

THE LATE BISHOP GUIGUES.

JOSEPH EUGENE BRUNO GUIGUES was born at Gap, in France, on the 25th of August, 1805. His father, Bruno Guigues, was an officer of Dragoons under Napoleon I.; his mother, a pious and educated lady of respectable family. The spirit of discipline, strict adherence to principle and duty of the one parent, and the mildness, gentleness of disposition, and piety of the other, were inherited by their son. While studying at the Seminary of Forcaltier, these qualities and the richness of his intelligence attracted attention and won distinction, which his humility and modesty attempted in vain to avoid. In 1828, on the 26th day of May, the young Levite was ordained Priest; and soon afterwards, led on by a zeal for the conversion of souls, he joined the Missionary Congregation of *Oblats de Marie Immaculée* which had been just founded by Monseigneur de Mazenod, Bishop of Marseilles. In this new field he labored faithfully until the month of August, 1844, when he was sent out to Canada as Perpetual Visitor or Provincial to the small community of Oblates established at Longueuil, near Montreal. About the same date a pastor was stationed for the first time at the little village called Bytown, now Ottawa, the capital of this vast Dominion. Four years later Bytown was created an Episcopal See, and Father Guigues was named its first Bishop. On July 30th, 1848, he was consecrated, and immediately began the organization of his diocese. This was no easy task. From Bytown inclusive to Lake Temiscamingue, there were but five priests, and an equal number of wretched huts which served the purpose of chapels. But the country began to thrive, and the Bishop redoubled his energies. Difficulties which appeared insurmountable were conquered; a Cathedral was first erected, then an Hospital, next a College and Seminary, School-houses, Chapels in new missions, and so on until all wants were at least temporarily supplied. In all these undertakings he was ably supported by his little band of clergy who worked with his will and energy. As the settlers increased in number so did the missionaries; not in equal proportion, but, thanks to God and their own stout hearts, sufficiently to spread the faith and preserve it. It must be remembered that at this period bigotry was rampant along the Ottawa. The immigrants were chiefly Irish, and they brought with them all the traditions, good and bad, of the old land. These flourished on the new soil, and often led to riot and blood-shed. The year '49, a year of troubles throughout the old province of Canada, was a year of terror in Bytown. Armed encounters between the two parties frequently took place, and several