

Sisters
OF THE
Good Shepherd.

ORIGIN AND OBJECT.

Rejoice with me because I have found my sheep that was lost. — S. Luke, XV. 6.

The life of man, says holy Job, is filled with many miseries. This is a truth re-echoed by the testimony of all ages and which cannot be gainsayed. These miseries and sufferings, though they are manifold, may, however, be classed under a few heads; they can all or nearly all be included under the loss of friends, loss of property, loss of health, loss of reputation. Christian charity comes gladly to the relief of those who suffer from one or more of these misfortunes. There are asylums for the orphan, for the poor aged or infirm, there are hospitals for the sick. Yet apart from these asylums and hospitals, private charity can do and does much for their relief. Christian families often adopt the child left without father or mother, the poor sick man or woman is frequently the object of the care and attention of a number of charitable neighbours. But there is a suffering greater than that of the orphan or the sick patient — it is the agony of the bruised, though sinful heart, that in some haunt of vice, is sighing for its deliverance from sin and misery. It alas! finds no charitable hand to raise it up, while it finds hosts to deride its regrets and agony and false friends and its own passions who try to keep it where it is. To the relief of that poor heart no one can come; even the most charitable persons dare