it, even as briefly as this, who does not know about a good many other things as well. That is Mr Shewring's less obvious advantage; the other is his understanding of the strength and colour of this particular strand. His observations have a first-hand freshness; and they are beautifully arranged. The 'Notes' at the end supplement, and in many points correct, Hoare's standard Italian Dictionary.

K.F.

THE CHURCHES PICTURED BY PUNCH. By A. L. Drummond. (The Epworth Press; 5s.)

The clergy have, since 'Punch' was first published, been one of its staple subjects of jest, latterly always good-humoured, but in the beginning by no means always so. Naturally the chief emphasis has been on the clergy of the Establishment, and this pleasant little book gives us a very fair history of the Church of England from the time of the Oxford Movement until the 1914 war. It is noticeable how the Catholic clergy nowadays *never* appear in the pages of 'Punch'.

P.F.