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A NUN, A CONVENT, AND THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF BELGIUM (PAPERBACK)



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Pickwick Publications, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Annotated edition. Language: English. Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand ******. World War I has been recorded from many points of view: correspondent, poet, politician, and soldier. Comments from a nun living in a foreign country during the hostilities, however, can provide new insights. Isoline Jones was born in 1876 in England, and attended the boarding school at Tildonk, Belgium, run by the Ursuline sisters. She eventually converted to Roman Catholicism from Anglicanism and made her perpetual vows in 1907 as a member of the Ursuline community. Her religious name was Mother Marie Georgine. In August 1914, German forces invaded Belgium and occupied the convent and school, and her impressions of the war years are preserved in a series of letters written in the form of a diary. The siege of Antwerp, the plight of refugees, interaction with the German soldiers, and the hectic daily life of the convent were recorded by Mother Marie Georgine. Events occurring throughout Belgium did not escape her attention, and she did not avoid describing the brutality of war. Although sections of her diary have appeared in print, this is the first publication of Mother Marie Georgine s entire diary. Her impressions of World War I offer new perspectives on this tragic event. In the format of a diary, Mother Marie Georgine s account of the tribulations and antagonisms endured by her community of Ursuline nuns in German-occupied Belgium during the First World War is a document of considerable historical significance. The reader moves swiftly into the mind-set of this convert Englishwoman, her Christian subscription always preponderant. Professor Kollar has provided unintrusive editorship in bringing to light the often valiant role nuns played under military occupation. --V. Alan McClelland, Emeritus Professor, Hull University There are, as...

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