

## DOMINICAN EXILES IN THE UNITED STATES

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**T**HE act of expulsion was passed in Portugal in October, 1910; the primary object of which was the expulsion of all religious teaching within the kingdom. Persecution reigned supreme; priests and nuns were persecuted and dragged into prison. Their property was confiscated and those of foreign nationality were ordered to leave the country with the shortest possible delay. Religious of Portuguese birth were allowed to remain, but this was the condition imposed—that they immediately take off their religious garb and, no longer, fulfill the practices of their religious life.

Nearly fifty years ago a noble Portuguese lady founded a community of Dominican nuns in Portugal; her palatial residence was turned into a convent for the use of the religious. The work of these nuns was to be the education of Portuguese children of all classes. The kind benefactress joined this community in later life. Belonging to the community were several Irish and German Sisters. When the act of expulsion came they were ordered from the country and a little band of Irish Sisters headed by a very able and efficient German Superior, Mother Catherine, came to America looking for a location wherein to continue their activities. Early in 1911 they met Bishop O'Reilly of Baker City, Oregon, and being invited by him to go to Oregon, they went and located in Ontario, a little town in the east of Oregon. The beginning of their foundation was filled with hardships, but they did not despair and aided by kind friends and benefactors they were able to build a substantial hospital in Ontario. The work here was slow at first but God blessed their endeavors.

With the opening of the hospital in Ontario, a new field of activity was opened up for these Sisters who in Portugal were accustomed only to school work. They must now train as nurses and thus far have been very successful. Notwithstanding the arduous duties of the hospital the Sisters try to unite a true Dominican spirit with their work and have a few nurses take their places near the sick when their community exercises call them away.

In October, 1912, a Novitiate was opened at Holy Rosary Hospital, Ontario, and God sent vocations in goodly numbers. At the present time, there are seven young ladies being trained in the religious life at Holy Rosary; five of these are converts, three were Anglicans, one a Methodist, the other attended the services of the Baptists and United Brethren, before God showed them their error and pointed out to them the true Church of Jesus Christ.

A new opening was given the Sisters in 1914. A few of the pioneers of Ontario went to Hanford, California, and there opened the Hospital of the Sacred Heart. Here they have been just as successful in their work as in Ontario, and have been instrumental in the baptizing of adults and bringing back many fallen away Catholics to their duty.

While the Sisters are happy and contented and are doing splendid work in a field of activity new to them, still they have a desire to teach so that they may work more in conformity with the spirit of the Dominican Order. For this branch of their work, more subjects are needed, especially young ladies of American birth. Any young lady who entertains a desire for the religious life, would do well to correspond with the Reverend Mother Prioreess of Ontario, Oregon, who will will-

ingly give all the necessary information concerning the life etc., of the Order.

Holy Rosary Hospital at the present time, houses the Novitiate, but this building is too inadequate to be used as Hospital, Convent, and Novitiate. The Sisters are anxious to build a separate building to be used solely for the House of Novitiate, but for this, funds to purchase suitable property and

to erect the Novitiate are lacking. These exiles in a strange land kindly ask the readers and friends of "Dominicana" to intercede with St. Dominic that he may lead some wealthy client of his to think of the Dominican Sisters of Ontario, Oregon, during the seventh centenary of the foundation of his Order.

—Stanislaus McDermott, O. P.

### IN MEMORIAM

**T**HE death of Rev. Joseph Thos. Keelty, O. P., occurred on August 27th. At the time of his death Fr. Keelty was stationed at St. Louis Bertrand's Church, Louisville, Ky., where he was highly esteemed. Owing to his kind and tender-hearted disposition, Fr. Keelty was especially liked as a Confessor.

Fr. Keelty was born in Zanesville, O., February 27, 1867. He made his profession in the Dominican Order on March 21, 1886. His studies preparatory for the priesthood were made at St. Rose's Convent, Ky. and St. Joseph's Convent, Somerset, O. At this latter convent, he was ordained to the priesthood on June 16, 1891. During the past summer, Fr. Keelty celebrated his silver jubilee at St. Mary's of the Springs Convent, Columbus, O., with his four sisters: Srs. M. Constance, M. Cecilia, M. Cyril, and M. Catherine, all members of that community.

For many years Fr. Keelty labored earnestly and faithfully as a member of the Eastern Mission Band. Owing to his impaired health, Fr. Keelty could not preach as much as he desired. He suffered patiently during his illness

only to be relieved by the hand of death. Fr. Keelty died at SS. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital, Louisville, Ky., August 27th.

By the death of Fr. Keelty, the Church has lost a good, faithful priest



Rev. Joseph Thomas Keelty, O. P.

and the Order, a true, devoted and loyal son. His remains now rest with those of his brethren in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Somerset, O. May he rest in peace.