

BIOGRAPHIES  
OF THE FIRST BENEFACTORS  
OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE  
DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY SERVANTS OF THE POOR  
(SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE)

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MONSEIGNEUR IGNACE BOURGET  
SECOND BISHOP OF MONTREAL, AND FOUNDER  
OF THE COMMUNITY  
OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF PROVIDENCE

A certain historian has aptly remarked, that it suffices simply to recall some names to awaken a host of glorious memories. Assuredly, the name of Monseigneur Bourget has that power. Its meaning could be interpreted in many ways as model of priests and prelates; doctor of souls; champion of the interests of the Church; father of the Poor. One title given him long before his earthly career ended, often heard on the lips of the people, and openly proclaimed on the day of his obsequies was that of *Saint*. How many times since has he