

NOTRE DAME, IND., FEBRUARY 23, 1881.

REV. FATHERS AND DEARLY BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

You will learn from the other page what I intended doing, when the prompt arrival of Very Rev. Father Mariné, and a long interview, convinced the General Council that he might be sent as visitor in my place. Pray for him, as you would have done for myself. He takes the sea to-morrow.

Although the Lenten regulations remain the same, I wish, if possible, that every one in the Congregation should strive to make of the Holy Season, now at hand, one of extraordinary blessing, somewhat in keeping with our actual and pressing wants, both here and beyond the waters. Oh, let us all, and especially those among us who will be dispensed with the obligation of fasting, earnestly try to make up for such a bodily relief by the examples they will be expected to give of their love for their sacred vows and of all the virtues that constitute a religious life.

Were it not for the Forty Hours we observe here, I would feel almost overwhelmed with sorrow. This very day, a year ago, I was receiving the last breath of our dear, venerated Father Champagnon, the founder of the beautiful college of Notre Dame de Ste. Croix, which he left in full prosperity and free from debt; and which an impitious Government forces us to sell or rather sacrifice after scattering our Fathers from its beloved premises. Pray for dear Father Champagnon, pray for

Yours devotedly,

E. SORIN C. S. C.,

SUPERIOR-GENERAL.