

ensure the future of her community. With no other funds than unbounded trust in God's Providence, she set out on the long journey. Her confidence was amply justified by more than one almost miraculous instance of God's fatherly solicitude. Thus, when on her arrival in Paris, she knew not where to turn for aid, she met a stranger who asked her whether she could give him Sister Bourgeoys' address, as he had a sum of money to return to her. Two years of journeying amid the trials and difficulties of seventeenth century travel resulted in a threefold gain. Thanks to Colbert's influence, the Letters Patent were duly signed by Louis XIV, and registered in the Parliament of Paris. Six generous recruits joined the Congregation de Notre Dame and, these, with the grateful Foundress, were blessed by Mgr. de Laval, who had reached Paris from Quebec not long before. A devout client of Mary, Monsieur de Fancamp, gave Mother Bourgeoys a miraculous statue of