

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 108

OF THE

VERY REV. SUPERIOR GENERAL

TO THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

NOTRE DAME, IND., February 25th, 1881.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

Yesterday, Feast of St. Matthias, I learned by a letter from Very Rev. Father Gastineau, Provincial of our Congregation in Paris, that all our property in France, including even our beautiful College and late Mother-House of Notre Dame de St. Croix, in Neuilly, Paris, had to be sold immediately.

It is true that I had given all power to the Provincial Council to act there, in these troubled times, in my name, as if I had been present in person, but I did not dream that they should ever undertake any transaction I could not do myself; therefore, I telegraphed at once to *suspend all sales: I was starting.*

I must see the Holy Father and hear him on the subject before sanctioning a step which threatens a death-blow to our forty-four Establishments in France.

The General Council fully agree there is not a moment to lose; and, therefore, I shall take the first vessel, leaving for France, on Wednesday morning. Any letter forwarded in time to Sweeney's Hotel, New York, will be handed to me before taking the sea. Later on, for three weeks, my address shall be, *St. Croix, Neuilly, Paris, France.* With the aid of your fervent prayers, I hope to return for Easter.

Do not fret for the dangers of the season; when duty commands I never fear. As must appear evident to all, I never needed more the help of Divine assistance. For this I request every week an extra Mass or Communion on Saturday.

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