
INTRODUCTION

Meanwhile, the religious society which she had founded continued to prosper and, increasing in numbers, opened houses in many continental cities. At Munich, these consecrated ladies established a training school for the daughters of the nobility of Bavaria. The discipline and code of rules drawn up by Mary Ward was approved by the Archbishop and, at his urgent request and on the appeal of the Duke of Bavaria, received the approbation—1703—of the reigning Pontiff, Clement XI. In 1877, Pius IX renewed the approbation and confirmed the official name of the Community, fixing as a permanency its ecclesiastical title "Institute of Mary."

From this House in Bavaria came—1686—to Micklegate-Bar, York, England, the brave and saintly few who re-established Community life and helped to save the Church in England.

This Micklegate Convent—by providential interposition or by the influence of some one near the throne—escaped suppression and confiscation during the terrible penal days, and continued for many years to train the daughters of English Catholics to high ideals, and in all the accomplishments, refinement and Christian amenities which appeal to cultured minds. From this refined home of the Community there radiated rays of light which illuminated the religious darkness shrouding the reigns of William III and Queen Anne. In 1821, Archbishop Murray, of Dublin, invited the Sisters of the Institute at Micklegate to open a Convent at Rathfarnham, in his diocese. In