VENERABLE PÈRE EUDES AND HIS WORK

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Venerable père Eudes and his work by P. A. Pinas

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P. A. PINAS

VENERABLE PÈRE EUDES AND HIS WORK



VENERABLE PÈRE EUDES

AND HIS WORKS

1601-1901

BY

P. A. PINAS, EUDIST

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY A RELIGIOUS OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY

T. AND A. CONSTABLE, EDINBURGH 1903

PREFACE

The Venerable Père Eudes, whom, we hope, the Church will not delay to raise to our altars, is, without doubt, one of the most remarkable men of the seventeenth century. An indefatigable missionary, during sixty years he laboured to combat religious ignorance and immorality. A declared enemy of Jansenism, with all the energy of his faith he fought against this fatal error. By the work of Seminaries for which he founded his Congregation, and by his writings, true treasure of piety and doctrine, he courageously undertook the reformation of the clergy. Finally, in founding the Order of Our Lady of Charity, he opened numerous asylums for weak and strayed souls.

Let us add that few men have urged, as far as he has, the practice of every Christian and sacerdotal virtue. But, notwithstanding all his works and merits, his name, his life, and his labours have remained in oblivion.

We wish that a complete and well studied life of this great servant of God would at length make him known and render apparent the influence which he exercised in his time, and which he still exercises even in our days by his different institutions.

Many authors, PP. Costil, Hérambourg, Le Beurier, Martine, De Montigny, and M. de Montzey, have left us interesting studies of the life, works, and virtues of Père Eudes. But all these works are incomplete; they are only sketches without colouring which demand a more skilful hand. We mentioned in a first edition that we had no intention of making up this deficiency, and of offering a complete portrait of the venerable apostle. Time and knowledge are wanting to us for such an undertaking. Our only aim is to trace a simple sketch, and to give in this small popular life an idea of the works and virtues of the V. P. Eudes, too little known. Soon, we hope, a pen better exercised if not more devoted than ours, will take in hand to give in full light the sweet sketch of

this great and holy person. In this new edition we have added the history up to the present day of each of the works established by the V. P. Eudes.

Thus, this small work is divided into two parts:

I. The V. P. Eudes and his works from 1601 to
the French Revolution; II. V. P. Eudes and his
works from the French Revolution to our days.

N.B.—To conform to the laws of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, we declare that the term 'saint,' given to the V. P. Eudes, or the word 'miracles,' attributed to his intercession, be taken in a general sense, and not in the strict acceptation, which the infallible judgment of the Church alone can authorise.



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