

the King he visited the French colonies of the Western hemisphere for several years. On returning he made his report, but his book, the "Histoire et Description Generale de la Nouvelle France," did not appear until 1744. There (Livre VIII., Vol. 1, 343), he says:

"A city (Montreal), began to grow, the foundation of which constitutes one of the fairest ornaments of New France. Montreal owes it to Marguerite Bourgeoys. With no other resource, but her courage and her trust in God, she undertook to afford all the young persons of her sex, no matter how poor or destitute, an education which many girls, even of good families, do not receive in the best ordered kingdoms. She succeeded to that degree, that you constantly behold with renewed astonishment, women in the very depth of indigence and want, perfectly instructed in their religion, ignorant of nothing they should know how to employ themselves usefully in their families, and who by their manner of expressing themselves and their politeness, are not inferior to the most carefully educated amongst us. This is the just meed of praise rendered to the sisters of the Congregation by all who have made any stay in Canada."

This tribute from a French scholar from France, together with his well known testimony to the excellence and purity of the French tongue as used in this colony under the French regime, is a severe indictment against those thoughtlessly presuming to stigmatize it, and its descendants as lacking in education and refinement.