

And again, what a rich record of virtues she leaves behind her, since her admission into the Community! As everyone knows at St. Mary's, she was eminently the one that all could esteem and love—a true model of whatever constitutes a Religious—modest and unpretending, and alike laborious, charitable, and devoted, ever pious and edifying.

Happy child! with a singleness of heart that endeared her to all, she preserved an innocence and purity of soul that fitted her, we trust, to go and celebrate her Christmas Day in heaven.

Three weeks since, immediately after receiving Extreme Unction, she made a remark in which her pure soul revealed itself: "Oh! Father, if I could only die now!" Again, and only two days ago, she asked me, with the simplicity of a child, why it was she could not die? I replied, as I thought, that probably she should be called with the fortunate shepherds to the Crib of the Saviour, and her countenance instantly brightened.

She suffered long and severe pains, but never was heard to complain. No sick person ever claimed less attention and care; and while none, perhaps, excited more genuine sympathy, she only wondered why others would make so much of her; the least service always elicited a warm expression of gratitude.

May this new and beautiful flower prove a pleasing offering at the Crib of the Infant Saviour, the Lover of pure innocent souls!

E. SORIN.

No. XI.

ST. MARY'S, June 13, 1872.

MY DEAR DAUGHTERS:

Although I lost no time to come at the first notice of danger, still I came too late to see our good Sister M. Angelica alive—she had gone to her eternal rest. Fortunately, our Rev. Father Demers was there hearing the weekly confessions; and however promptly and unexpectedly the good Sister was carried away, still she had full time and opportunity to make her confession, and receive the last Sacraments with perfect consciousness and great edification to all her Sisters present. She had been for some time lingering, when almost on a sudden a sinking chill brought to a close a long life of virtue and no ordinary merits.

She was in her fifty-fifth year; had received the holy Habit on the 23d of July, 1852, and made her Profession on the 18th of July, 1856. Through this long career of religious life she never gave me a momentary displeasure; I never heard any one blame her; nor did she ever complain of any one. She lived for God, and the Community had the full benefit of her simple and beautiful devotedness. May she rest in peace!

E. SORIN.

No. XII.

NOTRE DAME, IND., Sept. 1, 1872.

MY DEAR DAUGHTERS IN CHRIST:

Yesterday afternoon our good Sister M. de Paule suddenly dropped dead at St. Mary's, without a single premonitory sign of increasing pain or danger. For several years she had been almost a daily sufferer from heart-disease, and at times she suffered intensely; hence her frequent declarations, which I credited myself, that she should end some day as she has. Although not altogether unexpected, the suddenness of this good Religious' death has justly cast a gloom over the Community. Let all fulfil their duties towards her the more fervently and the more promptly, and turn to the best account a warning as yet unprecedented in the Congregation.

Her name in the world was Johanna Sullivan. She was born in Ireland, A. D. 1826; received the holy Habit July 19, 1856, and made her Profession August 15, 1859. *Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.

P. S.—It would appear that the new move at Notre Dame is yet by a few subjects misapprehended. Therefore I deem it my duty to say that I have simply accepted the offer and written proposition of St. Mary's Council, after the same had been thankfully subscribed to by the joint Local and Provincial Councils of Notre Dame, with only one point that made a shade of difference, and on which both parties have since cheerfully agreed, namely, the new Novitiate here for the present, as proposed in my first Circular. Let it be, then, clearly understood that both Administrations are fully satisfied on the subject, and equally anticipate the best results for either side. In a little while everyone will see by its harmonious workings what has been gained for the two Institutions. I only ask twelve months for the sanction of the experiment. The success is already visible, and I readily credit St. Mary's with it; for it is and will be St. Mary's work.

E. S.

No. XIII.

NOTRE DAME, September 20, 1872.

MY DEAR DAUGHTERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

Sister Mary of Bethania (in the world Miss Catharine Wilson, of Trenton, New Jersey), one of our most edifying and promising subjects, was buried this morning, at St. Mary's after a Solemn Mass of *Requiem*, at which her pious and excellent parents assisted.

She died on Tuesday, the 17th, after a long sickness, which she made meritorious to herself, and edifying to all who visited her, strengthened by the precious consolations and blessings the Church has in store for her sick and dying children. She had made her

Profession on the 15th of August, 1869; and endeared herself to all her companions in religion. The dear child's premature death will be felt all over the Community. Like several other young Sisters we have lost of late, she was eminently a child of innocence, a model of faith and piety. She was in her twenty-sixth year.

*Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.

No. XIV.

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA, October 10, 1872.

MY DEAR DAUGHTERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

I can scarcely realize that Mother Mary of St. Eusebia is no more; and yet I presided myself at her obsequies this morning. I had been absent only thirty-six hours; but in less than twenty-four hours she had fallen sick and died, in spite of all possible efforts which affection could imagine and bestow.

After such repeated warnings, within a few months, who amongst us will postpone a preparation which, if deferred, she may never be permitted to make before being summoned to the tribunal of the Supreme Judge?

Mother Mary of St. Eusebia was in her forty-third year; she had been sixteen years a member of the Community, and when she was commencing to enjoy, in the increasing number of her pupils, the fruits of her ceaseless exertions and devotedness, she was, almost without any notice (she could receive but the Sacraments of Penance and Extreme Unction), hurried away from the scenes of her laborious office, we fondly hope, not so much to death as to the reward of her long sacrifices in the cause of Education.

One of her last official acts was to organize, on Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Rosary—only two days before she died—the Religious Associations established in the Academy for Catholic pupils. On the previous evening she remained in Loreto with the Children of Mary, who were preparing for confession, until a late hour in the night; and when, on the next day, some of them were remarking to her how fatigued she must feel, she replied she never was happier or better pleased with them; she had there the consolation both to make her monthly retreat and to witness their piety.

Last Saturday, while presiding at the weekly meeting of the teachers, she spoke to them, they all say, as she had never done before; taking the entire hour in impressing on their minds the necessity of seasoning Education with Religion, and of sanctifying with the love of God their every effort in the accomplishment of their duties.

Let all pray fervently for the rest of the dear soul, and promptly

offer to God in her behalf the special suffrages secured by the Rules to the Assistants of the Mother Superior. *Requiescat in pace.*

E. SORIN, C. S. C.

No. XV.

ST. MARY'S, April 16, 1873.

MY DEAR DAUGHTERS:

Last night, at 10 o'clock, our dear Sister Mary of St. Louis de Gonzague calmly expired here, after a long sickness, and fortified by all the helps of holy religion. She had entered the Community September 23, 1852; had received the holy Habit March 18, 1853, and made her Profession August 25, 1854. She was born in France, in 1823, of a pious and worthy family named Housset.

The universal and unexceptional esteem and warm affection in which she was ever held at St. Mary's, to the last hour of her life, testify better than any empty praise of ours, to her real worth as a Religious.

Sister Mary of St. Louis de Gonzague, as far as can be ascertained, carries with her the enviable honor of never having grieved any one in the Congregation, whether Superiors, equals or inferiors; and to have proved a joy and an edification to all ever since she entered in 1852. Is it a matter of surprise that she died, last night, an admirable death? What a consoling sight it was around her death-bed! Everyone there seemed to realize that a saintly soul was departing for heaven. May we all die the same precious death!

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

*Superior-General.*

No. XVI.

NOTRE DAME, IND., November 16, 1874.

MY BELOVED DAUGHTERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

On this day, on which we commemorate the Festival of the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin, at a quarter of two o'clock, our excellent Sister M. Calasactius (in the world, Honora Slattery) expired here, after an illness of two weeks, strengthened with all the helps of religion, and perfectly resigned to God's holy will. She had received the holy Habit on August 15, 1866, and made her Profession three years later. I need not say what all the Community know already; namely, that she was eminently a Religious of great faith; all her life with us was a proof of it, and her last moments have left on my mind an impression I can never forget. At half-past one o'clock this afternoon she sent for me, in the hope