

DOMINICAN SISTERS IN THE UNITED STATES

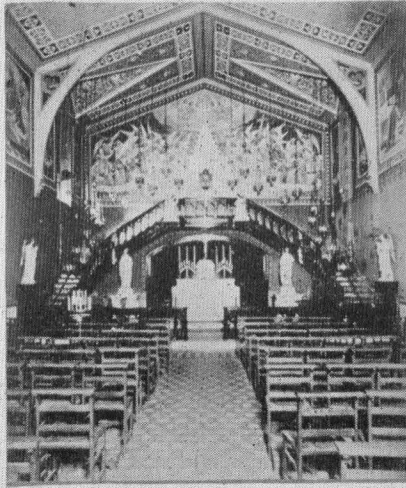
IN our day and country it has come to be the fundamental dogma of a practical people that tangible results are the only proofs of genius. From those who by word or deed have proven themselves reliable guide-signs for the present advance of knowledge and prosperity, none would reserve their praise. There is but one other greater and it is he who has dared and succeeded in directing beyond the horizon of his own time into the unexplored future.

Measured by these requirements Saint Dominic stands in history, and before the critical tribunal of our recent judgments, a leader of those boasting triumphs that attract the world. Our faith assures us his victory was not the fruit of earthly wisdom alone. He lived too intimately with heaven to set forth a work wholly of earth. And perhaps it is this that explains why the ideal he chose has remained unchanged through the varying vicissitudes of seven hundred years. Nowhere is the adaptability of his ideal, to all places and times, made more manifest than in the works of his spiritual daughters. Progress has not outrun the motto chosen by him seven centuries ago. No nation or people are too new to cast his directions into the scrap pile of useless things.

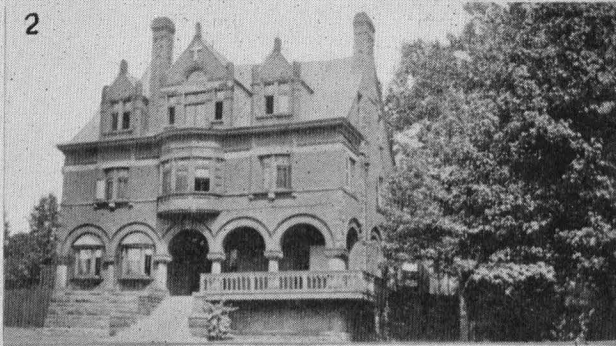
The two forms of religious life the Church so cherishes, the daughters of Saint Dominic have embraced in their fulness, blending in a perfect harmony the contemplative with the active life. Every phase of Christian charity claims some of them. That charity that makes of itself a perfect holocaust, whereby one gives oneself to the contemplation of the highest truth, an offering in perpetual prayer for the world that so needs a continual intercession is theirs. The orphan, the sick, the destitute and even the leper knows the blessing that goes with the white Dominican habit. The education of the young in heart and mind is a treasure of Dominican traditions at no time more cherished than now.

The 22d of July, 1206, was the birthday of the Second Order of Saint Dominic. For on the eve of that day, the feast of her who was afterwards to become the patroness of the Order of Preachers, as Saint Dominic was pouring forth his supplications upon a hillside overlooking the little village of Prouille, was manifested to him in a marvelous manner the will of heaven in his regard. He had been praying that means might be given him to found an institution where young girls converted from the errors of Albigensianism could find a safe haven and protection from the snares of the "Perfects." Suddenly a globe of fire appeared in the air, and after circling over a spot, not far from where he knelt, fell to the ground and rested there. This prodigy was repeated on the two following nights. And then the Saint understood that the little chapel upon which the meteor had rested was to be the future home of his first spiritual children.

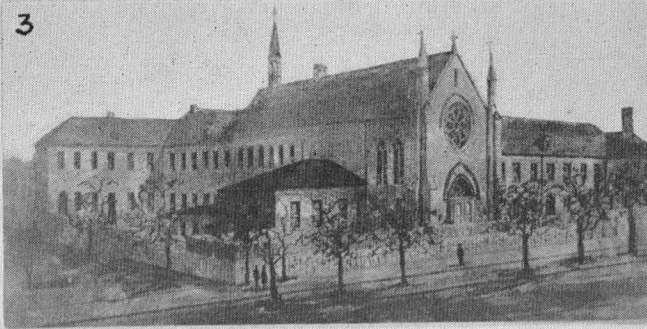
Having obtained the consent of Foulques, Bishop of Toulouse and Na Cavaers, the women to whom the property in question belonged, the holy founder set about to find suitable candidates. And by Saint



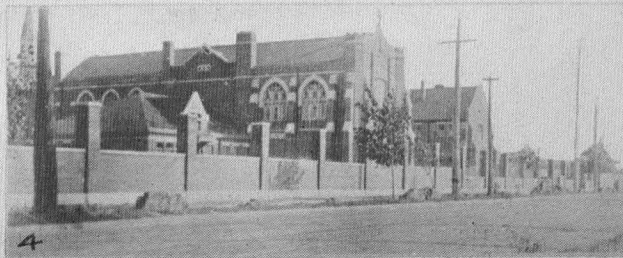
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WHERE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS PERPETUALLY ADORED



First Community of Dominican Sisters in the U. S. (St. Catherine's, Ky.)

Cecilia's Day, November 22, 1206, he had gathered together about twenty-four young women to whom he gave the habit of his Order. Thus was planted, in poverty and obscurity, the tiny mustard seed which for the last seven hundred years has spread its mighty branches throughout the whole world. And that tiny mustard seed has at last taken root in our own country. The children of Prouille are now in our midst—for Oullins is but a branch of Prouille. And daily in four convents these first daughters of Saint Dominic watch before the Eucharistic Lord, beseeching Him to have mercy upon his sinful people; to let them be the sacrifice offered in atonement for the sins of mankind.

The Dominican nuns of the Perpetual Adoration were established in the United States in 1880, through the inspiration of His Grace Archbishop Corrigan, then Bishop of Newark. On May 24, 1889, the second foundation was made at Hunt's Point, New York. Some years later a third convent was founded in Detroit, Michigan, and during the last year a fourth was established in the archdiocese of Cincinnati.

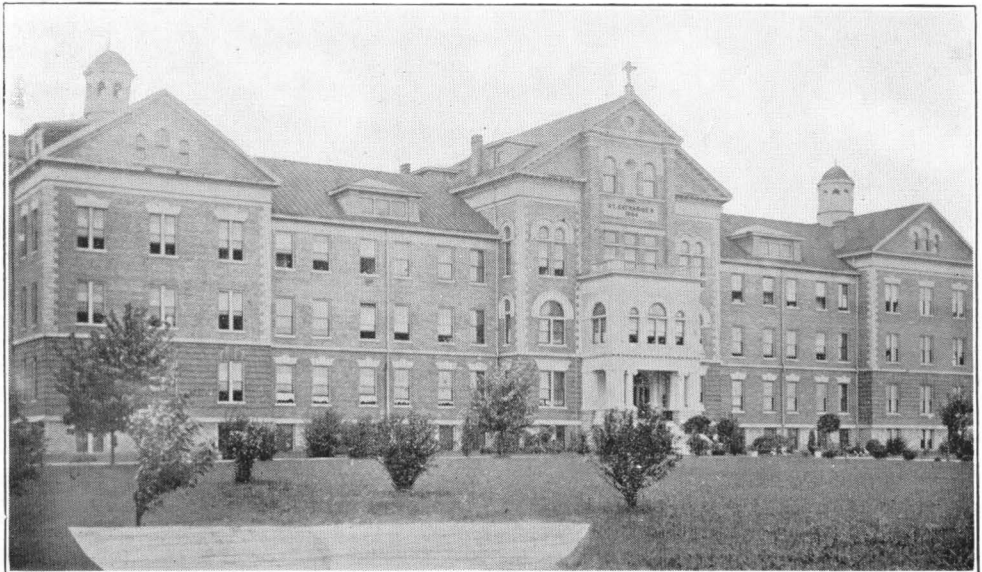
In regard to this newest convent of the Second Order, seven Sisters from the Newark House were chosen as the nucleus of the new community, which took up its residence in a beautiful home in Oak Hills, known as "Heresy Hall." The welcome afforded the Sisters by the Most Reverend Archbishop and the people in general has afforded them the assurance that the Convent of the Holy Name, humble in its beginnings, shall come to be a great center of Eucharistic and Dominican devotion.

The Sisters of the Perpetual Adoration now number one hundred and fifty. During the last year one of their number, Sister Mary Emmanuel Davis, was called to her eternal reward.

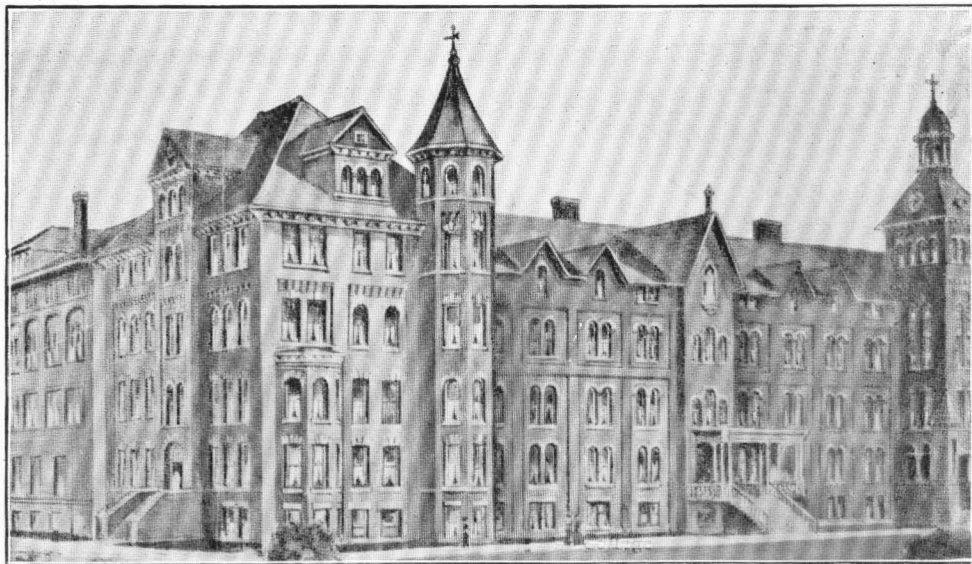
In 1875 a Dominican of the Paris Province, the Rev. Damian Mary Saintourens, O. P., wrote and obtained the permission of his superiors to found the Society of the Perpetual Rosary. After years of disappointments and discouragements, attendant upon all great works, he succeeded in founding several communities whose members would give themselves to the uninterrupted recitation of the great Dominican prayer, the Rosary.

The first section of the Perpetual Rosary was established in West Hoboken, N. J., on January 10, 1886. The work spread rapidly. In all the great cities of the East, through all Canada, the islands of the far South, until to-day Our Lady possesses a kingdom upon which the sun never sets. Truly it is a Perpetual Rosary. In 1891 a new convent was founded in West Hoboken, N. J., and as vocations multiplied it became necessary to establish new homes for the Sisters. At present, besides the Mother House at Hoboken, there are flourishing convents of the Perpetual Rosary in Camden, N. J., Buffalo, N. Y., Hales Corners, Wis., Baltimore, Md., and La Crosse, Wis. The rules of these communities embrace all the strictness of the Second Order save those pertaining to the strict fast.

During the past year three postulants received the holy habit at Camden, three novices made their first profession and one her solemn profession. At Buffalo two novices made final vows and one postulant received the habit. The La Crosse community received three postulants,



St. Catherine's Convent, Springfield, Ky.



St. Mary's of the Springs, Columbus, Ohio

two taking the habit on December 8th. Two novices received the habit and two Sisters made profession.

The Very Rev. Father Saintourens, director of the Perpetual Rosary, celebrated during the last year his golden jubilee anniversary as a priest. Born on May 13, 1835, he was ordained in 1860, and served as a secular priest for eight years. In 1868 he joined the Dominican Order, and at present is living at the convent in Camden, where he directs the great work of propagating the devotion to the Perpetual Rosary.

A third branch of the Dominican Sisters engaged in special and truly apostolic works made its first home in Albany, N. Y. The foundress, Miss Lucy Eaton Smith, afterwards Sister Maria Catherine de Ricci, was a convert, joined the Third Order of Saint Dominic in France. Her idea of instituting a new phase of Dominican activity in this country, while severely tested in the beginning, has proven its practicability and efficacy in the numerous and manifold results of the various affiliated convents, now located in Saratoga Springs, N. Y., New York City, Philadelphia, Pa., Dayton, Ohio, Havana, Cuba, and Cienfuegos, Cuba. In Havana the Sisters are in charge of an academy with two hundred pupils. The convents at Albany and Saratoga offer to Catholic women an ideal place for short retreats and religious instruction. The remaining three at New York, Philadelphia and Dayton are Homes for Working Girls.

The provincial chapter was held during July of last year. The Rev. Mother M. Francis was elected Provincial of the Congregation, and the Rev. Sister M. Anthony, former Superioress at Dayton, to the office of Prioress at the Mother House at Albany.

The Dominican Sisters of the Sick Poor began their work in 1879 in the parish of the Paulist Fathers, New York City. All members of the Third Order, they sought neither official recognition or title for many years. Their lives are given to aiding materially and spiritually the destitute sick and dying in their own homes. At present they have two foundations, one in New York City, and one in Columbus, Ohio. During the year three postulants were received and six novices made profession, increasing the number of those engaged in this great Dominican charity to thirty-four.

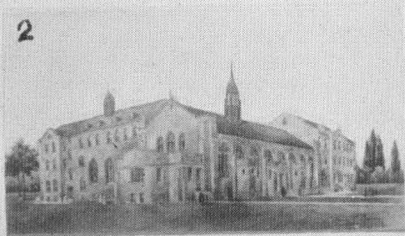
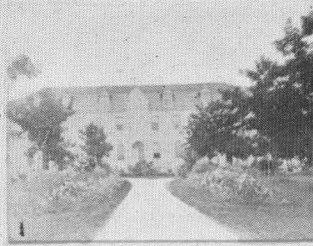
Another great charity reflecting honor upon the name Dominican, and winning merit unmeasured for the daughters of Saint Dominic and Saint Catherine, are the two homes conducted by Sisters of the Third Order at Hawthorne, New York, and on Cherry Street, in New York City. Founded by the Rev. Mother Alphonsa Lathrop and Sister Rose



St. Clara College and Novitiate, Sinsinawa, Wis.

Huber, the congregation has seen the number of destitute cancer patients, who serve as the special objects of their life work, increase until the demands made upon their services far exceeds their ability to adequately meet them. Within the last few months a beautiful new House of Calvary, to receive the poor, suffering from cancer, was blessed, in New York City.

The Third Order of Saint Dominic, made illustrious by the seraphic Saint Catherine and the sweet Saint Rose, has found its widest field, however, in the education of the young. The motto of Saint Dominic, "to give to others the fruit of our own contemplation," finds in the great system of Catholic education in our own country an unlimited opportunity, which with characteristic Dominican zeal is being developed to the highest possible perfection. Over twenty-three Mother Houses,



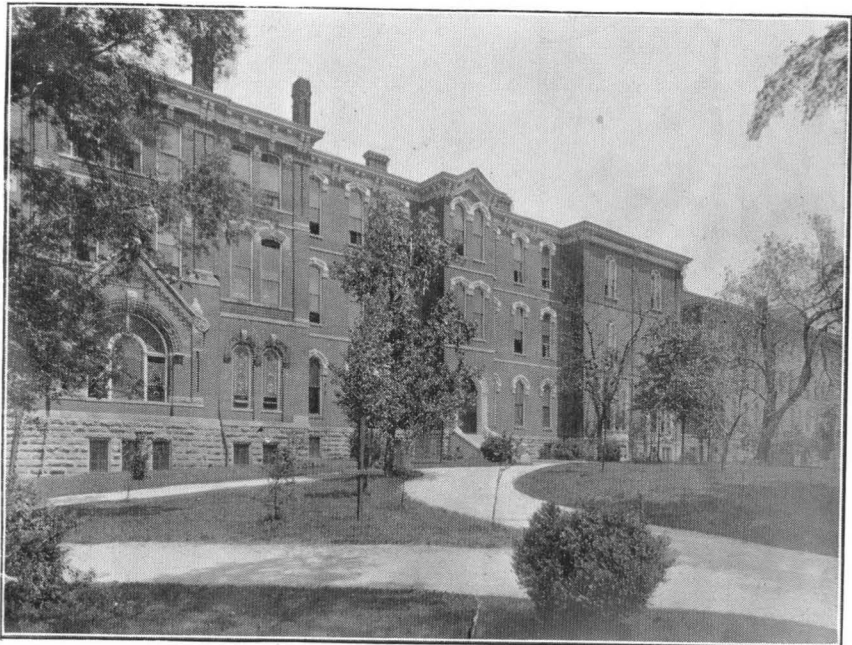
WHERE THE ROSARY IS SAID PERPETUALLY

1. Dominican Monastery, Hales Corners, Wis. 2. Dominican Monastery, W. Hoboken, N. J.
3. Dominican Monastery, Buffalo, N. Y. 4. Dominican Monastery, Camden, N. J.

with their affiliated schools and academies, stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Louisiana to Maine, forming an endless chain of silent "sermons in stone" to the people of our nation, of the solicitude of Mother Church for her little ones, eloquent in the highest sense of the true Dominican ideal. Their continued prosperity, and assurance of a greater future, is by no means the least of the glories of this, our seven hundredth birthday.

The first community of Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Dominic in the United States was founded in 1822. In the beautiful hill country of Kentucky, on the highest point in Washington County, stands the historic Saint Catherine's, now a veritable "upper room," from whence go the daughters of Saint Dominic to the distant archdioceses of Boston and Chicago, to the dioceses of Alton, Louisville, Nashville, Omaha, Lincoln, Fort Wayne and Sioux City, to bring the message of Christ's law and love to the young Catholics of these parts.

On July 24, 1915, Sister Francesca Kearney was elected Prioress of this flourishing community. Twenty-four candidates received the habit and thirty Sisters made profession during 1915, while at present there are twenty-three candidates for the habit and twenty preparing to take their vows. Last September two parochial schools were opened, one at Saint James' Cathedral, Kearney, Nebraska; the second at Saint Patrick's, South Omaha. The Sisters at Holy Rosary Academy, Louisville,



St. Cecilia's Academy, Nashville, Tenn.



Villa Madonna, Mt. St. Mary's, Newburgh, N. Y.

have secured a site with spacious buildings for their new academy. The excellent work done in the past necessitated the securing of larger quarters.

Death called from the community during the year Sister Mary Benven Rumpf, Sister Dolores O'Neil, Sister Evangelist Noonan and Sister Rita Dellamano.

Under the auspices of Bishop Fenwick, then Bishop of Cincinnati, the second foundation of Dominican Sisters was made in Ohio, in 1830. Some years later the community took up residence at what is now known as Saint Mary's of the Springs. Academies and schools affiliated to this Mother House are located in the diocese of Columbus, Hartford, and in the archdiocese of New York. In September an academy for young ladies was opened at Ossining-on-the-Hudson, and a large parochial school in Bradock, Pa. Seventeen received the habit, sixteen made first profession and twenty-four second profession during the past year.

The necrology of Saint Mary's for 1915—Sister Aquinas LeRoy, Sister Benita Beck, Sister M. James Nash.

The first community of Dominican Sisters in the great Middle West was founded in 1847, by Father Samuel Mazuchelli, O. P., of holy memory. Some twenty years later the "Mound," famous for its unexcelled beauty and location, became the home of the Congregation of Dominican Sisters of the Holy Rosary. Here the Sisters conduct the renowned Saint Clara's Academy for young ladies, and from this as a Mother

House the members scatter through fifteen dioceses where they have in charge nine acadmies and fifty-three parochial schools.

To the community of Saint Clara's, and the Reverend authoress in particular, are extended this year the thanks and congratulations of all Dominicans for the scholarly and able presentation to the public of the "Memoirs of Father Mazuchelli, O P.," the apostolic missionary of the Middle West during the early part of the last century.

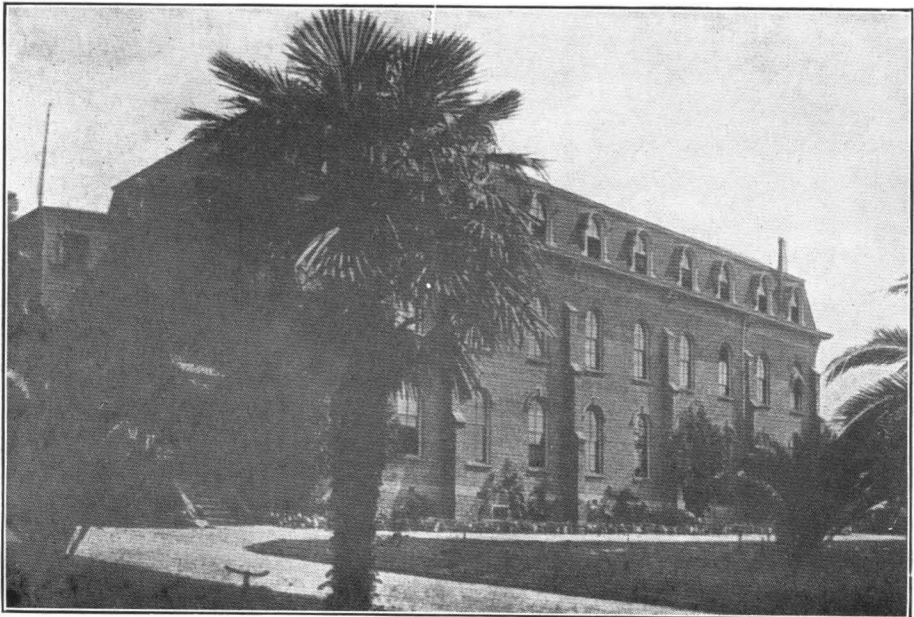
Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary, Mother Mary Samuel, Mother General.

The Baccalaureate Sermon at Saint Clara College was preached by the Very Rev. J. R. Meagher, O. P., S. T. Lr., Provincial of Saint Joseph's Province.

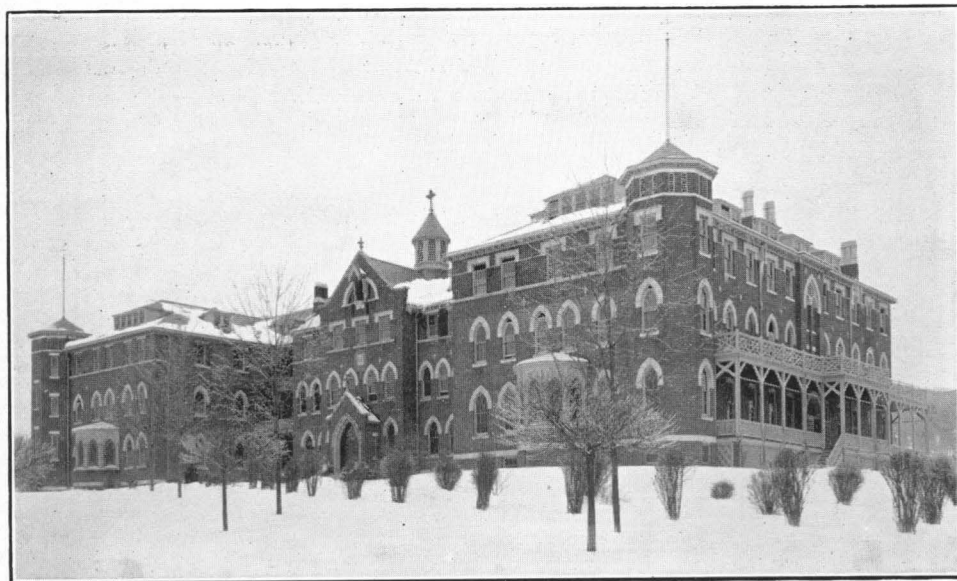
To the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa has been entrusted the splendidly equipped new parochial high school in the Visitation parish, Chicago, the Rev. D. F. McGuire, pastor. The number of pupils in the first year of high school is nearly two hundred and fifty.

Obituary, Saint Clara Convent, Sinsinawa, Wis.—Sister M. Aquinata Purcell, Sister M. Basilia Reilly, Sister M. Mechtildes McCabe, Sister M. Aloysia Cashman, Sister M. Devona Mayne, Sister M. Barbara Matthews, Sister M. Alonzo Shekleton and Sister M. Seraphine Trainor.

In 1851 Bishop Alemany, O. P., and Father Villarrasa, O. P., with Mother Mary Goemane, a nun of the Second Order from France, laid the foundation of what is now the flourishing community with a Mother House at San Rafael, California. The Sisters at present conduct prosperous establishments in the archdiocese of San Francisco and in the



Dominican Convent, Mission San Jose, Cal.



St. Agnes' Convent, Sparkill, N. Y.

diocese of Sacramento. A thoroughly modern concrete hospital, with accommodations for a hundred patients, was completed during 1915 at Stockton. Seven Sisters were professed in March and receptions were held in August. Six Sisters attended the Summer School at the University of California. Sister M. Raphael, Prioress of the Convent at Benicia, and for more than thirty years a member of the faculty of Saint Agnes' Academy, Stockton, died during the past year.

For over half a century the German Dominican Sisters have labored successfully in the schools and hospitals of the diocese of Brooklyn. They have charge to-day of one training school, two academies, thirty-six schools, two hospitals, a sanitarium and infirmary and six orphanages in New York, Brooklyn and Porto Rico. So numerous were the vocations to this community during the last year it was found necessary to enlarge the novitiate, as the applicants numbered sixty-one at the end of the year. A new school at Springfield, L. I., and a free and boarding-school at Saint Joseph's, Sullivan County, were opened in 1915. Ten Sisters attended courses at Saint John's College, Brooklyn, and seven received College Graduate Teacher's Certificates from the University of the State of New York. Fourteen Sisters celebrated their silver jubilee of profession. The deaths were, Sister M. Doyle and Sister Rose Alma Downing.

The Congregation of the Holy Rosary, with headquarters at Second Street, New York City, was founded in 1859. From this Mother House went forth Sisters to found two other thriving provinces, one at Adrian, Michigan, the second at Seattle, Washington.

The community at Newburgh, N. Y., reports a most successful year during 1915. Twelve Sisters received the habit, eighteen made profession and ten Sisters pronounced perpetual vows. Two attended the University at Washington, D. C., where Sister M. Alma received the degree of M. A. last June.

The Sisters of this congregation conduct establishments in the archdioceses of Chicago and New York, and the dioceses of Detroit, Cleveland, Fort Wayne, Rockford, Baker City, Seattle, Newark, Trenton and in North Carolina.

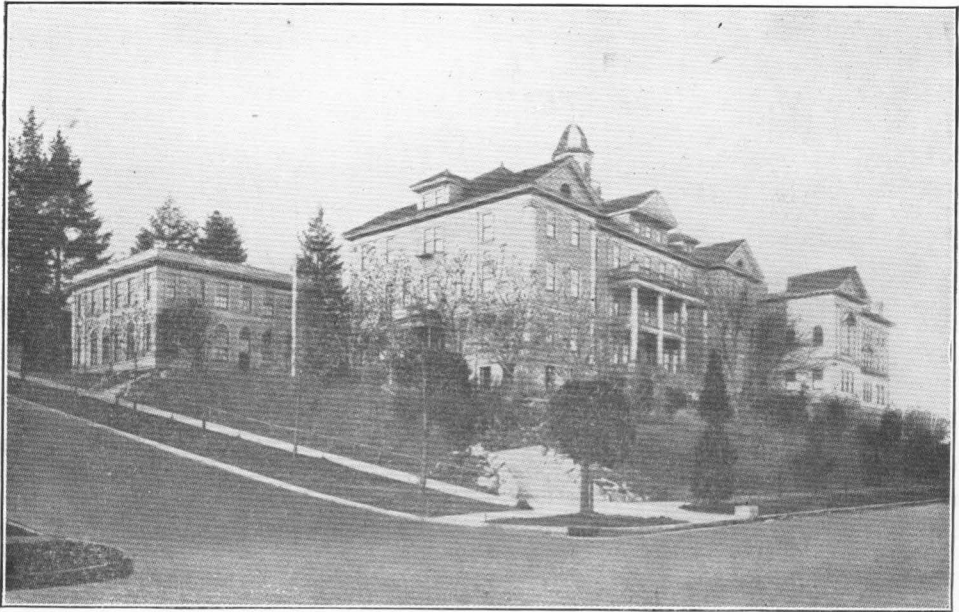
The necrology for the year is Sister M. Alcantara, Sister M. Stanislaus, Sister M. Martina, Sister M. Pauline, Sister M. Dionysia, Sister M. Alphonsine and Sister M. Sylvester.

The Mother House at Adrian, Mich., has affiliated institutions in the archdiocese of Chicago, and in the dioceses of Detroit, Cleveland, Fort Wayne, Marquette, Rockford, Toledo and Tucson. During 1915 were opened Aquinas High School, Chicago, and Sacred Heart School, Joliet, Ill. Thirty-five postulants were received and twenty-nine novices made profession. At the Summer School, conducted by Rev. L. A. Lilly, S. J., of St. Louis, Mo., two hundred and fifty Sisters were in attendance. Sixteen attended the summer sessions at De Paul University, Chicago, and two at the Catholic University, Washington.

The third branch of the Sisters in New York City, whose headquarters are now at Seattle, Washington, made beginning in 1890. In the great Northwest they are continuing the admirable work begun in the East and conduct several schools and academies.



St. Joseph's Academy, Adrian, Mich.



Aquinas Academy, Tacoma, Wash.

In addition to the usual scant beginnings of religious houses founded by women in the last century, Saint Cecilia's, Nashville, Tenn., encountered trials unusual and unexpected, but faithful to the traditions of the great Order to which they belong, the Sisters pressed on, doing the work mapped out by their Holy Founder long centuries ago.

In the spring of 1860, the Bishop of Nashville deemed the time opportune to establish in his diocese a school for the higher education of girls. The old Mt. Vernon garden, formerly the home of a distinguished Nashville family, was selected as being in every way suited to the purpose. The site is to the north, commanding a delightful view of Nashville and the surrounding country.

The school combines the advantages of city and country life, its buildings, stately and substantial, cast a sheltering shadow over the northern portion of the city. To-day, thanks to those self-sacrificing pioneers, Saint Cecilia's is established on a solid basis. With debts liquidated, with an increasing community and a school prospering, it was deemed necessary to provide more ample accommodations, which was accordingly done in 1881. A few years later, the west wing came into existence. There had been a long-cherished desire in the community to construct a music hall on an advanced scale. Conditions were at length favorable, and a conservatory of music including twenty-two practise rooms with studios and a recital hall was planned and built. The group of three buildings now presents a frontage of four hundred feet. In addition to the boarding school of the Mother House, teach-

ers from Saint Cecilia conduct schools in Chattanooga, Winchester, Memphis, Jackson, Clarksville, in East and North Nashville, and one in Monmouth, Ill., also two academies and one orphanage. In the interest of education some of the Sisters spent the summer months in San Francisco, Cal., others in Washington, D. C., and many attended the summer session of Peabody Normal. Thus it is that Saint Cecilia carries out her principle of being thorough in everything.

Young ladies wishing to dedicate themselves to the service of God in the holy habit of Saint Dominic would find in the genial climate of Tennessee a great work to do for the Master and would receive a cordial welcome at Saint Cecilia's Academy.

In the same year in which Saint Cecilia's was making a beginning five Sisters from Saint Mary's Dominican Convent, Cabia, Ireland, were establishing themselves in New Orleans. Here the Sisters conduct a college, the diocesan normal school, two academies and three parochial schools.

In 1862 another branch of the Holy Cross Convent, Ratisbon, established itself at Racine, Wis., which congregation now numbers over three hundred. They are successfully conducting two academies, one Home for Ladies and forty parochial schools in the archdiocese of Milwaukee, and in the dioceses of Davenport, Detroit, Green Bay, La Crosse, Lincoln, Peoria, Superior and Sioux City.

Six Sisters from the Community of Dominican Sisters, at Saint Catherine's in Kentucky, began teaching in Alton, Ill., in 1873. In 1893 they made their Mother House at the Convent of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart at Springfield. This congregation now has foundations in the archdioceses of Saint Louis, and Chicago, and in the dioceses of Alton, Belleville, Peoria and Rockford, with approximately four thousand children under their care.

In 1876 was begun the branch of the Third Order whose headquarters are now at East Sixty-third Street, New York City and Sparkill. Under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary, the first convent was founded for charitable purposes. This community now has over five thousand children under care in institutes for orphans and destitute children, in parochial schools and academies in the archdioceses of New York and Saint Louis, and in the dioceses of Syracuse and Saint Joseph.

During the past year eleven received the holy habit and thirteen were admitted to profession. A new school for boys in connection with the main building is now planned and a new parochial school was opened at the Church of Saint John Chrysostom, New York City. On May 18 three beautiful marble altars and statues were solemnly consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hayes, on which date confirmation was administered to over three hundred children. The community lost two of its members by death, Sister M. Henrietta and Sister M. Martin.

From the Convent of the Holy Rosary in Second Street, New York City, five Sisters went in 1877 to Grand Rapids, where they laid the foundation of the present congregation of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. The prosperity of this congregation is evident from the fact

that they are successfully conducting forty-one schools, two high schools, three academies and an orphan asylum in the diocese of Grand Rapids.

A second congregation of Dominican nuns during the year 1878, although it did not become a separate congregation until 1891, made its home at Blauvelt. The community at present numbers nearly three hundred and conducts flourishing establishments in the archdiocese of New York. This foundation traces its succession back to the ancient House of Ratisbon, the home of the Second Order in Germany.

The Mother House at San Jose, California, also traces its beginnings



Dominican Convent, Albany, N. Y.

to this renowned German Convent. Begun in 1879, it has branch houses in San Francisco, Oregon City, City of Mexico, and in the dioceses of Monterey, Los Angeles and Sacramento.

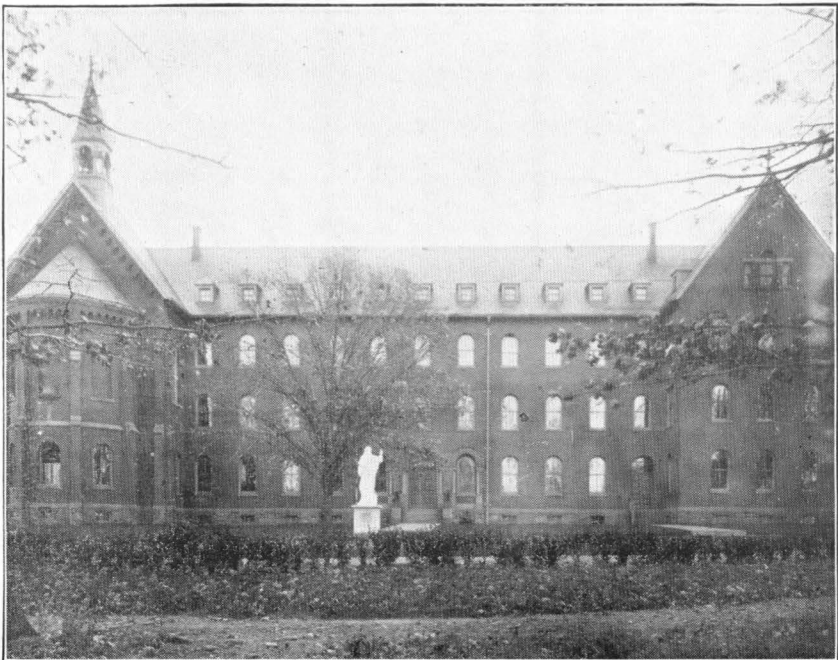
The Congregation of the Sacred Heart, with Mother House at Caldwell, N. J., was founded in 1881. At present this community conduct flourishing establishments in the archdiocese of Boston, and in the dioceses of Cleveland, Newark, Toledo and Superior.

The year 1915 has been one of progress, both spiritually and materially, for this community. Fifteen novices were professed and eighteen received the habit. At the General Chapter held in July, Mother M.

Avelline was elected Mother General. On May 31st a beautiful Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes was dedicated, and on August 4th the statue of Saint Dominic was blessed. On the latter date four Sisters celebrated the silver jubilee of their profession. During the year the beautiful Mercedes Hall was added to the group of academy buildings, and ground was broken for a new wing to be added to Saint Catherine's Hall. Two new schools were opened, one in the diocese of Newark, and one in the diocese of Cleveland. Two members of the community received A. B. degrees in June from the Catholic University, where a third is in attendance this year. Nine attended the Summer School. Thirty novices have entered upon a special course of studies in preparation for their work as teachers. One Sister, Sister Miriam, died during the year.

A branch of the last named Mother House was founded in Tacoma, Washington, in 1888. These Sisters conduct three academies and four parochial schools. 1915 was uneventful, but successful. During the year ten postulants were admitted to the holy habit and eight novices made their first profession. The red-letter day of 1915 at Aquinas was March 6th, the day the Very Rev. Visitor, the Rev. Father Theissling, O. P., accompanied by the Very Rev. Father McMahan, O. P., Provincial of California, paid a visit to the academy.

On September 26, 1882, at the invitation of the Very Rev. N. A. Gallagher, Bishop of Galveston, Texas, twenty Sisters left Somerset, Ohio,



Mount St. Dominic's Academy, Caldwell, N. J.

and began what is now the Congregation of the Sacred Heart. In this diocese they now have charge of several flourishing academies and schools.

In 1892, at the instance of the French Dominicans of Fall River, the Community of Saint Catherine of Siena was formed in that city, where sixty-eight Sisters now conduct one academy and three parochial schools. A new school was opened in Cohoes, N. Y., during the last year.

In March, there occurred the death of the well-known and beloved Mother Bertrand Sheridan, who established this community in Fall River twenty-four years ago. Born at Keyesville, N. Y., March 31, 1840,

she entered Saint Catherine's Convent, Kentucky, in 1856. She remained at Saint Catherine's until 1869, when she was transferred to Washington, D. C. Having served some time in Nashville and Kansas City, she came to Fall River in 1891. For half a century the tireless and useful service given her Master has been the highest inspiration to all those privileged to labor with her, and her example and beautiful personality will ever remain a life memory to those with whom she came in contact. That the reward of her years of labor may be the eternal recompense promised to those who leave all to follow Christ, is the prayer of her many friends.



Mother Mary Bertrand, O. S. D.

One of the more recent establishments of Dominican Sisters was made in Great Bend, Kansas, in 1902, which community now has care of three schools and one hospital.

The latest of Dominican foundations in America is that of the exiled nuns from Lisbon, Portugal. This community is still braving the hardships attendant upon new foundations, and at present conduct a hospital in Baker City, Oregon.

Thus, on the seven hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order, can all Dominicans point with pride to the vast number of truly Catholic institutions, covering our whole United States, the homes of over five thousand spiritual descendants of Saint Dominic.

—**Brother Mannes, O. P.**