

LIFE OF THE VENERABLE SISTER MARGARET BOURGEOIS.

CHAPTER I.

THE DISCOVERY OF CANADA AND COLONIZATION OF MONTREAL.

Every one knows that America is called the New World because, until the close of the 15th century, it was unknown to the other nations of the earth—at least it was then unknown to Europe. Until quite near the end of that century, Canada was absolutely a *terra incognita*—being one vast forest, inhabited only by the red man, and by beasts as wild and untamable as he. In the year 1534, James Cartier, a skilful navigator, being provided with a commission from the King of France, set sail from St. Malo, with two ships of sixty tons burden, carrying one hundred and twenty-two well-equipped seamen, in order to reconnoitre that part of the New