

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER No. 66

OF THE

VERY REVEREND SUPERIOR-GENERAL

TO THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

Notre Dame, September 13, 1875.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

I have just heard, through Brother Gregory, of the death of our dear BROTHER PATRICK (Thomas Brière), who breathed his last on August 4, at Nourray, at the age of 65 years and 4 months, in his 37th year of Profession.

This is a sad loss for the Congregation in France, and especially for the important establishment to which he had so efficiently devoted the last efforts of a life of energetic activity and good example.

Brother Patrick was one of the first pillars on which the Mother-House seemed to rest when I entered it myself in 1839. I always found him the same—a most amiable, intelligent and religious member, esteemed and loved by all. By his death I lose a sincere friend (the same, no doubt, has already been said by everyone who knew him), and the Congregation loses one of its most worthy pioneers. May his dear soul soon rest in peace!

When we left France, thirty-four years since, Brother Patrick was the one I regretted most not to be able to muster into our little band, and now, on the anniversary of our arrival on the American shore, when the memories of the distant past are so vividly refreshed in my mind, I love to think of his rare merits and virtues, and I entreat you the more earnestly to pray for him, for if anyone has well deserved of us all, it is our dear deceased Brother Patrick.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior General.