

given it, I have sufficiently shown the importance it has already acquired. In one sense, the AVE MARIA has more than realized my fondest hopes; and its present standing convinces me that before long it will be one of our greatest consolations as well as one of the most abundant sources of heavenly blessings on our Congregation. But, in another sense, I am pained to see that in some of our Houses this prolific source of blessings is well-nigh totally ignored or neglected. Other communities appreciate it, and derive most precious benefits from it; but some of our own Religious scarcely notice it. How shall I qualify such an indifference? You all know, you daily see with your own eyes, and hear with your own ears, the horrors with which the dailies teem against our holy faith, and personally against the most Blessed Virgin Mother; nay, you meet every day the sad and distressing evidences and results of such poisonous readings; you hold in your hands an antidote of an undoubted efficacy, and you do not even offer it! Where is your faith and your zeal? Listen a little to my experience: you consume yourselves among innumerable difficulties, you wish for success—I fear you will not be blessed. To send an agent to a place where a school of the Holy Cross exists would be an insult to the teachers; for if they have the heart to see with indifference the cause of their Mother dishonored, when they might so easily protect it, an agent would have a better chance among strangers. A Religious truly zealous for the honor of the holy Mother of God and the success of a school should have no rest until a fund has been collected to secure a weekly package from which to distribute a copy every Friday to each child going home. Thus families would be reached by the children. Incidents of interest might be sent to and printed in the journal, doubly interesting to children and parents. A hundred copies of the AVE MARIA would be sent at the rate of two dollars (\$2) as the subscription price, including postage.

One more remark, and I close. It is written of the Blessed Virgin, that those who make her known shall have life everlasting—*qui cludicant me vitam æternam habebunt*. An experience of thirty years has taught me that even in this life God blesses human efforts *surprisingly*, when the cause of His holy Mother is interested in them. Whoever neglects her, deprives himself of something essential to success.

E. SORIN.

No. XXI.

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA, February 22, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

The accompanying letter will inform you of a new warning and a new duty. Brother Theodore's death was almost a sud-

den one, but, happily for him, the ten years he spent in the Congregation had been ten years of a faithful preparation. He received the Habit December 25, 1862, and made his Profession March 19, 1865. May he rest in peace!

E. SORIN.

"NOTRE DAME, February 21, 1872.

"VERY REV. DEAR FATHER:

"It is my painful duty to inform you that Brother Theodore, who filled the office of housekeeper at the Manual Labor School, has fallen asleep in the Lord, this 21st day of February, 1872. He died fortified by all the Sacraments. He was a Professed member, aged thirty-six. Please order the usual suffrages for the repose of his dear soul.

"Your obedient servant in Christ,

"W. CORRY, S. S. C., *Provincial*."

No. XXII.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, April 13, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN CHRIST:

If I have delayed until now to address to you a Circular convoking the General Chapter, the principal features of which have been known to many of you for almost a year, it is because I wished to learn from the chief members of the Congregation, as it were, at the last hour, whether, in these political commotions which we are passing through, there might not arise some circumstances which would render impossible the meeting of the General Capitulants at the time and in the place appointed before my departure from France.

It is only to-day that I have received the letters on this subject, which I had been expecting from France and Rome, and that I feel myself reassured and confirmed on this important question by the unanimous wishes of the representatives of our Religious Family of the Holy Cross. It is disagreeable, I acknowledge, to call away the higher Superiors when their presence at their respective posts seems to be so desirable, but the difficulties and fears with which the future may inspire us are themselves sufficient reasons to impose it on us as a duty to provide in the General Chapter the best means to meet the same—an idea which is very well expressed in one of the answers I have received from France.

I would have been glad if our next general reunion were to take place in Rome; unfortunately for us and for the Church, this is out of the question at present.

Having last year consulted all the members of the Chapter whom I could meet, I thought it my duty, with their unanimous approval, to fix upon Notre Dame du Lac, Indiana, as the place where the Chapter should assemble. There the members will be in peace and free from expenses during the time of the session. It

will be, moreover, a consolation for our *Confrères* of France to become acquainted with this second half of the Congregation, and to behold with their own eyes this new Continent, wherein Providence has bestowed blessings on their first envoys and sacrifices greater, probably, than they ever anticipated. It is not necessary for me to say how joyfully they will be welcomed by their brethren beyond the sea; and if such proofs of fraternal union and devotion to a common cause have been given as to show, beyond a doubt, that there is but one heart and one soul—*cor unum, anima una*—between those two branches of the Religious Family of Holy Cross, nevertheless, besides the mutual joy that this visit of our Fathers and Brothers from Europe will produce, it will have, moreover, the effect of cementing, more firmly than ever, that union of views and sentiments which gives and preserves our life as a Religious Congregation.

But the special reason which determined me finally to propose Notre Dame du Lac is a consideration of economy in travelling expenses; there is a clear net saving of six thousand francs resulting from the free passage granted to our French Religious on the trans-Atlantic Line,—a favor accorded only to Religious, natives of France.

Now, the saving of such a sum—whilst we all look upon it as one of our first duties of honor, to pay our debts—would be in our eyes a sufficient motive to determine us in favor of Notre Dame as the place for the Chapter.

For these reasons—having prayed and consulted—I have resolved and determined, and by the present Circular make known to the Congregation of Holy Cross, and especially to the Capitulants General, whether by right or election, my resolution and determination to open the next General Chapter at Notre Dame du Lac, in America, on the 5th of August, by a solemn High Mass, at eight o'clock a. m. This day will be the Festival of Our Lady *ad Nives*, the 31st anniversary of the departure from France of the first colony for America. And I convoke, without further personal invitation, the ten Salvatorists and the ten Josephites who are to compose it; at the same time, I designate the Vigil of the Assumption, August 14th, as the day on which the General Chapter shall elect all the General Officers and Provincials, as well as the Procurator General, the charge of officers now filling those posts expiring on the 28th of the same month.

Considering the troubles that have taken place in Africa since 1868, I desire, without making it an obligation, that our African colony be represented in the General Chapter by a Brother of Algeria amongst the Brothers deputed from the Province of France.

From the date of reception of this Circular, the members shall recite, every morning, the *Veni Creator* and the *Memorare*, in

each of our Houses, in order to draw down the lights and blessings of Heaven on our deliberations—those prayers to be continued until the 15th of August, the day on which the Chapter closes.

E. SORIN,

*Superior-General.*

By order of the Superior-General,

J. M. TOOHEY, C. S. C., Secretary *pro tem.*

P. S.—I earnestly solicit the suffrages of the Congregation for the repose of the soul of our Rev. Father Lucia, on whose edifying death I have just received a most touching letter from Mgr. Dufal, which, I regret, I cannot here reproduce entire.

E. S.

No. XXIII.

NOTRE DAME, IND.,

FEAST OF THE FINDING OF THE HOLY CROSS, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN CHRIST:

In a Christian sense, the Finding of the Cross is always that of a precious treasure. In the sense of the flesh, however, the sight of the Cross, in any view it may present itself, is ever frightful, painful and unwelcome.

When, after long and laborious searchings, the saintly mother of Constantine found the precious Cross, on which the salvation of the world had been accomplished, she must have *found* in this crowning of her noble efforts an immense and unspeakable consolation. This third of May, then, commemorates a joyful, a most happy event. Ever since I was permitted to celebrate my first Mass in this New World on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and again, fifteen months later, my first Mass here at Notre Dame, on the Feast of St. Andrew—the Apostle of the Cross—I was led to believe that the sacred Standard of man's Redemption should be constantly kept before my mind, not as a sign of affliction and sorrow, but as one of success and triumph—*In hoc Signo vinces!*

In this long conviction that the holy Cross means salvation, it has become, as it were, natural for me to look for a consolation of no ordinary character on the return of every Feast of the holy mystery of the Cross. Nor have I been disappointed in my expectations. For more than thirty years my faith in the virtue of the Cross has gone on increasing, until it has become almost a natural disposition of my mind. Neither will this glorious day be an exception on the list of its joyful previous anniversaries of the Finding of the Holy Cross. Early this morning the mail

brought me from Europe the encouraging official news that all our financial embarrassments in France had been finally and forever settled (on the 15th ult.), to the unanimous satisfaction of all parties concerned. Nearly four full years had been employed in preparing this consoling result, or repairing the fearful consequences of two large legacies, amounting in the aggregate to over half a million of francs, left to the Congregation in the most equitable and positive manner and form, and subsequently reclaimed by unscrupulous heirs whose consciences are now charged, not only with the iniquity of the act, but with all the untold trials it has caused us.

However, the cross I have personally found in the above task has been, like the Cross found by St. Helena, a cross of joys compared to that which weighed on my venerable predecessors, like the one that crushed down the shoulders of the Redeemer when ascending Golgotha's heights. To them, indeed, it was a heavy cross to behold the embarrassments caused by iniquitous men to our dear Religious Family, without seeing the means to extricate it from an impending ruin. But as to me, the case has been very different. If the trouble has lasted long, at least I have seen the end of it; and now it is my great consolation to hear and immediately convey to you the happy tidings that our dear Congregation has come out from its pecuniary difficulties in France with a stainless character and the unfeigned thanks of all parties concerned.

Among the members of the Congrégation in France there is one who has helped me to bring about the present result in a manner so generous and so edifying that I cannot pass here the deed in silence. I will respect his modesty and leave out the name.

It is, indeed, with more than ordinary gratification I state the fact that last year, when I returned to France, one of our Rev. Fathers of Paris, who had been several times through his captivity at Mazas prison on the point of receiving the crown of martyrdom, begged of me to accept what had been left him by his own parents, to aid me a little, as he said, modestly, to come sooner out of my difficulties. The offer was a magnanimous act—a donation of over twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)—at the very moment he should have prized it the more as a means to repair his college, partly destroyed by the Communists; for this, however, he would rather trust to Providence, and have the merit of filial devotedness to the Congregation in extending to it a helping hand at the moment of its real need. God has already rewarded the sacrifice: the ruins of the college are repaired, and new students fill up its halls in larger numbers than ever before.

Thus have passed away the gloomy days of our family financial trials, the memory of which will recall to our minds, not so much the iniquitous deeds that brought them on us, as the bright ones which they elicited in the dear family, and the Divine protection they

revealed. Whether He afflicts or consoles, whether He leads to the gates of death or brings back therefrom, let us praise the Lord forever!

Thanks and honor to the brave-hearted Religious who, in the darkest hours of our trials, far from despairing of the Congregation, revived and cheered up the spirits of the weak-minded—of those of “little faith” to be met everywhere. Let them find here the expression of my personal gratitude, as also the assurance of my confidence in their devotedness. Such are the true friends of the Congregation; they are known by their acts and their words as the tree by its fruit. On such we may rely: trying circumstances will only reveal what sterling good there is in their souls, precisely as they will show the shallowness of nominal, half-Religious, who, almost rejoicing in the secret of their hearts, predict the worst under a badly-disguised air of sympathy; while, in fact, they would very soon be consoled to find in the ruin of their Congregation the end of obligations and duties long burdensome because wretchedly observed. We come out of the crucible, if not all equally purified, at least all now known to each other; each one has been tried in the same furnace, and we start again, as it were, with a reciprocal appreciation scarcely overrated by its cost. Now is the time for me to exhort our dear Religious in the words of the Apostle: “Discern the spirits.” Let all profit by the costly lesson which has been taught us—forced on us. Let the best ones, now so well known, receive the respect, the esteem, the affection and honor they have so deservedly won; let them be imitated and upheld as worthy models; while the poor, would-be prophets of evil hide their faces and be accounted as men whose hearts made their heads ache. For this fortunate issue of our past difficulties we must return our heartfelt thanks to our Blessed Lord, to His Immaculate Mother, and to our glorious Patron, St. Joseph.

I am happy to name here M. Jolivet, M. Rubillard and M. Latouche, of Le Mans, whose efficient attention to our interests is beyond praise, and who have the best claims to the prayers of the Congregation.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

*Superior-General.*

P.S.—It is by an oversight that our *Ordo*, this year, does not mention St. Joseph as Patron of our Congregation.

I must call the attention of our Religious to Rule XXXVIII, on “Correspondence,” the reading of which shall follow that of the above Circular.

E. S.

No. XXIV.

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA, August 27, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN CHRIST:

Our General Chapter has just closed its session, opened by the

benediction of the Holy Father, which was brought us by our Procurator General. The session was long and laborious, not that any wretched dissensions arose among the Capitulants—for it was remarkable, on the contrary, for the union of hearts and the good understanding among them—but we had undertaken the revision of the Common Rules, which concern every point of the religious life, and we wished to make a conscientious work which would inspire you with a just confidence and merit the sanction of the highest authority of the Congregation.

We had to examine most seriously our financial state, after the liquidation of the debt of Mans, which is on the point of being happily terminated,\* not only to meet the payments which remain to be made, but also to place our Novitiates, Postulates, and Scholasticates in a condition which insures excellent subjects for the Congregation, and which permits us to give a suitable development to the enterprises undertaken by our predecessors for the glory of God.

It is well that our friends, who, perhaps, have been frightened by our trials, should learn that we have drawn new life from them. We knew that the disciples of the Cross could not perish at the foot of that tree of salvation; but the world had need to learn that God never abandons those who place their hope in Him.

Our dear Capitulants will relate to you what this God of goodness has done for us in the New World, and how He has an hundred-fold repaid the personal sacrifices of the Mother Province. Still more numerous undertakings will be offered to you, and more abundant fruits await you, as soon as France, re-established in its former prosperity, shall be able to send new workmen to these vast regions, where there is still so much good to be done.

I will soon go myself to take my place in your midst, dear Province of France, with the new administration which the General Chapter has recently elected. I will go to visit your Houses, to receive the confidences of all the Religious, to take cognizance of all their needs, to encourage the works already undertaken, and organize, according to our resources, all that may give to our dear Congregation a generous impulse, both in regard to studies and to religious perfection.

Vocations in France are lacking through want of confidence: we must re-establish this confidence, but we shall not succeed in doing so unless we merit it. While the general and provincial administrations do their utmost to reassure public opinion, redouble your zeal in order to merit God's blessing and to show that you are

\* By a sentiment of gratitude, the Very Rev. Father Superior-General has spontaneously engaged himself to say three Masses a week, during the rest of his life, for all those who have been benefactors of the Congregation, by whatever title, in the liquidation of this debt.

worthy to figure among the most commendable religious societies. Do not allow yourselves to be guided in this by a foolish vanity, but by the desire of working more efficaciously for the good of souls.

The political storms should not frighten you. After the grand struggle of evil against good, or of the spirits of darkness against the angels of heaven, there will be a phase of glory and of increase for the reign of God; the world calls it reaction; we call it victory and consolation, according to the words of Holy Writ: "Lord, after tears and weeping Thou pourest joyfulness into the hearts of Thy children"—*Post lacrymationem et fletum, exultationem infundis* (Tob. iii, 22). May France soon experience this! Her heart is always Catholic. The eldest daughter of the Church, she has had her share in the lot of her Mother during these days of evil; she has seen her arms bound by the powers of Satan. But the Church cannot be a slave, and France does not wish to be; the august Mother and the noble daughter shall hold again their rank, in a not far distant future, and the religious Congregations will be more flourishing than ever.

There is a daughter of this same France whom the evils of war separated from the mother country, but whose heart always clings to her, as is manifested by her language, her customs and her memories. I mean Canada, where we have flourishing houses, and where new establishments are offered to us. Workmen are wanting there also; shall we not find some among the compatriots of those who have gone so far to plant the French banner with the Cross upon those banks so long bedewed with their sweat and even with their blood? Will not priests and pious laymen, wearied out with the revolutions of Europe, have the good inspiration to seek peace, with a far more fruitful work, among these sister populations that have remained faithful to their old belief? We earnestly wish it.

Our mission in Bengal consumes all the missionaries we send there. Providence seems to offer us in exchange, in a climate not so hot, the vast and beautiful region of Louisiana—formerly French, like Canada, and Texas—where everything is new. At the sight of these regions, so much in want of evangelical laborers, and so widely open to their zeal, who would not address our Heavenly Father in the words of our Lord Himself: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He send forth laborers into His harvest?"—*Rogate ergo Dominum messis, ut mittat operarios in messem suam* (Matt., ix, 38).

You will, perhaps, be surprised, Rev. Fathers and dear Brothers, that I speak so boldly of missions outside of that France which seems to be exhausted, and where we count too few subjects for our own needs. I believe in a regeneration; I believe that the Congregation of the Holy Cross, born and nourished at the foot of the Cross, is going to take a second life after its days of humiliation;



and its development, interrupted for a time, is going to regain all its activity for the glory of Him who made it drink the chalice of Calvary, but who afterwards strengthened it that it might more solidly work for His glory and for the glory of His Church. Do not blame me for this confidence; share it, rather, and let us march together with courage under the banner of the Cross.

For you, dear Province of Indiana, of whom I have scarcely spoken, can I forget you? After thirty years of labor and of trials supported together, can you fear that the ties which bind us can ever be severed? Oh, no! We are bound by a close and indissoluble friendship. If I leave you in obedience to a superior authority and for the general good of the Congregation, I will not lose sight of you for an instant, and I will always be ready to cross the ocean again to aid you, should you have need of my paternal assistance. I belong to all, but I shall be pardoned for loving you with a special love, which does harm to no one.

I have now opened my heart to you, my well-beloved sons in Jesus Christ. I am full of hope in God and of confidence in you. Let us be good Religious; let us love one another, and let us labor generously in the service of our Divine Master, with the spirit of faith and without self-seeking. The heavenly benedictions, of which we have received so many proofs, will descend the more abundantly upon you.

For your consolation, compare the present statistics of the 20th of August, 1872, with those you will find in the collection of former Circulars, pages 277 and 353:

## PERSONNEL.

## RELIGIOUS.

Professed, { Ecclesiastics,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
Brothers,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	245
Novices and Postulants,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	187
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	507

## STUDENTS.

Primary,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,558
Secondary,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,531
Orphans,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	324
Apprentices,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,452

## ESTABLISHMENTS.

Primary,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64
Secondary,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Orphan Asylums,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Industrial School,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Missions and Parishes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98

Joined to this you will find more fully detailed statistics.

Read attentively the accompanying decrees, waiting, meantime, for several others which have been sent to Rome to come back with the approbation of the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda, and which will then be published.

E. SORIN,  
*Superior-General.*

P. S.—We recommend to the prayers of the Congregation the soul of Bro. Justin (professed), who died in the most edifying manner at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

We have celebrated the two Masses prescribed by the Rule for our benefactors and living associates, and for the deceased. On this occasion, we consider it right to recommend to your charity the souls of three former *confrères* now deceased, whose departure from the Congregation has not effaced from our memory the labors they had undergone with us. I mean the Fathers Dussault, Rondet and Saugon.

E. S.

## GENERAL CHAPTER.

### DECREES OF THE SESSION OF 1872.

I. The Chapter elected and proclaimed: 1st, Assistants General, the Rev. Fathers Champeau, Lecointe, and the Brothers Gregory and Eugene; 2d, Procurator General in Rome, the Rev. Father Ferdinando Pietro-Baptista; 3d, Provincials: of France, the Rev. Father Rézé; of Indiana, the Rev. Father Granger; of Canada, the Rev. Father Lefebvre.

II. The Chapter, after having devoted a great part of the session to the revision of the Common Rules and the principal Particular Rules, being aided in this by observations gathered during several years past, and already submitted to a special committee, decrees that a new edition conformable to its amendments shall be printed within a short time, under the direction of the General Council; and that all the Religious of the Holy Cross, on this occasion, shall be urgently pressed to return to a stricter observance of even the smallest points of the Rules.

Meantime, the last French edition shall continue in force in those countries where French is spoken; and the last English edition shall be followed in the United States.

III. The vestuary of the Priests and that of the Brothers having been again regulated, the Religious of one branch shall not usurp that which is special to the other.

The Professed Brothers shall hereafter carry, instead of the statuette of St. Joseph, a medal whose form has been determined.

IV. There shall be but one Novitiate for the Priests and Brothers in each Province; but the meditations, the spiritual readings and

accusation of faults shall be made separately; only some exercises shall be made in common, especially the Chapter before the accusation of faults. Ecclesiastics in sacred Orders shall not sleep in the dormitories with the other Novices.

In Professed Houses where the Religious are numerous it is proper that the Superior so arrange that the Priests and Brothers, separately, have some special exercises.

V. Upon the proposal of some of the Capitulant Brothers, and in view of the greater good of the family of the Holy Cross, it was decided that subjects who enter the Scholasticate or Novitiate to become Priests or Brothers shall preserve, until the end of their regular time of Novitiate, the liberty of passing from one Order to the other, provided they have the favorable advice of their Director, with the approbation of the Provincial or Superior-General in their Council.

VI. There shall be at least one Scholasticate in each Province, as much as possible near a good house of education directed by the Congregation; and as subjects can be admitted at the age of twelve years, the Provincials shall administer the resources with economy, and see that the condition of the Scholasticate be excellent.

VII. A permanent Committee on Studies is formed in each Province, to receive and concentrate the observations of the most experienced teachers, and afterwards to make plans of studies according to the needs of the country. In France, the members of the Committee are: the Rev. Fathers Champeau, Lécointe, and Français, with Bro. Ernest; in Indiana, the Rev. Fathers Lemonnier, Carrier and Brown, with Brothers Edward and Camillus; in Canada, the Superior of the College of St. Laurent, with the Rev. Fathers Gastineau, Guy, and the Brothers Alderic and Louis de Gonzague.

VIII. It is enjoined on all Superiors and Directors to write to their Provincial once a month, and all other Religious should write to him every three months. It is recommended to all not to have any useless correspondence.

IX. The happy issue of the liquidation of the debt of Mans was obtained only at the cost of sacrifices which still impose upon all our Houses the necessity of strict economy; the Novitiates and Scholasticates also require it. Superiors and Directors shall make it, then, a duty, not only to keep their accounts with great exactitude, but also to form as many good administrators as possible among their assistants.

X. The Very Rev. Superior-General spontaneously engages himself to say three Masses a week, for the rest of his life, for all those who have, under any title, been benefactors of the Congregation in the liquidation which is upon the point of being terminated.

XI. The elections above mentioned shall be submitted to the

approbation of the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda, with the remark that they have been made for four years (notwithstanding Constitutions XI and XV, concerning the Procurator and the Provincials), because the session of the Chapter takes place only every four years (with the provisional approbation of the same Sacred Congregation in 1868).

XII. The Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda shall be asked to relieve the Congregation of the Holy Cross from the Apostolic Vicariate of Eastern Bengal, to which we cannot furnish subjects in sufficient number, sickness and death not ceasing to decimate the missionaries.

[The rest shall be communicated after receiving the approbation of Rome.]

No. XXV.

"NOTRE DAME, September 20, 1872.

"VERY REV. FATHER:

"It is my painful duty to inform your Reverence that the good Brother Christopher has just died. He received Holy Viaticum this morning, but not Extreme Unction, as there was no sign of imminent danger. He was Professed, thirty years old. Please to solicit the suffrages of the Congregation for the repose of his dear soul.

Your obedient son,

"A. GRANGER, *Provincial*."

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

The foregoing lines will inform you of a new visit of death in our ranks; and although the event was not exactly unexpected, for the good Brother had been sick nearly one year, and of late had left us no hope of recovery, still we must acknowledge that, while alone, he breathed his last very suddenly from a violent hemorrhage of blood. When I say that our good Brother died all alone, I do not mean to blame any one. The infirmarian had visited him only an hour before, and had left him apparently in the same condition in which he had been for two or three weeks; I had myself seen him in the forenoon, and if anything he looked easier and more cheerful. God has permitted it as a warning to us all, that we may watch and pray more carefully, for we know not at what hour He may call us to His Judgment-seat. Such lessons should not be lost on any member of the Congregation.

Fortunately, we may say that his whole life, since he came to us, had been a preparation for death. Simple, pious, obedient and devoted, he had ever been an object of edification to all his associates; had never caused the least trouble to any one; and although none of us saw him die, yet we cannot have the least apprehension as regards his lot in eternity. A Religious who has never disobeyed his Superiors wilfully always carries with him the best hopes of

his friends. As much as I fear for the *disobedient*, so much do I feel assured for the eternal rest of the good, obedient soul.

Brother Christopher's name in the world was Patrick Harrigan. He was born in Ireland, A. D. 1842; made his Profession August 15, 1871. *Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,  
*Superior-General.*

# No. XXVI.

NOTRE DAME, IND., November 1, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS:

Last night, at one o'clock, our good and aged Brother Alphonsus (Thomas Riley) died here, strengthened by the Sacraments and consolations of Holy Church, in his seventy-first year. For a long time he was suffering from asthma, until he finally sank under its mining influence. He entered the Community November 28, 1851; received the Habit December 12, 1852, and made his Profession August 30, 1853. For nearly twenty-one years he served the Congregation with an exemplary zeal which only abated when bodily strength totally failed him. May he rest in peace!

E. SORIN, C. S. C.

# No. XXVII.

NOTRE DAME, IND. November 20, 1872.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

I lose no time in informing you of the death of our dear Rev. Father Villandre, late Vicar of New Orleans. This melancholy intelligence, which I expected to receive from day to day for more than a week past, has been conveyed to me in the following lines from the new Provincial in France:

"VERY REVEREND FATHER:

"I hasten to bring to your knowledge the death of our beloved Rev. Father Villandre, who fell asleep in our Lord on the twenty-seventh inst., strengthened by the Sacraments of the Church, after a long illness, borne with perfect patience and resignation.

"I beg of your Reverence to secure immediately for the soul of the dear departed Father the suffrages of the Congregation.

"Very Reverend Father,

Your devoted in our Lord,

"JOSEPH RÉZÉ, C. S. C.

"PARIS, October 30, 1872."

I trust all the members of our Religious family will promptly and fervently pay to our dear deceased the debt due him.

*Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.