

CIRCULAR.

TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE RELIGIOUS FAMILY OF THE
HOLY CROSS.

NOTRE DAME, IND., FEB. 29, 1884.

More than once, our Religious have been reminded of the letter and spirit of our Rules, forbidding all corporal or bodily punishment in our schools. The wisdom of our Rules on this important point has been again demonstrated, last week, in the unfortunate punishment of this kind upon a child 12 years old, by an imprudent Sister whose name will not soon be forgotten in Cleveland. What an annoyance! What a punishment upon the rash punisher! She was brought to court, day after day, for a week, with four and five Sisters, the good Bishop, several clergymen, and four lawyers against her, and finally condemned, the Bishop sanctioning the verdict of the court.

In presence of such a fresh and scandalous event, I am urgently requested to renew the prohibition of all such punishments in our Congregation—a prohibition which cannot be too strictly observed; and to secure its end and object, I now impose it in “virtue of holy Obedience;” and should any violation of it happen, it must be immediately punished by the surrender of the “Insignia of Profession.”

This may appear to some rather severe; but should we spare the feelings of a few undeserving subjects, and leave the whole Congregation exposed to a ruinous scandal at their unscrupulous hands and temper? Here I stand for the protection of the good and model Religious, and not of the violators of the Rule.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
SUPERIOR-GENERAL.

P. S.—During Lent, the Heads of Houses must decide who shall fast. The Litany of All Saints or the Beads should be said by all who cannot fast.