

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 64.

OF THE

VERY REVEREND SUPERIOR-GENERAL

TO THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

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Notre Dame, August 25, 1875.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

With deep regret, I hasten to inform you of the almost sudden death last night of our dear BROTHER JAMES, late Director of the Apprentices here. For some time past he had been confined to the Infirmary, apparently threatened with disease of the lungs. But for about a month past, he had regained strength and health to such a degree that a change of climate had been deemed by the recent Provincial Chapter a sufficient remedy to restore his constitution. He was delighted with his appointment to Texas, and expected to start on Monday. But men only propose, and God disposes as He pleases. When the clock struck twelve last night he was yet speaking freely, and no one around him apprehended any immediate danger; and yet, three minutes later he breathed his last, probably before the Priest could reach him and give him absolution and Extreme Unction.

Will this new and striking warning serve us all? Ah! let us, every one, be ready, for death may again visit us as a thief in the dead of night.

Brother James (John Dorsey) was 28 years old, and a professed member of the Congregation since September 14th, 1873. He was beloved by all who knew him.

His burial service will take place in the new church at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

*Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C S C.,

Superior General.