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Alton, May 12, 1885.

To Very Rev. E. Sorin, Superior General  
of the C. S. C.

Very Rev. Father:

Last week I visited Springfield of this diocese. Amongst other things I was called on to select the site on which the prospective house of the brothers teaching there should be built. The only piece of church property now vacant upon which they could build, is adjoining the church of the Immaculate Conception. I suppose you are aware that there is question of removing the see of Alton to Springfield. If this be done, very material changes will have to be made about the above named church, which may necessitate the ground on which the brothers would

like to build to be used for other purposes. I am very sure it must be decided within a year as to whether the See will be removed to Springfield or not. The brothers will feel much disappointed when they find they will not, for the present at least, be allowed to build on the mentioned ground. I do not wish to inform them yet of the contemplated change of See of Alto. Please, therefore, My Rev. Father, use your own way of inducing the brothers <sup>to desist</sup> from building for the present without giving them the reason I have given. Hoping your trip to Rome has benefited you, & that you are in the enjoyment of good health, I am most respectfully

My Rev. Father,

Yours in Christ & the Holy Spirit  
+ P. J. Baltus,  
M.P. of Alto