

COAINA,
THE ROSE OF THE ALGONQUINS

INTRODUCTION.

Wh have no dislike to religious fictions ; but where authentic facts are already too abundant for our limited space, we see no reason to lay aside realities in which divine grace has been the chief agent, and some human heart the real scene of the action, for the sake of suppositions or inventions of the mind, were they ever so pious and interesting.

When the following pages were presented to us by their well-known gifted authoress, we felt delighted with their beautiful diction and their deeply interesting incidents ; still we would not have presented the rich sketch, had it been merely a fine tale. We therefore felt no ordinary gratification, when we received, a few days since, the reply which we subjoin, inclosing four pages of a closely-written letter from our venerable friend, Bishop de Charbonnel, containing, in substance, the whole history of Coaina. But let the illustrious authoress herself introduce, not the story, but the history of her admirable heroine :

WASHINGTON, January 27, 1866.

VERY REV. SIR :

After the time and labor I have expended on Coaina, I have not fully in my power to authenticate its truthfulness, under our