

## PREFACE

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Some twenty years ago the pages of the "Glimpses of the Monastery" were written to supply a want which had long been felt; namely, that of possessing in English, and within a small compass, an account of the chief events that have marked the history of the Convent since its foundation.

The object of the work suggested the plan. It was not to be a dry compendium of facts and dates. It should represent the character and spirit of the institution of which it treats, by presenting before the reader the varying vicissitudes through which it has passed from the first hazardous undertaking of its foundation to the present day. It should introduce us not only to those "valiant women" who shared the courage and long suffering of the holy priests and missionaries of the "heroic age" of Canada, but it should acquaint us also with some of those facts and incidents which occur to vary the uniformity of convent life, presenting us even the more intimate pictures of the lives of the nuns.

Such was the plan of the work which, however, had