

sibility resting upon the authors and publishers of this trash and sooner or later human law will be obliged, in the defense of the stability of society, to declare such men common criminals, and amenable to the law for the effects of their work.

HONORS.

During the past week the lines have deepened on the countenances of several students of philosophy. The honor work has been announced and the honor classes in Philosophy and Political economy have been begun. But this fact alone would not be sufficient to explain the air of settled seriousness so evident in the bearing of our seniors. The true cause is that the work set is very extensive and quite difficult. Those who aim at honors in Philosophy and Political Science will be required in addition to the regular year's work, to pass an examination on the following: Plato, Republic; Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics; Cicero, De Legibus, Book I; St. Thomas, De Regimine Principum; De Maistre, Bacon's Philosophy; Herbert Spencer, On Education; Bastiat, Essays on Political Economy; Smith, Wealth of Nations. Hence those long-drawn smiles. However there are several consolations. The first is that both the Rev. Professors of Philosophy have decided to devote several hours a week to the honor students and to aid them in any specially knotty passages, besides supplementing the work by regular explanatory lectures. Second, those who succeed will know that they well deserve their honors; if any fail, at least they cannot but acquire much invaluable knowledge. Then the course is complete, embracing ancient, mediæval, and modern philosophy, and representative works from each of the great schools of political economy. So that, though the work is extensive and success doubtful, only good can ultimately result to those who follow the course.

THE RETREAT.

No exercise of the scholastic year is of more importance than the annual retreat. In every sense this is true. A good retreat bears with it innumerable advantages, moral and intellectual; an indifferent or a bad retreat is the cause of just as many disadvantages. There was every visible token that the retreat in the college was all that could be desired. The students seemed to enter upon it seriously and persevered throughout in the observation of the rules of conduct for the various exercises. There was no supervision, either actual or necessary, and the general appearance was one of genuine earnestness. Hence great things were naturally expected and the result has amply fulfilled those great expectations. The gratitude of the students is due, and we are sure is heartily accorded, to Rev. Fathers Riordan and Langevin who preached in English and French respectively. On a special occasion such as a retreat special efforts must be to obtain good preachers. Students are proverbially hard to please, and even during the time of retreat cannot put aside entirely their critical habits. When points that may be criticized appear the ordinary student cannot resist the temptation and inwardly falls. The best compliment, therefore, that can be paid to a preacher is that he pleased a student audience. That Rev. Fathers Riordan and Langevin did this the remarks of all the students prove, while the retreat was an evidence of the powerful effect of their sermons. We feel confident that good results will continue to flow from the uniformly excellent retreat of this year.

He may well be styled a public benefactor who places within the reach of all wholesome intellectual food. In this respect we know of no one more worthy of praise than that enterprising publisher, Mr. John B. Alden, New York. In an