PREFACE.

part of his projected work, nothing having been found among his papers, except a sketch of his plan.

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While the labors of the learned bishop and priest never appeared for the instruction and encouragement of the Catholie body in this country, a contribution to the Ecclesiastical History of the United States was made by a French gentleman sojourning in our land. Henri de Courey de la Roche Héron, one of the collaborators under Louis Venillot in the Paris "Univers," an excellent Catholie, noble, talented, and gifted with keen appreciation and judgment, became engaged in mereantile affairs in New York. He continued his contributions to the "Univers," and finding that the ideas he had imbibed in France as to the history of the Church in this country were very incorrect, he set to work in his leisure moments to obtain from the best sources accessible a clearer and more accurate view. He was encouraged by many high in position in the Church. Bishop Brnté's papers were opened to him; he received important aid from Archbishop Kenriek and from bishops and priests in all parts of the country. I placed at his disposal the books and collections I had made. In time he began a series of articles in the "Univers." They attracted attention, and I translated them for some of our Catholic papers. When his articles had treated of the history of the Church in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York in part, deelining health compelled him to return to Europe, where he soon after died. His articles were never collected in book form in French, but the English translation was issued here, and has been for some thirty years the most comprehensive account accessible of the history of the Church in this country. He treated the subject from his point of view as a French Legitimist, and while I respected him, in many cases I could not share his ideas; I simply translated his words. It is a stigma on

ii