

in great measure, her religious vocation. The day on which his dear protege was enrolled under the standard of St. Ursula was for the noble missionary a day of unspeakable happiness. In the course of his eloquent address he reminded the novice that so long as she was a minor no opportunity of returning to her country had presented itself, that now she was of age her parents could not object to her choice of a vocation, or would not disapprove when they should understand its excellence and sanctity.

• • • •

During the following year a treaty of peace between England and France was effected, restoring the colonies to comparative security, and the Ursulines were in daily expectation of receiving news from Miss Wheelwright's family. She had received the white veil, and was in the second year of her novitiate when pressing letters came from them urging their beloved Esther to return. Her tender heart rejoiced to receive news of her parents, and she was greatly moved at seeing the signatures of her father and mother, though she was unable to read their letters, having completely lost all knowledge of the English language; her heart, however, remained faithful to her engagement with God; her resolution to consecrate herself to Him in religion was not for a moment shaken; on the contrary, fearing her family would make still stronger efforts to withdraw her from the Convent, she hesought the Bishop, Mgr. de St. Vallier, to hasten the moment of her profession, to shorten the term of her noviceship, that