

of much general interest with the exception of the doings and sufferings of the students at Douay and St. Omer, during the French Revolution. The book is illustrated with a print of Crook Hall, and two or three other cuts which are very poorly done ; but the printing is good, and the whole get-up commendable.

The fourth volume of the Library of St. Francis de Sales (4) consists of letters "to persons in Religion." They are chiefly addressed to the members of the Order of Visitation which he founded, and give an insight into the relationship in which he stood to the ladies who, under various circumstances, applied to him for advice. The letters may possibly serve for the reading of the inmates of Nunneries and Religious Houses, who give themselves up to the practice of the "interior life"; but to the ordinary reader they simply show that St. Francis was a kind-hearted, patient, and devout man, who made the best use he could of his correspondence, which must have been somewhat extensive.

*Spiritual Retreats* (5) consists of notes of addresses given in the Convent of the Sacred Heart, at Roehampton, by Archbishop Porter, presumably to congregations of women. They are published with the purpose of keeping in the minds of these hearers the subjects brought before them by this prelate, and that purpose will no doubt be easily attained, as the notes are clear, and full enough for ordinary reading. We shall not be expected to agree with a good deal of what the Archbishop says ; but on the other hand his remarks on some subjects are sensible and useful ; what he says on the subject of "worrying," on the exercise of hope (pp. 230, 231), and on sins of the tongue are very good, and doubtless the Archbishop's opinion on the equality of the sexes found favour with his audience. With regard to mental prayer and meditation, he quotes Bellarmine's saying, that he would answer for the salvation of any one who made a quarter of an hour's meditation every day ; and he makes much of St. Dominic's invention of the rosary, which, the Archbishop says, has been the means of reviving the Church. He adds, "how such a result was produced is a puzzle to those who do not consider what the rosary is ;" and we may add it is a greater puzzle to many who do, for how saying Aves in a mechanical way can glorify God, or be prayer, or be pleasing to the Almighty is very difficult at least for non-Roman Catholics to see. We are glad to note that the Archbishop does not lay so much stress as many others on the worship of Mary, which is not in these considerations very largely