# THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS. THEIR ORIGIN AND WORK, WITH A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF THEIR FOUNDER, THE VENERABLE JEAN BAPTISTE DE LA SALLE

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The Christian Brothers. Their Origin and Work, with a Sketch of the Life of Their Founder, the Venerable Jean Baptiste De La Salle by Mrs. R. F. Wilson

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# MRS. R. F. WILSON

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# CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

## THEIR ORIGIN AND WORK

WITH A SKETCH OF

THE LIFE OF THEIR FOUNDER

THE VENERABLE

JEAN BAPTISTE DE LA SALLE

BY

MRS. R. F. WILSON

"Come, ye children, and hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord."-PSALN XXXIV. II



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## PREFACE.

THE sketch here given of the life and character of the founder of the Christian Brothers is taken (much abridged) from the "Histoire du Venerable Jean Baptiste de la Salle, par Armand Ravelet," published in 1874. For the notes on the after history of the Institute I am indebted to the very interesting "Vie du Frère Philippe, par M. Poujoulat;" "Les Frères des Écoles Chrétiennes, par le General Baron Ambert;" "Les Frères des Écoles Chrétiennes pendant la guerre de 1870-1871, par J. d'Arsac;" and to other smaller books and pamphlets furnished to me by the kindness of M. l'Abbé Martin; as also to some of the publications of the Institute, sent to me by one of the Assistant-Superiors at Paris, to whom, as well as to the Abbé Martin, I return grateful thanks.

I cannot but acknowledge at the same time the great kindness and affability with which Monseigneur Langénieux, the Archbishop of Rheims, received unknown strangers, and in every way facilitated our inquiries; and the extreme courtesy and hearty goodwill with which M. l'Abbé Meinil, Chaplain of the Brothers at Rheims, devoted his time to our service, showing us all over the Pensionnat des Frères, and other points of interest in that city.

If these lines should ever meet his eye, I hope he will accept them as the expression of a very grateful remembrance of his kindness.

M. W.

ROWNHAMS, SOUTHAMPTON, August, 1883.



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