

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 59.

OF THE

VERY REVEREND SUPERIOR-GENERAL

TO THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

NOTRE DAME, April 5, 1875.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

By this morning's mail I received the following sad communication, published in Paris on the 21st ult., or Palm Sunday:

"The Superior and the Religious of Our Lady of Holy Cross, at Neuilly, humbly commend to your prayers the soul of Rev. Father VICTOR DROUELLE, late Prefect Apostolic in Guadeloupe, afterwards Procurator of the Congregation at Rome and recently Provincial in France, who died at the Mother House, in Neuilly, on the 21st of March, (Palm Sunday), in his 63d year, fortified by the Sacraments of the Church.

"The burial service shall be held on Monday 10 A. M., in the Chapel of the College, whence the mortal remains of the Ven. Father shall be taken to the Cemetery of Neuilly."

It is scarcely three weeks since I heard of this old and venerable confrère's sickness. Ever since, I was trying to hasten my return to Paris, hoping to find him yet living. God has willed it otherwise: I must submit.

In Father Drouelle's death, I lose my oldest and first companion in our ecclesiastical ranks. We met at college in 1830; and ever since that epoch we remained intimate friends. He was the last of that time. In my recent visit to France, he rendered me, or rather the Congregation, eminent services, for which alone we should never forget him. In simple justice, we owe him an immense debt of gratitude; and therefore, I hereby prescribe that his memory be honored by the suffrages due to Provincials. When I shall have visited his tomb, and collected the particulars of his last illness, I may more fully return to this precious memory. Meanwhile, let us all pray fervently for the rest of his dear soul.

*Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior General.