

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 122

OF THE

VERY REVEREND SUPERIOR GENERAL

OF THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

NOTRE DAME, IND., Sept. 27, 1883.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED BROTHERS IN JESUS CHRIST :

New blessings from above ever create in generous souls a new sense of indebtedness to God and devotedness to duty. The increasing dangers of a world daily becoming more infidel, impose on us the imperious and evident obligation of an *increasing* vigilance and regularity, of a universal fervor that may draw from Heaven all the help we need to fulfil God's holy designs.

To secure permanently and without delay, to every House of this Province, the interest, the watchful and wise direction it requires for success and increasing usefulness, we have in General Council deemed it expedient, and almost necessary, to divide the administrating labors of our vast field—now so difficult to visit yearly, even for one who would have absolutely nothing else to attend to, without speaking of unavoidable expenses and delays and fatigues—into 4 geographical sections, viz.: of Indiana, of the East, South and West, and to assign to the best and most able Religious we have in each of the aforesaid sections, the immediate responsibility of the Establishments of the Congregation in the States intrusted to their respective care and solicitude. This is a trial to be submitted, if successful, in 3 years hence to the General Chapter for final sanction. Evidently, more than one good result shall be secured; for, besides the benefit to be derived by all from the nearer presence of a higher officer, whose visits and encouragements and prompt attendance to their every want will naturally inspire them with a new devotedness to duty, it will give our best men an opportunity to serve the Congregation more efficiently and extensively, and thereby prove their actual and superior ability, for the government of others, in Community life and pursuits. These new officers should visit, if possible, in the course of October, and again in May, every House under their care, and report quarterly, if not oftener, to the General quarters. Let them clearly understand, that they shall be, first of all, credited with the advance and progress, the satisfaction and edification which will attend their administration; as they must answer for anything to the contrary, which, we hope, will not happen.

After these introductory remarks, we come to the personal appointments, which, we feel confident, will be cheerfully received by all concerned:

- 1st. Rev. L. Letourneau, Ass't-Provincial for the State of Indiana.
- 2d. Rev. W. Corby, Ass't-Provincial for the States of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Dakota.
- 3d. Rev. F. Hurth, " " " " Ohio and New Jersey.
- 4th. Rev. F. Franciscus, " " " " Louisiana and Texas.

To these higher officers, respectively, the Monthly Bulletins shall be addressed regularly.

The newly-printed sheets for Regular Visits, shall be followed strictly. The interests of the Congregation are so numerous, so serious and various, especially now, that only a few comprehensive minds can keep them all before their eyes. We shall see, before 3 years have elapsed, in which of the 4 Sections these Family interests have been best cared for, and developed and made a real resource for vocations, for students, for our Papers, etc., etc.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior General.