
REV. MOTHER TERESA DEASE

polis where the best advantages were then obtained, and where the religious and intellectual mind was best developed.

How thorough must have been the instruction she then received in the studies she pursued, was evident to the last day of her life. Ruskin's idea seems to be, that whatever a woman learns, she should thoroughly master, and he inclines to the belief, that for one of the gentler sex, a limited area of knowledge that is accurate is preferable to a wider field carelessly gone over. But anyone who in the after years ever knew the foundress of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in America, could never imagine her doing or learning anything in a half hearted fashion. Ellen Dease learnt much and well. Her French accent and pronunciation were a marvel to natives of that land who can excuse anything rather than the murdering of their beautiful language by strangers. Her fluency of speech in that tongue was acquired by long practice in conversation with her French governesses. Italian she spoke equally well, and it was a supreme delight to her to be able to give some assistance to clergymen who had devoted their earlier years more to the study of Latin and Greek than to that of modern languages. Her musical education was thorough, and in the years that were to come, her refined taste which was pleased only with the best, elevated the standard of compositions taught in the schools, for she appreciated only what was classic.

A casual or indifferent onlooker, during the time of her scholastic training, would have judged that the young lady was being carefully prepared to adorn