

Boekbesprekingen — Comptes rendus

Adalbero KUNZELMANN, O.S.A., *Geschichte der deutschen Augustiner-Eremiten*, vierter Teil : *Die kölnische Provinz bis zum Ende des Mittelalters* (Cassiciacum XXVI, Teil IV). Augustinus-Verlag, Würzburg 1972. S. xii + 298.

With delight we greet the 4th volume of the present work, of which we have already presented the previous volumes on these pages. After the 1st volume had presented the history of the one undivided Germanic province in the 13th century, the following volumes dealt singly with the four provinces which were formed out of the one in 1299 : the Rheno-Swabian (vol. 2); the Bavarian (vol. 3); and now the province of Cologne in vol. 4. When volume 5 appears, treating of the Thuringian-Saxon province and of the Saxon congregation (to which Luther belonged), scholars will happily dispose of a good history of the Augustinian order in Germany up to the 16th century. Later volumes are slated to bring the history of the three provinces which remained up until modern times.

This 4th volume has the good qualities of the preceding three. It contains a great amount of information, carefully drawn out of (sometimes not concordant) sources. Long citations, usually in Latin, enable the reader to control the statements made in the text. In this regard we find one slight discrepancy : on p. 111 it is stated that the prior general Guglielmo Becchi took only 10 days for his visit from Bruges to England and back, whereas the text cited in note 476 states that Becchi left for England *circa principium aprilis* and returned *circa medium Maii*; cf. note 477 also. But the solid qualities of this book far outweigh the very few defects. In a very logical way it explains in ch. 1 the name and development of the province. Chapter 2 gives us a history of the Rhenish and the Netherland convents founded in the 13th century. New convents, founded in the 14th and 15th centuries, are described in chapter 3. The 4th and last chapter gives a list of the provincials of the 14th and 15th centuries, a history of the chief events in the province during the years of their provincialship, and a biography as complete as the sources permit. A reliable list of abbreviations permits the author to quote frequently valuable works with long titles, without having to waste much valuable and costly space. Particularly interesting to the present reviewer were : the list of Augustinians who were deans of the theological faculty of the university of Cologne, and the description of this large monastery with its 130 religious as well as that of Louvain (8-47 and 69-83).

One reads with profit of the difficulties with the Saxon reform congregation (e.g. 37) and of the privileges given to the provincial of the province of Cologne in 1384 and 1391, which are strikingly similar to those given to the provincial of Bavaria at this time, Leonhard of Villach or of Carinthia (194 and 199). A few trifles may be here mentioned for correction : Mechelen is *not* the capital of the province of Antwerp (83); the title words of pp. 75 and 125 should be Löwen and Maastricht, instead of Lüttich and Enghien. The name Wichwael is not found in the index, but is found in the text along with the varying form Michwael. The indices are however usually very reliable.

At the end of this useful volume, the author admits that the picture of the province consists of some elements which are edifying and of others which give less pleasure to an historian of the same order. Yet he states — we believe with objective justification — that the overall picture of the province of Cologne is one of which the order can well be proud. The false statement that the vast majority of German Augustinians went over to Luther is factually contradicted by the list of Augustinian monasteries of this province which yielded only to the force of arms or to the overpowering intervention of the state to give up their heritage — and even then in many cases yielded only for a time, and then began the task of rebuilding.

We now await with supreme interest the 5th volume of this history, with the story of the Saxon «reform» congregation, usually confused by uninformed historians with the Augustinian order in Germany. But now that we have these excellent volumes of Dr. Kunzelmann, such an ignorance will remain inexcusable.

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Benigno A. L. VAN LUIJK, *Le monde augustinien du XIII^e au XIX^e siècle*. Assen, VanGorcum & Comp., 1972, 72 pp. et 11 cartes.

For the study of the history of the religious orders a historical atlas is indispensable. For the Augustinian Hermits such an atlas has recently been compiled by Benigno van Luijk O.S.A., who already has many writings on the history of the order to his name. In 1973 he produced, at the *Augustijns Historisch Instituut* of Heverlee, a substantial work in which he threw light on the reform movements in the augustinian order up to the French Revolution.

The atlas provides a historical survey of the establishment and development of the order with considerable attention paid to the observance-congregation, a general bibliography and maps of the provinces divided according to assistancies. The history of six centuries is concerned here, from 1200 to 1800. It is a pity that the compiler did not include the nineteenth century in his work. He could then have shown the enormous decline of the order under the influence of the