

INTRODUCTION.

IN presenting to the public the strange and startling narrative of SARAH J. RICHARDSON, it has not been the object of the compiler to make a "book that will sell," or to cater to the taste of the wonder-loving crowd by making the most of the facts before her.

In no case has she allowed herself to draw upon imagination for material to make out the story, nor has she presumed to interrupt the narrative with such remarks or suggestions as may have occurred to her own mind. But, leaving the reader to make his own reflections, draw his own inferences, and form his own opinion of the incidents related, she has simply endeavored to present to the world the plain, unvarnished story of cruelty and suffering, as related by the nun herself. That it may invite investigation, and elicit truth, is the earnest wish of

THE COMPILER.