

**TRIALS AND PERSECUTIONS OF  
MISS EDITH O'GORMAN,  
OTHERWISE SISTER TERESA DE  
CHANTAL, OF ST. JOSEPH'S  
CONVENT**

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Trials and persecutions of Miss Edith O'Gorman, otherwise sister Teresa de Chantal, of St. Joseph's Convent by Edith O'Gorman

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OF

MISS EDITH O'GORMAN,

OTHERWISE SISTER TERESA DE CHANTAL,

OF

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT,

HUDSON CITY, N. J.

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Written by Herself.

WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE PUBLISHERS.

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## PREFACE.

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I do not solicit the attention of the public for the purpose of exciting sympathy or seeking redress. Sympathy, though grateful, can do little to repair misfortunes, or to redress some wrongs; as for vengeance, if it be proper to consider it at all, it must be left with Him who has said, that it is His, and that "He will repay." I write because I feel that I ought not to be—nay, cannot be silent, knowing what I personally do of the wrongs and errors incident to the Romish system of religion; and knowing also that the *truth* will never be given to the public except by those who can write as I can, from personal experience and positive knowledge.

In laying this book before the public, I am guided by truth. I do not make a single statement which can be refuted. I give names, dates, and facts, challenging contradiction. My object is purely charitable. I wish to enlighten the blind, deluded, and superstitious Catholics with reference to the errors of their religion, and the unnatural discipline, and pernicious influence of the conventual life; and also to arouse the lukewarm, indifferent and unsuspecting among Protestants whose daughters may be attendants of some convent school, where they are being enticed from them through the intrigues and cunning of Jesuits and Sisters of Charity, who are adepts in beguiling unstable

hearts through the empty, theatrical, and alluring ceremonies of a religion which has a peculiar charm for children and weak minds, and for all who live according to the senses—not the spirit.

I have also truthfully detailed my own bitter experience, so replete with persecution and sorrow, that it will cause many to exclaim, "Is it possible that one woman can have endured such numerous and severe trials?" Few indeed, have tasted sorrow like unto mine; and I now bless "the Hand that chasteneth," for in no other way could I be cleansed from the dross of Catholic superstition, than by the purifying furnace of tribulation. Through the gate of suffering I have come out of bondage, and entered into the blessed "liberty of the children of God." Praise be to His ho'y name forever! This book is my own production, simple and true, and as such, I trust it will meet the approbation of my readers; and may God grant that it may be the means of saving one immortal soul from the slavery of Romanism and the living tomb of convents! If only one soul should be saved, I shall have accomplished a noble work!

EDITH O'GORMAN.

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

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A remarkable experience and wonderful success are here narrated. The author of this book had suffered great wrongs at the hands of a powerful Ecclesiastical hierarchy. Here she has spent most of her convent life. Here, a little more than a year ago, penniless, friendless, almost hopeless, she came to tell the story of her sufferings, and to unmask the errors and evils of the Romish Church. With earnest purpose, manifest sincerity and conscientious motives, she addressed herself to a task for which but few would have had sufficient courage. Public attention was immediately awakened, and an intense public interest aroused in behalf of a woman who simply claimed the right to tell the story of her wrongs, and to vindicate herself against the unjust aspersions of her enemies.

This story is here rehearsed for wider dissemination among the American public. As a brief history of a checkered and eventful life, as a significant protest against a church which