

in the diocese of Coutance. On the 24th of October, 1646, she took the religious habit among the Hospital nuns of Bayeux, where she had already an elder sister, her grandmother, a great aunt, and a cousin; the last named, the foundress of the convent. From the outset of her novitiate she, with great earnestness, sought permission to pass over to New France, and she obtained authority from her superiors; but as it was given subject to the good pleasure of her parents, it became unavailing, as her father not only refused his consent, but obtained a decree of the Parliament of Normandy forbidding the novice to leave the province.¹

A short time after this gentleman fell sick, and Providence permitted that a Relation of the captivity, sufferings, and death of Father Jogues should fall into his hands. He read it, and what must, one would think, confirm him in his first opinion with regard to his daughter, made him adopt just the contrary.² I find, in very authentic documents, that he went to see her, addressed her as a man touched and charmed at the resolution which she displayed in desiring to proceed to a country where there were so many hardships to undergo, and such great dangers to encounter: that as he beheld her more firm than ever in her design, he told her that he would willingly consent to what she wished, if one of her sisters, younger than herself, and also a novice in the same monastery, consented to accompany her: that the condition was ac-

¹ Ragueneau, *La Vie de la Mère Cathérine de Saint Avgvstin, Religieuse Hospitaliere de la Misericorde de Quebec en la Nouvelle France*, 12mo, Paris, 1671, pp. 16, 35; Marie (Forestier) de St. Bonaventure de Jesus, *Lettre Circulaire in Rel. de la Nouvelle France*, 1668, p. 32; Juchereau, *Histoire de l'Hotel-Dieu de Quebec*, p. 70.

² Ragueneau, *Vie de la Mère Cathérine*, p. 41; *Relation de la Nouvelle*

France, 1668, p. 33; *Relation*, 1648, p. 3. The Hospital nuns of Dieppe existed as far back as 1250. In 1562, their convent was destroyed by the Calvinists, and their archives perished. They were restored soon after, and in 1625 organized anew, as the "Congregation of the Mercy of Jesus," which Pope Alexander VII. approved by bull, July 19, 1664: Juchereau, *Hist. de l'Hotel-Dieu de Quebec*, pp. 167, 168.