

FLOWERS OF CATHOLIC FAITH.

Whilst narrating the struggles and conquests of the Faith in the distant East and the far West, these Annals will not outgo their object in exposing to the consideration of their readers one of the wonders of divine charity, which the catholic Faith is operating in our own midst. The religious Order of the Carmelites, with its sublime object and its heroic virtues, is one of the miracles of divine charity which the Catholic Church alone has hitherto been able to produce, one of the fruits of divine grace, by which the good tree may easily be discerned. Its implantation on the soil of Canada, and the gathering of its first flower, offer a subject of the greatest interest, and cannot fail to win the admiration of all generous souls.

On the 16th of April, 1875, five Carmelite Nuns, at the request of the venerable Bishop of Montreal, left the Carmel of Reims (France) on their way to Canada, where their presence had long been anxiously desired. They refused none of the sacrifices offered them; willingly they parted from their country, their families, their friends; for the love of God they abandoned the cherished abode of many happy years, to which they were attached by the sweetest affections. Above all, they desired to comply with the designs of God, to labor for his glory, and to share with the chosen souls whom He might lead to join them, the inestimable grace of their holy vocation. They desired moreover to bring down upon Canada itself the blessings of heaven by their prayers, their good works, their life of continual penance and mortification; for such is the sole object of their Order.