

pation Act was an important constitutional reform wrung from a reluctant King and Parliament by the pressure of a highly organized and disciplined Catholic Association of Ireland. Fr Reynolds sees the Catholic Association as the model pressure group, a model followed by the agitators for parliamentary reform in England and by pressure groups of other kinds in other places since. From this point of view he studies the origin, development, organization and tactics of the Association, using its official papers, many of which he has brought to light for the first time, and contemporary letters and reports.

The Emancipation controversy generated not a little heat which in some degree persisted long after the passing of the Act. The failure of the later agitation for the repeal of the Union, and O'Connell's quarrels with the younger men of his following, left a legacy of bitterness which is not all dissipated yet. It is refreshing therefore to read a thorough and scholarly study of the agitation and its leaders, which is calm in tone and cool in judgment at every point.

URBAN FLANAGAN, O.P.

SECOURS DE LA GRACE ET SECOURS DE LA MEDECINE. By Jean-Pierre Schaller. (Desclée de Brouwer)

This book might have been very useful. The hierarchy of values between the realms of grace and medicine needs firmly maintaining. The roles of confessor and psychiatrist should not be interchanged. Yet the importance of co-operation between priest and doctor is immense; and the Catholic doctor knows the great advantages which his patient may gain in their whole being from a proper use of the sacraments.

Unfortunately, the treatment here accorded to those matters is banal and complacent. The author shows considerable acquaintance with the great French masters of the spiritual life, but his knowledge of medical matters is secondhand. He seems practically to identify psychotherapy with Freudian analysis; and, when that is open to so much legitimate criticism, it is a pity that it should be beaten with the wrong stick.

Most unfortunate of all is the statement made by Professor Jean L'Hermitte in his introduction that 'The leucotomy of the surgeon is less dangerous than the investigation of the psychoanalysts'. To prefer an operation of despair to psychotherapy is an unbalanced medical judgment of highly doubtful ethics. This is not a book of serious import.

E. B. STRAUSS