

## PREFACE.

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THE circumstance which led to the production of the little effusion here presented, is as follows:—The Author was asked for a contribution to the columns of a religious periodical published at Halifax, N. S., some years ago. On reflection it was thought that a simple description of some of the religious rites and devotional exercises of the Church would form a subject best calculated to edify the youthful readers for whose instruction the task was undertaken. The "Month of Mary" was then written, amid the distractions of numerous missionary duties in which the writer was engaged—which circumstance will, it is hoped, ensure the kind reader's indulgence for the imperfections found in it. Whatever of merit it may possess must be attributed entirely to the sacred but familiar subject selected, and to a desire to adhere strictly to accuracy in the description of real scenes witnessed. Two or three shorter pieces written at an earlier period, are added. A limited number of copies are issued in the present form for circulation amongst those members of the writer's flock, who are now so agreeably occupied in the interesting exercises of the "Month of Mary."

Chatham, Miramichi, N. B.

Feast of St. John before the Latin Gate, May 6, 1861.