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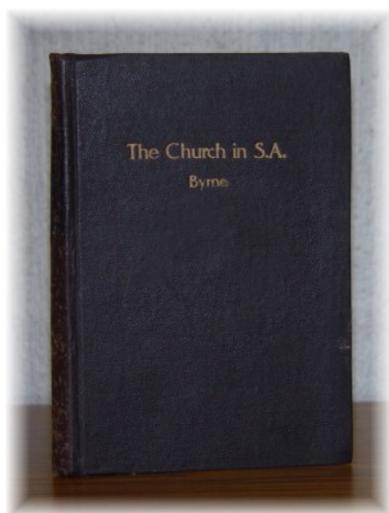
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The Catholic Church in South Australia

Ref. AU5021

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HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

BY THE RIGHT REV.

Monsignor F. BYRNE, D.D., V.G.

ADELAIDE, 1914.

J. P. HANSEN, ARCADE, ADELAIDE
PUBLISHER.

PREFACE

The priests of the Archdiocese of Adelaide often asked me to write the history of the Catholic Church in South Australia from the landing of the first few Catholics in December, 1836, till the death of Dr. Shiel, the third Bishop of Adelaide. They said that it would be a misfortune to leave unrecorded the struggles of the Church in the early days of its existence; that I am the link between the past and the present; and that unless I complied with their request many interesting facts would be forgotten at my death. After some hesitation, I complied, at their request, the present volume. I came to Adelaide during the episcopate of Dr. Murphy, from whom and from others I learned the facts which had happened before my arrival, and I have been a witness and even actor in many of the things which have since taken place.

Looking back at the poor and humble beginning of the Church in South Australia, and contrasting it with its present flourishing state should be a joy to all priests and people. It is wonderful so much could be done in so short a time. I hope the present volume will be acceptable to my brother priests and to other readers, as it will no doubt be to future historians of the Church.

FREDERICK BYRNE, V.G.

Nihil Obstat:

R. W. SPENCE, O.P.,
Cencor deputatus.

Imprimatur:

JOANNES O'REILY,
Archbishop of Adelaide.

HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

BOOK THE FIRST

FROM THE LANDING OF FIRST CATHOLICS IN 1836
TO THE COMING OF FIRST PRIEST IN 1840.

The Catholic Church in South Australia was, in the beginning, like the grain of mustard seed, insignificant; but it gradually grew into a tree, taking deep root in the virgin soil, and spreading its branches over the land. From the landing of a few Catholics in 1836 it has steadily increased: it has now an Archbishop with a Suffragan in Port Augusta: it has an efficient body of secular and religious priests, Jesuits, Carmelites, Dominicans, Passionists and Fathers of the Sacred Heart: it has Christian and Marist Brothers, who conduct excellent schools: it has various orders of nuns—Dominicans, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of St. Joseph, Loreto Nuns, Good Samaritans, Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, and Sisters of the Poor—of whom all are employed in teaching or in works of mercy and charity. It has many churches, schools, convents and presbyteries. It is now in the freshness of youth and vigour of its strength, spreading itself over the land and increasing its fold.

Getting around this CD

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*OCR is now a wonderful searching aid in many instances
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 - › look for others who lived in the same place or street
 - › who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
 - › how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
 - › what churches were there and what time were services held?
 - › what other activities were there in the community?
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- all of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. You can learn much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.
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