

too often in illusions and not enough in reality. Good God! I see now the danger of my position. Alas! how blind I must have been! Seeking human praises; caring little to be a true Religious; satisfied with appearing good; finding fault with all, except myself; taking counsel only of myself; freely disposing of the Congregation's funds; wasting and wasting without concern for debts, scandal or ruin! With Thy holy grace, I will begin a new life; I will be a Religious, not only in name, but in all earnestness. Alas! I may have caused, by my irreligious conduct, the eternal loss of some souls! I may have ruined, by my total want of religious spirit and observance of the Rules, not only my companions, but even the House I should have saved; my name should have been one of edification, esteem, and blessing. What is it to those who know me best? Shall I carry to my grave nothing but the burden of my infidelities? My Lord and my God! I thank Thee for Thy long and merciful patience. This very moment, with Thy divine grace, I begin a new life. I will be a Religious, cost what it may! Grant me some days; I will repair the past; I will secure my eternity. May God bless this saving resolve!

Our dear associates in France continue in the same critical situation. See again Circular No. XCV.

□ Have you forgotten to look for Postulants?

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
Superior-General.

No. CXII.

(To Superiors.)

NOTRE DAME, IND., January 15, 1883.

MY DEAR FRIEND:

My last Circular has brought me more grateful acknowledgments than any other I have issued for fifteen years. This fact alone shows me that our best Religious realize that, in proportion as society at large becomes daily more thoughtless and faithless, serious minds see and feel more keenly the necessity of seeking a proper and counterpoising remedy in the grave and infallible teachings of our holy Faith. We must all appear, some of us very soon, before God, to be judged according to our deeds and merits, and to receive a sentence for an eternity! This is awful for all; but how much more so for those who govern! Here is the consideration that overpowers me—a consideration which should of itself terrify every sensible soul charged with any responsibility; for, indeed, "He will examine your works, and search your thoughts. Horribly and speedily will He appear to you; for a most severe judgment shall be for them who preside." (Wisdom, vi, 6.) As the hour of my own dreadful judgment and irrevocable

sentence approaches, I feel it a duty to impart to all somewhat similarly situated in the Congregation the impressions the word *responsibility* makes and leaves on myself.

Pray, then, my dear good friend who read this, do you fully understand and bear in mind the account you shall have to render of your stewardship? . . . Hitherto, since the beginning, most of our losses, ruin of establishments, public humiliations and disgraces, scandals, unwarrantable and unpaid debts, etc., are undeniably charged and chargeable to the heads of Houses, and to no others. Had they been true Religious success would have blessed their devotedness; and their memory would be in benediction, whereas it is in pity, if not in contempt. History continues to repeat itself; the wise few profit by its warnings.

My New Year's admonitions were addressed to all the members of the family. But who could secure or nullify their good effects in each House? The *head* of each House. It is most consoling to see the religious spirit, the regular discipline, the harmony and success with which a number of our establishments are happily conducted. But, on the other hand, we unfortunately feel aggrieved at the sight of some Houses, the state of which is anything but satisfactory, peaceful, edifying or hopeful. The cause of it is, beyond doubt, in the irregularity, inability and looseness of the irreligious directing spirit that presides and kills all chances of blessing and success. The worst feature is the blindness of such heads; they seem not even to suspect anything wrong or wanting in their direction. Where they fail, others, better qualified, would succeed in materially improving, if not at once the financial condition, at least the irreligious atmosphere of their House. A religious atmosphere! It is what all our Religious should find and breathe wherever they reside; it is the health and the chief comfort of all in a community; without it every soul will soon show signs of a malaria gradually destroying all energy for good. Hence neglect of duty, indifference for the Rule, indulgence in dangerous enjoyments, irregularities of all kinds, until a Religious who might, under proper influence, prove a real acquisition, becomes a burden, an annoyance. Who shall answer for the loss? You, yourself, I fear, my poor friend.

Did you ever read attentively, meditatively your own Rule, the Rule of your office? If you did, why is your conduct so much at variance with its clear prescriptions? Your unfailing and loving adherence to its direction would have made you a model Superior, respected by all around you; your example would have made your associates the happiest Religious; they would have learned from your own habits that man's end is not in the enjoyment of comfort and ease, but in preparing himself to meet God's judgments, as to-day's great Saint did,—St. Paul the Hermit, who lived on so little, and yet reached his 113th year!

Try your best, my dearly-beloved friend; try to be a model of every virtue as required by your Rule. Every one will readily forgive you for not being a genius, but none would absolve you from the charges above cited. See that all under your personal jurisdiction be regular, economical, devoted and exemplary. Be yourself a model to each and to all. With this, depend upon it, God will bless you and your House. Otherwise, remember the terrible judgment awaiting those who preside. The greatest battles of antiquity transmit to posterity but two names: that of the victor and that of the defeated. The famous battle of Waterloo is no exception to the rule; while the glory of victory adorns one head, the humiliation of defeat crushes down the other. Even in a religious community the annals—the projecting ray of what is *now* clearly seen by all—are based on the same principle. Every House is a battle-field on which the actual leader is credited or blamed with full justice. Is not the leader the soul of the House? If our chief officers feel for the Congregation as they ought, they will protect its honor at any cost, for they know that any sacrifice they may offer for it is registered in heaven.

I will close by asking you to reply to me on the following point, on which I earnestly solicit the opinion of our best qualified advisers and counselors in the Congregation: In presence of the growing evils of the age, and of the superior virtues and qualifications more and more imperiously required to meet the same, would it not be advisable to extend the time of the novitiate to two years, as is done in many other religious orders?

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
Superior-General.

P. S.—Guard and pray against fire. Look for Postulants. See to the circulation of our own journals—the *Ave Maria*, the *Scholastic*, *Les Annales de St. Joseph*, and *The Spectator*.

E. S.

No. CXIII.

ON BOARD THE "ST. GERMAINE," June 4, 1883.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

I needed no little resignation to bear meritoriously with the stoppage of the past few days, near the banks of Newfoundland, to repair our machinery, mysteriously disordered as of old on the *Amérique*—but, I trust, not for forty days, especially after a week of strong head-wind that had retarded us more than a day. Perhaps I was too anxious to make a quick passage; with a fast boat, and in such a fine season, I expected to reach New York this even-

ing and leave for home to-morrow morning. Now we must wait the best part of the week, and put on our journey a round figure of seventy days! (We left on the 1st of April.) Thus our programs are sometimes unavoidably disturbed: with this double *contretemps* our long-desired visit to Canada becomes impossible this week, and must be postponed, to our great regret.

I begin to fear a punishment for yielding too naturally to the cravings of a poor, sensitive heart which wanted to be home, and could not bear with any delay. Oh! what must be the delights of a soul reaching heaven, when a solitary spot in this valley of tears, where so much has been endured, is so intensely longed for that to see it again seems almost a condition of health and life! Is it simply a sign of old age weakening the powers of nature, or, rather, a warning to prepare for the approaching final adieu? It may be both: a cross and a joy; both of which we should accept cheerfully. The truth is, that I never felt such a desire to see once more my dear home and precious friends. God alone knows the feelings with which He fills my heart for each of them and for all. May He bless them accordingly, and keep us all united in His Sacred Heart in the closest bonds of charity! What a bountiful source of heavenly joys is this Adorable Heart, where space and time only fasten and perfect the union of humble souls as in a foretaste of the enjoyments of eternity! Oh! the beautiful *rendezvous* for the loving children of the same Heavenly Father to turn to, from the middle of the boundless ocean, or a far-distant mission, or a little unknown corner, or a sick-bed,—there to be welcomed, and to rest and wonder, and to enjoy what can never be expressed in human language, as St. Paul says!

I wanted, however, something more than to see again my beloved home. I felt anxious to bring you the encouraging words and the blessing of His Holiness. I had never seen him so fatherly, so loving, and so desirous to secure for us all the graces we might need. Then, again, I wished in real eagerness to convey to you something of my petitions, and thanks, and tears of happiness, as your representative at the Grotto of Lourdes for more than three days that we spent there, undisturbed, alone with her! Yes: alone with her! and yet with everyone in turn of the dear family, and at times with the entire little family; and she, from the celebrated Rock, looking down attentively and motherly upon each and all, and that usually four times a day, and from one to three hours each time. Never can I forget this fourth pilgrimage to the Immaculate Mother.

The place itself is scarcely to be recognized: convents and monasteries, hospitals and novitiates have sprung up all around, and especially in sight of the blessed Grotto, or the Rock of the Apparitions, continually lighted up with countless candles, and

literally covered with sticks and crutches, each of them testifying to a miraculous cure by the Immaculate Virgin. What a rich tapestry! During a quarter of a century continual wonders of divine grace daily increase the number and the confidence of pilgrims. Two hours before we left, 8,000 men had arrived from distant points, and were on their knees, in earnest supplication before their Heavenly Queen; 25,000 are often seen at a time in the same act of devotion; a million, at least, are expected this year. Hundreds of miracles will probably be the result and the reward of this universal and ever-increasing piety. May Heaven be praised for this glorious saving sign among us poor mortals!

It must be a great consolation for us at Notre Dame to possess such a neat and exact *fac-simile* of the real Grotto of Lourdes. I will visit it oftener than I ever did, and hope many others will do the same. Dear Brother Vincent, you will come and join me there, on fine days, will you not? You know Lourdes; you will show us how much you love it. I will assign you an object, an especial blessing to secure *there* before you die, viz.: the *increase*, the *development*, the *success of our Novitiates*. I promise to join with you on this vital subject, which engages more sensibly than ever the attention of all religious orders everywhere. Many good souls will soon come to help you. We must find, we must form new members better than we are. We shall give our Immaculate Mother no rest on this most important point. Novenas shall succeed each other without interruption until we have evident proofs that she has listened to our prayer and granted our request. I shall take or admit no other sign of her love for you, Brother Vincent!

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior-General.

No. CXIV.

NOTRE DAME, IND., September 1, 1883.

BELoved CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

I sincerely regret having missed the last visit of some of you, starting for your missions; and as a substitute to the recommendations I intended offering to all, I now hasten to send you the following lines, to which, I hope, you will feel only too happy to pay a timely and due attention. Indeed the unprecedented satisfaction universally given in our last Retreat is in itself a guarantee that every word of this direction will be received as a test of the late resolutions, and as a sure means to secure the blessing of God upon your new year's labors or full success:

First of all, let *regularity*, *obedience* and *devotedness* mark everyone's conduct with the unmistakable sign of a Religious.

2d.—Every House of the Holy Cross should secure, in a body, the blessing of its Rev. Pastor on the opening of the school, with a declaration of the best will to follow his directions in everything.

3d.—Harmony, charity and happiness should be the result of every one's efforts in each House—especially of every superior mind.

4th.—Economy, saving dispositions, zeal for the interests of the Congregation and a spirit of self-sacrifice will always reveal the best members of it.

5th.—Let all learn daily more and more how to die to the world and to themselves.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior-General.

No. CXV.

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

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR 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 imperative 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 administering 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 four geographical sections; 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 entrusted to their respective care and solicitude. This is a trial to be submitted, if successful, in three 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 Council. 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. L'Etourneau, Assistant-Provincial for the State of Indiana.

2d. Rev. W. Corby, Assistant-Provincial for the States of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Dakota.

3d. Rev. P. Hurth, Assistant-Provincial for the States of Ohio and New Jersey.

4th. Rev. P. Franciscus, Assistant-Provincial for the States of 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 three years have elapsed, in which of the four sections these family interests have been best cared for, and developed and made a real resource for vocations, for students, for our publications, etc.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior-General.

No. CXVI.

NOTRE DAME, IND., October 16, 1883.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

How shall I express to you my grateful acknowledgments for such manifestations of filial love and devotedness as I have seen and read since four or five days, here and at St. Mary's? More than ever I am at a loss how to reveal the feelings of my heart. But in my inability to return you proper and adequate thanks, in words or in writing, I find quite a relief in looking through the window—from the chair to which I am bound yet for a week or ten days—to the only object I can see when I raise my eyes up to the blue sky—the image of our Blessed Mother, recently elevated 200 feet from the ground, and enthroned, as we had so long wished to behold her, in all the splendor of a most glorious and lovely Queen, taking possession of her precious domain. Our Holy Mother's magnificent statue is all my window admits to my view—it is all I wish to see. What a happy captive a little accident has made

me! Hundreds of times a day my eyes, with my heart, move and fly up to the dear object, to the centre of all my admiration and my love. Where could I find a more delightful spot on earth to live on and to die? Here, as it were, under the royal mantle of the Queen of heaven, I gather in spirit and in joy our little family of loving children, that she may bless each one of them and pay them all I owe them, especially since a few days. Here they stand in my memory, incessantly urging me to present them for new blessings—new thanks to her by whose brilliant throne I dwell so near, and so delighted that I would consider it a special favor to breathe my last where I now sit writing. Oh, what a joy! Never in my life did I feel as I do, under the golden rays of this grand and sacred image. This triumph of our Blessed Mother is, beyond expression, not only the realization of my long ambitious designs, but a prolific source of new hopes for the future, and an unspeakable cause of consolation and enjoyment to every child of Mary around us. Who could say how many new salutations, how many thanks and praises, how many fervent aspirations and petitions will be sent forth, by day and by night, to this new throne of glory and mercy? *Ave, Maria! Alma Redemptoris Mater! Ave, Regina Calorum! Regina Cæli, lætare, alleluia! Salve, Regina! Magnificat!* and other like holy accents will constantly ascend as a fragrant incense from loving hearts, or as a perfume of delightful odor from so many pure souls to the new throne of our peerless Lady, our Holy Mother. Who cannot see the result? She will be honored and praised and loved here as she never was before; and very soon her glory will extend beyond the limits of her modest premises of Notre Dame. Is this all? No: for it is written, *Qui elucidant me vitam æternam habebunt!*

While thanking you for your touching expressions of filial affection on the return of my patron Saint's festival, I gladly profit by this pleasant opportunity to assure you that all your sentiments are faithfully re-echoed in my heart. Numerous as they were, I read attentively all the letters addressed to me on the occasion, and will keep them all. Many of them would do honor to their authors, if published; the best hearts always winning in such a contest. Indeed, it is not me but yourselves you honor when you succeed in this little labor of love. Even in a crowd of strangers, a loving child, showing its mother unmistakable signs of love, becomes an object of universal interest; while another, of cool indifference, turns out a disgusting sight. Hence the comment: "Honor to your parents is honor to yourself."

Therefore, the merit of your feast letters returns to yourselves tenfold; particularly at a time when all authority—parental, religious or Divine—is becoming, sensibly and universally, an object of uneasiness—nay, an eye-sore, because it is a restraint

in a degrading society, from a general collapse. Let every House of ours be a school of respect for authority, civil or Divine. Such were the schools in which the saints were trained and moulded. When you look to the bright statue of our Holy Mother on her Dome remember how she was rewarded for her profound sense of heaven-born veneration. She saw the Son of God in person obey her—*Et erat subditus illis!*

But if a child honors himself when honoring his parents, how much more will they not honor themselves who strive with their whole heart to honor their Heavenly Mother, as did so many noble souls now reigning with her forever in glory! A true child of Mary, even in the humblest walks of life, is an object of interest to the entire court of heaven, and of special love to his Guardian Angel, who sees in him a future prince of the celestial kingdom. What a consolation for us all, members of a teaching Order! For, directly or indirectly, we all share in the merits of the great work for which the Church has approved our Religious family. Whether in the class-room, or in the kitchen, or in the field, we spend ourselves and are spent for the same glorious end. We are all the immediate, the visible assistants of the Guardian Angels to whom this beautiful month of October is dedicated. To us, and for each of the little ones entrusted to our care, Jesus Himself seems to say, more distinctly than ever, from on high: *Ecce Mater tua!*—"Behold thy Mother!" They may have their own mothers at home, full of love and devotedness, most anxious for their happiness; so had the beloved Disciple; so ambitious was she for the advance of her two sons—James and John—that she came to Jesus, worshipping, and saying to Him: "Say that these my two sons may sit, one on thy right hand and the other on thy left, in Thy kingdom." Like many a mother of this world, "she did not know what she was asking." But Jesus, who loved His Disciple, gave him another Mother, "and he took her unto his own." Oh, the treasure! At the foot of the Cross, St. John was our representative and our model. We, too, will take her to our hearts, lovingly, joyously, strongly and forever! Amen!

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
Superior-General.

No. CXVII.

NOTRE DAME, IND., Dec. 12, 1883.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

For the first in my religious life I come to propose to you a half-way measure. But, when fully explained, this word *half-way measure* may turn out *full* of the happiest results.

As a Religious Congregation we devote ourselves to the education of youth. Our daily experience shows us the increasing difficulties and also the growing importance of our noble task. We all understand that "unless God bless our labors, we work in vain." But how shall we secure this indispensable help from above?

My long captivity here in my room would have been very tedious had I not enjoyed from my chair the constant sight of our Blessed Mother's splendid statue on the new Dome. This sacred image has reminded me of many a blessing—of an astonishing series of blessings since the 5th of August, 1841! At times, it seems, I shall never be able to thank her enough even for a portion of what I owe her motherly love and protection. No one will ever know, this side of heaven, how much I am indebted to our glorious Queen. It is true, it was for her I came 42 years ago. If I have a wish, a burning aspiration in my soul, it is to pay to her my debt of gratitude. Here is what she seems to claim from me as a proof of my honesty,—to see her, not alone here, but in every establishment of the Congregation, *more honored, better loved, and, therefore, much better known.* But are we not all striving alike to consecrate our efforts to the Blessed Mother of God? . . . You may judge, yourselves, by the results, how the Blessed Virgin is pleased with each one of our Houses. Where she actually presides, and governs, and reigns as a Mother and Queen, there is success. Here is now my means to serve her cause and draw her blessing upon our Houses more abundantly than ever before. When I look up and rest my eyes with delight on our monumental statue, how I wish that every child of our schools might enjoy such a sight! and each time our Blessed Mother seems to say that something even far better can be done; that she has given me a *means* to reach the eyes and the mind and the heart of each one of these dear little ones she loves so tenderly; and that, far and near, every Saturday, by placing her Journal into their innocent little hands; that this early seed would soon grow in those spotless souls, and that their hearts, once occupied by the love of the Mother of Jesus, would have no room left for any debasing desire; that possession was to be secured to the first occupant,—and all this would be obtained by the spreading of her Journal, her own beloved *Ave Maria*.

The messenger of the holy Mother of God, our *Ave Maria*, so highly recommended by the Holy See, the Sacred Hierarchy, and a vast multitude of fervent souls, has been, undoubtedly, a blessing, for 18 years, upon many Christian households in the land; while taking the place of loose and dangerous novels and papers, it has made known the virtues, the merits and grandeurs of Mary. Hence the increase of pure devotion and blessings.

It is not enough that our Blessed Mother's Journal be read by our teachers; it should pass into the hands of their pupils as

well. When, on Friday evenings, every Christian child taught in our schools will go home rejoicing, carrying the last number of the *Ave Maria*, I say that child will bring home a blessing, and the centre from which so many *radii* of light will issue will soon be a centre of blessings, a consolation, a success. Explained and referred to once in a while by the teacher, the *Ave Maria* will soon appear as it is, a pearl to the eyes of young readers. They will love it, and draw to its beauties the attention of all at home. How touching the anecdote of that little girl who rushed to her father's arms after tea, with an enthusiastic accent: "O father! what a beautiful story I have read to-day in the *Ave Maria*! will you hear it?" And she commenced; and when she was through, the loving parent, in tears, pressed her to his heart, saying: "You are a darling child, indeed; how well you read! You, too, will be a noble girl!" One or two pieces read out from the magazine every week would soon fill a whole class with admiration of its merits. Of course, a little zeal is required; but what can we accomplish without zeal? The lack of it is akin to indolence and sloth.

But, you will say, \$2.50 is more than most of our children can pay. Let us, then, reduce it by half: \$1.25, not 3 cents *per* week. This is what I meant by a *half-way* measure. It will scarcely pay for the paper. But no matter; some real, serious good will be accomplished in our schools. Let it be well understood, however, that my present offer is made exclusively for school children, and holds good only to the 20th of this month, as we must know in time how many extra copies shall be printed at the opening of 1884. Let us see who loves our Blessed Mother and values her protection upon the little ones entrusted to our care.

Let me close by reminding you all of the solemn declaration that was the text of my first sermon in 1837—*Qui elucidant Me vitam æternam habebunt*—"They that explain Me shall have life everlasting!"

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
Superior-General.

No. CXVIII.

NOTRE DAME, IND., Dec. 22, '83.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

Behold, I come to do Thy will, O God! (Heb., x, 7.) A few months later on, we shall hear the fulfilment of the above declaration. *And He was obedient unto death—even the death of the Cross.* (Phil., ii, 8.) It is between these two sacred texts I love to place thus early my best wishes of the season for your happiness in time and eternity.

As we see, Jesus was our model of obedience from the first to the

last moment—from Bethlehem to Calvary. Ever since, He has given us occasionally admirable copies of the Divine Original. Even in our midst we find every day the same precious examples of humble obedience, reminding us of the vow which is the basis of a religious life. May we all profit by such telling counsels, and become, one and all, living models of obedience.

I wish an additional importance may attach to this recommendation of obedience, as it may be the last New Year's Circular you receive from me. Age and infirmity, these last three months, have been telling me that the end cannot be far distant. At best, we have but a short time to live, as we shall realize again, in a few hours, in accompanying our excellent Brother Matthias to his resting-place. I long for peace and solitude where I may pray the more for us all. A successor more active and more exemplary would implant a new life in all devoted hearts. It would be much better for me to enjoy a little rest, to prepare myself for my eternity, and for the Congregation to be directed by an able and comprehensive head, a strong arm and a generous heart. Have I not borne long enough already the weight of such ever-growing responsibilities?

Here, however, I express an honest, a heartfelt desire, and not an intention to carry it out at any cost of the peace and interests of the Congregation; as long as I can work, *non recuso laborem*. But the sooner I may be relieved from my actual and oppressive responsibilities, the better, infinitely, for all.

The *triennial* report I am preparing for the Holy See will show a considerable increase in Religious and pupils.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,
Superior-General.

P. S.—Is it not somewhat strange that among the members of the same Religious family—working alike for the same end—the authorized recommendation of a means sure to bring blessings and success would be so thankfully and readily received by some, and scarcely noticed by others? Beware! the usher may be very insignificant; but the one he introduces, and who meets a refusal, may resent it; especially when she presents herself to be introduced to her own beloved and innocent children. Let no vain excuses be resorted to. They all vanish away before the simple motto: “Where there is a will there is a way!”

E. S.

No. CXIX.

NOTRE DAME, IND., Jan. 5, 1884.

REV. FATHERS AND BELOVED CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

Since I addressed you last, on the 22d ult., I received so many