

The following are translated and reproduced copies of letters written by Bishop Martin Henni and other writers to the Ludwigs-Missionverein. The society was based in Munich, Germany, and it's was to allow the German (Bavarian) laity to support missionary activity in the United States. The Society was founded in 1838. The letters provide insight into the growth and development of the early church in Wisconsin. These letters appeared in the *Salesianum*, a publication of St. Francis Seminary.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

Beginning in its issue of January 1927 and continuing periodically, the *Salesianum* published a translation of forty-two letters which were received by Bishop Henni from the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich.

In this issue appear two letters of Henni which were written to the foregoing society. They form a part of a photostatic collection from the archives of the society. In the collection there are sixty-five letters, mainly penned by Henni. The others were written by Heiss, Salzmann, Paulhuber and Pitzer. The first letter is dated May 20, 1844, and the last one, May 3, 1873.

No slight debt is owed to the Rev. Benjamin J. Blied, St. Francis Preparatory Seminary, for securing the photostats while on a visit to Munich in 1939. To the Rev. Karl N. Hobelsberger, Valley City, North Dakota, goes the credit of the transcription from the photostatic copies. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary, is responsible for the translation of the letters.

The following letters were written by Bishop Henni to the business manager of the Ludwig-missionsverein, the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller. Though the latter resigned in 1855, he remained active until his death in 1864, as an agent for several bishops and religious orders of North America.

I

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, May 20, 1844.

Your Reverence will certainly forgive me, when I, though perhaps unexpected, remind you again of the kindness and friendship which you have shown me, a former missionary from Cincinnati, in the winter of the year 1836.

Never shall I forget your graciousness. Prompted by gratitude I am daring to break the long silence and this for no other reason (to be candid and open) than to gain your benevolence and well known influence for my mission, the diocese over which divine providence has placed me, though unworthy.

Two weeks ago I came here accompanied by the Rev. Heiss, an excellent young priest from the diocese of Eichstädt, and took possession of the episcopal see as first bishop of Milwaukee. Milwaukee is most beautifully located and though only eight years old has 8,000 inhabitants. My diocese comprises the entire large territory of Wisconsin. The population of the territory is about 80,000, of which perhaps 18-20,000 are Catholics.

After Pentecost I shall start the visitation of my diocese and I am decided to visit every place and settlement wherever Catholics, even Indians, are living. For this reason I withhold a more detailed description of my diocese for a later date. It is certainly not difficult for you, dear Canon, to picture the circumstances I am in. I assure you every thing reminds you of apostolic poverty and privation. Often I think, oh, if we only had that apostolic spirit, which we need so much.

Kindly convey to His Grace the archbishop the sentiments of my profound esteem and gratefulness for his benevolence bestowed on me.

Especially to you, Rev. Sir, I commend myself and my people. Filled with confidence that you will grant us your good will and also the influence, which you have gained through your long and kind interest towards the missions.

II

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee [Late 1844].

Your letter of July 7th [1844] I must confess I have read with a peculiar feeling, because it appeared to me from the very beginning that I had to be reminded of the sins of others and to bear their iniquities. Only the sure conviction

that the warning comes from men, of whom I know (you seem to agree with me) that they mean well with me and my diocese, could satisfy to a certain extent my strange feeling. Here at home my trip to Europe would not have surprised anyone, because my position, the entire privation of everything, yes, everything that is necessary even for a parish church, not to speak of a cathedral, is widely known. But as urgent and therefore excusable my journey might have been I was not ready to leave my people. No, after I had procured before leaving Cincinnati the most necessary paraphernalia, church utensils, instruction books, etc., (partly bought here, partly ordered from Baltimore) I was decided not to undertake a trip to Europe before the elapse of a year. To this decision I came, especially taking in consideration the neglected condition of the diocese, which demanded my presence. This was due to the large distance from Detroit, the former episcopal see. Even if I had come I would have done so not so much in order to get money and missionaries but rather to get the most necessary things for our missions, things that cannot be had here or only for double the price, things which besides the divine services, even a certain etiquette necessarily demand, everywhere.

In the meanwhile I am very grateful to the good friends in Munich for their promises and endeavours. In my proposal, made at your suggestion, to the central board of directors concerning the establishment of a German missionhouse I probably became too minute. This I did purposely in order to treat the subject thoroughly and I did so, to give full insight into this certainly important subject and to facilitate a correct decision. However I could not earlier comply with this request because since Pentecost I was on a visitation trip through my diocese. I had made up my mind to get acquainted with its needs everywhere as soon as possible. For this reason I traveled often in the most tiresome way from Southport on Lake Michigan to Potosi and Prairie du Chien on the Mississippi; from there by the way of Madison, the see of the governor, to the Menominee Indians on the Fox and Wolf rivers, to Grand Kakalin and Green Bay, an old Canadian settlement. More than a month I spent on a long trip to Lake Superior on the southern

shore of which the well known missionary Baraga is still successfully working amongst the Chippewa Indians. I celebrated with him on one of the Apostle Islands the feast of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin in his neat St. Joseph's, the only church in my diocese which owns land and I administered the sacrament of confirmation to 121 well instructed Indians. Unfortunately, on account of the sailing of the steamer, I could not stay longer than two days.

I am convinced that there are 20,000 Catholics in my diocese. What a number of faithful souls for 10 priests! At present there are eighteen churches or chapels and six others are under construction. The most imposing is perhaps a stone church in Prairie du Chien, 100 feet long and hardly finished, but burdened with a debt of \$3000 and the current interest. I cannot understand how they dared such an expensive structure some years ago. Naturally only reluctantly I would like to lose this church. Against debts I wish to safeguard myself. As an emergency therefore, I added 52 feet to my frame cathedral, included a choir and a sacristy, for not only this, but also a proper sanctuary was missing. This enlarged church, now the largest in the city, I blessed on the feast of St. Andrew [Nov. 30, 1844]. Here the Germans gather for their divine worship at 7 A. M., and the English at 10:30 A. M. Not only a medium sized church was missing here but also a house for me and my few priests who take care of many other parishes from here. The frame house in which we live was located on a lot that was not even our property. For this reason I was obliged after my arrival at Milwaukee to pay \$475 or move to an inconvenient location. I chose the first especially since the house was put in order for my reception. But now from where shall I get the money for a cemetery, for this was lacking too? I was therefore forced to buy land one and a half miles away from the city in order not to be obliged to bury the Catholics in a cemetery that did not belong to us and from which the bodies probably will be removed in short time. Thanks to the Leopoldine society of Vienna, which without waiting for my pleading, and foreseeing the needs of the new diocese, had extended a helping hand to me. Your Reverence shall find enclosed, as you asked, a

document authorizing you in my name to accept priests, etc. Permit me to say that at present three German priests would be a great help to me and clerics whom I could ordain in the course of time. Men like Heiss and Boeswald would be most welcome. The first one is indeed an excellent man. The transfer of the Rev. Raffener will confer, as I hear, no special honor neither on us nor on Bavaria. Two French priests I would also welcome very much.

What shall I say about the most necessary things? Where to begin? Poor bishop, I hardly have anything a bishop should have, a decent pontificale, ceremoniale. Missals we should get from Mechlin, Belgium, where a splendid selection of small missals 8vo, especially practical for missions is to be found. Altar-paintings, of every size, are needed for my chapels, and also chalices, ciboria, ostensoria, oil-vessels, etc.

What about my library? A selection of good books we should get gradually. Who shall collect them? Old and obsolete books as I have seen them in second-hand bookstores are of no use for me. In spite of our correspondence we were not able to get one single magazine regularly. Something has to be done if the scientific life and German literature shall not die among us. Let this suffice. My list would have no end.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

From Bishop Henni's correspondence to the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich, two more letters are presented in this issue. The first was written to its general manager, the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, and the second to Anselm Lothar von Gebsattel, Archbishop of Munich-Freising, the president of its council, or board of directors.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats readers are referred to the *Salesianum* (January 1942).

III

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, April 23rd, 1845.

I received your letter of February 17th. You may imagine how anxiously I was waiting for it for some time. I am very grateful to you for having released at least to a certain extent the suspense I was in and still partly am in on account of some intervening "difficulties" as you remark. In the meanwhile you bid me to be of good cheer. In fact I am, especially since your esteemed letter assures me of your good will towards me and also of the sincere efforts of you and of the rest of the friends in Munich in behalf of my cause, in which no one can be indifferent who has the welfare of the church in this part of America at heart. This holds good especially as far as I am concerned, for I more than others must realize the importance of this cause. I shall therefore very anxiously wait for further developments. In the meanwhile I shall leave the matter entirely to God and to the efforts and prudence of my friends in Munich.

Complying with your advice I have sent a petition directly to the board of directors, as enclosure shows. But since I presumed that the lengthy report on my diocese and my mission journeys, especially among the Indians, which I

have sent at the same time to Vienna and Einsiedeln and also to the Catholics of Bavaria, would become known, I have purposely avoided all repetitions and mentioned only the most pressing needs. However I did not dare to ask for a definite sum yearly fearing that such a request might be misinterpreted by some at least. I would prefer that one or the other of my benefactors would suggest this to the board of directors.

With regard to the German-English seminary I have nothing else to add than that the proposed plan appeals to me more day by day. The establishment of such an institute in Bavaria itself should certainly not be undertaken in order to spare the young men the slur of being emissaries because it is this slur the sly bigots yell continuously into our ears. They do not write anymore so strongly against the truths of our religion because here they have overcome the strongest prejudices perhaps more than in Germany. But now these people accuse us as being anti-republicans, dangerous to the state. Nothing more than this lie arouses the American, who is generally broad minded, to follow without hesitation justice and truth wherever he finds them. Just this political lie especially invites the American of all classes to investigate our teachings and principles; they are the first ones who follow their conviction. For this reason, to be honest, I like them better than all other Protestants. Lately I received Dr. Hunt an excellent physician into the church. Several others are taking instructions. A good Catholic priest is certainly more respected than the numerous preachers. In spite of my poverty as bishop every one of our outstanding state officials wished to get acquainted with me.

At present I am about to arrange an old frame building for a temporary seminary. I have three seminarists, a German, an Irishman and an Italian, the latter of whom has studied for some time in America, and upon whom I will soon confer major orders. Three other clerics I expect towards the end of August from the Jesuit college in Cincinnati and a fourth one from Montreal, Canada.

Good Father Boeswald is still waiting for a "German bishop" to carry out his grand plan as he lately wrote to Father Heiss. Father Heiss whom I did not keep in the

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dark about my plans regarding the seminary made him acquainted with it. In the meanwhile I endeavor to get the Rev. Boeswald here if our plan should become a reality. I believe that he would come if he should realize that Covington has not more Germans than Milwaukee. South of the Ohio (river) among the Negroes Germans will never settle. Their main settlements in fact are in the north-western states. Yes, the majority of the domiciled Germans are there, there only the poor farmer from Europe can acquire the desired land at a low price. It is also easier for him to come to Milwaukee from New York than to Cincinnati. Besides only two or three years may elapse till the English-shipping Welland canal will connect Quebec with Lake Erie. Then ships from Liverpool (and from the Rhein and Trieste, if you wish) shall enter the harbor of Milwaukee. Do not smile dear friend. The time when this shall happen is not far of.

However I do not wish that your box packed with the different church utensils should wait till then. Unfortunately I am not acquainted with anybody on one of the seaports to whom you could send the goods intended for me. For the present I have to ask to inquire of the Liguorians [Redemptorists] who certainly have shipping agents everywhere, how and to what place to send the goods. Even in New York their society might be the surest agent also for me. I shall inform the Rev. Rumpler of this. But I kindly ask you not to send my goods with any belonging to them.

With joy we are looking for the arrival of the Rev. Schraudenbach. Should you be able to find one or the other priest or theological student, I would be very well pleased. I need also two priests who speak French well, for this reason I shall write to the bishop of Strassburg. Last fall I received at last from Lyons 15,000 francs. What help this was you may imagine. Perhaps you would do well to order for several 100 florins some vestments from the factory you spoke of. Should they be cheap and come up to our expectations some more could be ordered. Could you perhaps get a suitable mitre for me? For all this I herewith authorize you to handle in my name the money granted by the board of directors.

We are informed that Europe had a very severe winter.

We had hardly any snow. In fact I never lived through a more pleasant winter. No doubt the climate here is the healthiest in the United States especially for Europeans. People who come sickly from southern regions grow here healthy and strong. I have also to confess that the spiritual life here is a comfort to me. Since the enlargement of my frame cathedral and a better arrangement of the divine services an excellent spirit manifests itself around me, even among the Protestants.

I have been informed that Miss Linder of Basle was received into the church and that she is living in Munich. Should this be the case kindly give her my best regards and tell her that I still gratefully remember her kindness towards me. She gave me a beautiful painting representing Christ. Unfortunately I had to leave it at Cincinnati where it adorns a side altar in Holy Trinity church. If Miss Linder still devotes her time to painting I would like to ask her for a picture of St. Francis de Sales. Dear friend in doing so use your own good judgment.

May God bestow his blessing on us and grant that our friends in Munich, you yourself and canon Speth, may work for a long time for the distant missions.

IV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, April 24th, 1845.

Through the kindness of the Rev. Mueller, royal chaplain, I was just informed that the Ludwig-missionsverein has formally severed connection with Lyon, whereto for years large contributions from Bavaria were sent, and is about to support the missions independently.

For this reason I am approaching your Excellency and the honorable members of the board of directors with the humble petition to assist me with the same benevolence for which Bavaria, among all other states of Germany, became famous in the establishment of my new and large diocese.

To be sure it would be my obligation to explain the needs of my diocese. But where shall I begin and where end. Without making myself liable to exaggeration, if I think of my needs, I can only say everything, yes everything, is wanting. If I consider the newly arrived people, the virgin soil to be cultivated, though beautiful and fertile, I cannot

render any assistance without the help of my friends abroad.

Above all I need a simple but spacious church for the Germans who are obliged to go to the same church with the English-speaking people. Then there is the necessity of a seminary which should be started as soon as possible. For both, church and seminary, I have to buy first the necessary ground, which has to be done soon because all the land in the neighborhood of the city is daily going up in price.

Near to my heart are also the parish schools for the children of both languages for those are the nurseries of our holy religion. Great care is immediately necessary since they are exposed to the extremely dangerous proselytizing efforts of sectarians. For this reason I am obliged to pay every month \$20 (in Milwaukee alone) to sustain the schools and for the school books and books on religion. Many children are not even able to pay for their education.

Besides in many places of my diocese chapels or churches are now erected. For instance seven churches were just started and five others are under construction since last summer. All these parishes, especially those building more imposing churches, are looking to the bishop for help, who in fact has to be the Alpha and the Omega of every worthwhile undertaking, if it is expected to be a success. Ah, how much could be done now for the advancement of holy mother church in this new region, if I only had the sufficient number of priests and means in order to start missions and to help the existing ones among the savages and half-breeds, the French Canadians, the Germans and the English who are expected to settle here this year.

Verily the field is large and indeed very promising. May God the Father of lights from whom every good gift and every perfect gift comes give his blessing to the work begun and grant to my diocese the desired success. Next to God I place my confidence in the good will and generosity of the board of directors.

Commending myself and my diocese to your Excellency, the president and all the members of the board of directors who under the protectorship of royal highness the king are assisting the mission cause so generously.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

From Bishop Henni's correspondence to the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich, four more letters are presented in this issue. Nos. 5, 6 and 8 were addressed to its general manager, the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, while no. 7 was written to Archbishop von Gebattel, the president of its board of directors.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats see the *Salesianum*, January, 1942.

V

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Oct. 14, 1845.

Your letters of the 15th and 18th of July are at hand, and also the check which you have so kindly sent without waiting for the departure of the Rev. Lemke. How shall I and how can I adequately thank you? May Heaven reward you for the many efforts which you are making for the welfare of my incipient diocese.

At any rate I was not mistaken in the confidence I had all the time in the board of directors. I am glad that I did not make any definite request but left everything to their judgment and good will, in fact I did not expect to receive so much, still less, to ask for such a sum. May I kindly ask you to hand them my letter of esteem and thanks.

The receipt of the check I could not acknowledge earlier because I was on a visitation tour in the western part of my diocese. I blessed two churches and consecrated a third beautiful one in Southport, south of here on the 15th of August.

Till now I expected to hear from the Rev. Lemke of New York, but in vain. I am anxiously awaiting the things you have promised to send me, for which I heartily thank you. Many thanks also for the beautiful copy of the Imita-

tion of Christ which I received through Father Huber from Cincinnati some months ago. It is with great pride that I show it to educated people, Catholics and Protestants, who come to visit me.

The check of 4008 florins according to sterling value amounts to \$1592.36 in American money, however I may gain some by selling the same.

Hoping to hear soon from the Rev. Lemke and the Rev. Schraudenbach, I shall write you again.

VI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Oct. 14, 1845.

Herewith I wish to express my special gratefulness towards you. For I know that you are one of all the members of the board of directors who has so successfully befriended my diocese.

Accept therefore in my name and in the name of all my priests the most sincere thanks for your efforts. May Heaven grant you full health and prolong your life in the service of the Church and the benefit of your friends. This shall be the incessant prayer of one and of the many who sincerely love and revere you.

VII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Oct. 14, 1845.

The most gracious consideration which I enjoyed during the current year on the part of the Rt. Rev. members of the board of directors of the Ludwig-mission society obliges me to offer your Excellency my deepest gratitude. The royal chaplain, the Rev. Jos. Fred. Mueller, secretary of the society, informed me by letter of the 15th of June 1844, that the members of the board of directors very graciously voted me 8000 florins as aid for the current year. Still more reason for expressing my sincerest thanks is the encouraging promise, besides the generous gift, that I shall receive in the coming years such donations till the most urgent needs of my needy and young diocese are taken care of. Of course I will consider my sacred duty to implore at all

times the Giver of all good gifts to bestow his choicest blessings upon all who in their charity help us. I shall also ask whenever the occasion presents itself my priests as well as the faithful to pray for our benefactors.

VIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Dec. 15, 1845.

I hope you have by now received my last letter of Oct. 14. Hardly had I mailed the same when I received the second check sent by you on the 9th of August. Both checks I have now sold. For the first one I received the neat sum of \$1600.36, getting a premium of \$14. When I sold the last check the exchange was not so favorable, for it yielded only \$1200 in Cincinnati.

I am getting worried because I did not hear from the Rev. Schraudenbach nor from the Rev. Lemke, who was supposed to bring my box. According to your information they should have arrived long ago. Only by chance I was informed that the Rev. Lemke has really arrived at Loretto. I wrote at once to Loretto in order to find out whether this is true or not.

Concerning Peter Ganz, who as you say is imploring the board of directors to come to Milwaukee, I hardly know what to say. Of course I could send him to one of the missions in another German settlement, but it seems to me that he is too old to face privations. Besides I am afraid that his name would not remain unknown because many immigrate from the neighborhood of Würzburg, which would have a bad influence on his ministry. The honor also of the foreign missions here as well as in Germany would suffer. But I am far from depriving this penitent soul on account of the hopeful conjectures that he may be of service again. For this reason I leave the matter entirely to the board of directors to do what they think would be the most expedient.

I do not recall whether I have informed your Reverence that I received a good priest in the person of the Rev. Rehrl from the diocese of Salzburg. He is taking care of a small mission among Germans who have come lately from the

diocese of Treves. This mission is not far from the eastern shore of Lake Winnebago, about 67 miles from here. It seems that the people from Treves and Cologne like to settle in Wisconsin. Last month the Rev. Kendeler, a Hanoverian, came into my diocese from Pennsylvania, a man of experience, who is able to speak English well because he had functioned over ten years in Pennsylvania. I expect to send him to Burlington which is located on the Fox river 28 miles south of Milwaukee and has a large parish consisting mostly of Germans. A Tyrolese priest, Adelbert Inama, who worked about two years in the diocese of New York, selected my diocese for his domicile, not only for himself but also for other members of the Premonstratensian priory at Innsbruck. He will make his home among scattered settlements, especially around Sac Prairie on the Wisconsin river, one of the most romantic sections of this territory. A Hungarian count who has settled there some years ago (how strange) has made him a present of 100 acres of land. I wish that the Rev. Inama, who is really a prudent as well as a kind man, will be able to carry out his plan. I have to confess that divine providence has blessed me last year beyond expectation. The number of priests is now seventeen and the population has increased by at least 5000. The city of Milwaukee has grown considerably during the past summer.

My preparatory seminary has opened its doors and houses seven students of whom five are German boys. An Italian from Milan, Mazzuchelli, and also an Irishman, I ordained priests in the past summer. You may imagine that everything is proceeding on a small scale, but I have all the reason to believe, steadily, and to the satisfaction of all. I am sharing with my priests of the two parishes not only the pastoral duties but I have also to officiate as professor. Why? First because I am not able to pay the professors a specified salary and secondly because I cannot deprive the many parishes of their pastors. By purchasing seven lots (usually 60 feet wide and 120 feet deep) cheaply, I have enlarged considerably the property on which my frame cathedral is located, and by doing so gained enough ground for the erection of a seminary of any desired size. The present church is outside of the city because the poor

Catholics five years ago could get only two lots donated. I intend to use the old church as a seminary chapel.

At present I am about to buy three other lots very conveniently located to build a church for the Germans. I am forced to do this on account of the increasing number of Germans who settle mostly near the city. We have already started a subscription. The plan for the church, 80 feet long and 44 feet wide, to be built of brick and very simple, lies before me. Stones for the foundation and the necessary wood will be brought here during the winter, the most opportune time.

The Rev. Boeswald is now anxious to come to Milwaukee, believing that the climate here would become him better. He asked for his release at his ordination. In the mean time I spoke personally about this matter to Bishop Chatard, coadjutor of Louisville, whom I met at Cincinnati at the occasion of the dedication of churches. He promised me to comply with his request as soon as he has another German-speaking priest in his place. I hope therefore to gain the Rev. Boeswald for my seminary. Good Father Heiss was very sick, having caught a severe cold, but is now better again, thank God. In Cincinnati there is no harmony anymore amongst the Germans, especially the clergy. It caused me a heart-ache when I heard of the inconsiderateness and scene which occurred. The worst is that the good bishop does not know whom to trust; he is weak.

I cannot understand what Mr. Bertol intends by saying that missionaries should not receive any support from Europe. I do not know of any missionary at least till now who opposed his bishop because he had received such support.

On the 7th of this month a new church 45 feet long and 30 feet wide built of stone was opened. On Christmas the new stone church at Burlington will be blessed and also one at Mineral Point.

I would like to ask Miss Linder for a painting for our seminary chapel representing St. Francis de Sales, the patron of the seminary. The painting should be about 5-6 feet high and proportionately wide. ✓

Kindly give her, our benefactress, my kindest regards and also canon Speth.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

From Bishop Henni's correspondence to the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich, three more letters are presented in this issue. They were addressed to its general manager, the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller.

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IX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Feb. 9, 1846.

Would you believe it that I received your welcome letter of August 18th only yesterday. The Rev. Schraudenbach, the carrier of the letter, did not come, but remained in Pennsylvania on the advice or request of the bishop of Philadelphia. He intends to when the navigation on the lakes is resumed again. I wrote him at once to come soon pointing out the way and means for the journey. After all, people who came across the ocean with him arrived long ago at Norwalk, Ohio, even in Wisconsin.

Of the Rev. Lemke and the things entrusted to him for me I did hear months ago. He also came late, so late, that he could not send the box through the lakes. In the meanwhile the church goods arrived at Baltimore but also too late to be shipped conveniently during the winter. Since I have to go to Baltimore next spring to the provincial council I shall take care of the things myself.

Otherwise I have hardly anything new of interest to report. Here we are now busy with the excavation for the foundation of the German St. Mary's church. The location of the church is very beautiful, and is near the center of the city. Next week I shall send the Rev. Heiss to Cincinnati

to call on my many friends to ask for contributions. I am anxious to see the church finished sufficiently before winter so that it can be used. For this church I would like to ask you for an altar-painting. It should not be higher than twelve and not wider than eight feet. The selection of the subject I leave to you. It may be the Annuntiation or the Assumption or the Immaculate Conception. Regarding an altar-painting for my cathedral I am willing to wait unless you should come across a cheap one. Later on a more elaborate one may adorn my cathedral.

By the way if you should get paintings donated or be able to buy them rather cheap, send them for the many chapels which are now built.

We had again a very mild winter without snow. If I take the weather conditions during the years I spent here as a standard I could not wish for a more pleasant climate. Wisconsin is growing in population exceptionally and it is indeed a beautiful part of our country. At the last session of the legislative body of the territory at Madison a law was passed to ask the Congress for admittance into the Union. By another law Milwaukee was granted a city charter. You see we have to keep on going in order to keep pace with the civic progress. Yes, pray for us especially during Mass that we may fulfill our sacred obligations.

P. S. I hope that you have received my letter of Dec. 15 of last year. The Rev. Schraudenbach informs me that a young priest, the Rev. Michael Hebling from Kist in the neighborhood of Würzburg, would like to come here. Will you please make the necessary investigations concerning his character, and if you think he is fit for a missionary life, let him come as soon as possible.

X

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Aug. 7, 1846.

A few days ago I received your letter of April 17. The Rev. Schraudenbach is now with us. It seems to me that family ties, a troublesome drawback for a missionary, kept him in Pennsylvania. I had to pay \$30 to get him here. At

last I received all the things you were so kind to send through the Rev. Lemke. The vestments from Bayreuth I redeemed at the customhouse of Baltimore. For the books you have sent me I am especially grateful, they are a very useful addition to my library.

The immigration into our Territory is indeed exceptional. Only just now I heard the confessions of a group of Old-Bavarians who arrived from the neighborhood of Regensburg. Our missions are growing and getting stronger everywhere in a really astonishing way. Heaven has also blessed me with co-workers. Since Easter I gained five good priests, two, one German and one English, whom I ordained, without mentioning the Rev. Tusch who took refuge with me after he had lost the confidence of the bishop of Chicago. I took him on probation, gave him instructions and placed him with another priest. If he keeps on as he is doing till now I expect much of him. Two priests of the Congregation of the Precious Blood are working in the midst of several promising German settlements. They intend to establish themselves permanently in my diocese. The construction of St. Mary's church here advances well and soon it will be under roof. At the same time we are busy arranging a large building as a home and school for the Sisters of Charity. I expect them next week from their mother-house of St. Joseph in the state of Maryland. In the meanwhile I had to rent a house for them. To my joy I was told in Baltimore that the School-Sisters of Bavaria are expected. I hope that I may soon get some of them for the benefit of our young German people. There is no doubt that not a few would join them from the West as well as of the East and thus enlarge their community.

In addition to all this I am forced to build another spacious church in Milwaukee. My frame cathedral hardly accommodates one-fourth of the Catholic population without counting the Germans who will soon have their own church. This is now my first and most urgent task if I do not dare to disregard the well-being and respect of my see and diocese. But where shall I get the means, even if I may not imitate the costly buildings of the Redemptorists. Dear friend, from all this you readily learn how much I need

your help and your influence for some years to come. May heaven reward you for all you have done for me, I cannot thank you adequately.

You are asking me for my opinion concerning the contemplated settlement of the Benedictines and the St. Mary's colony. As to the first I fully approve of the decision of the Fathers. But that they intend to settle down in the Allegheny mountains I cannot understand at all. Do they intend to make the same mistake against which the failure of the Rev. Prince Gallitzin should sufficiently safeguard them? I consider it a waste of means and strength to settle down in cold and far off mountain hills, where besides hardly enough wood and coal could be produced to guarantee the continuation of the settlement. How could the Rev. Lemke direct the good Fathers into a region which, as he himself said, is not fit for cultivation on account of its high and cold location, a region which he himself and his followers intended to exchange for another more fertile one. For this reason I say frankly that in my opinion a poorer selection could not be thought of, still less be made. The only excuse would be if the Benedictines intend to lead a secluded and contemplative life in the hills in preference to a more generally useful one in the interest of our religion. My advice would be that the Rev. Father Boniface take his time and look around a bit more carefully before he makes his home in this mountainous region. There are in every state enough fertile and healthy regions.

In another lower valley on the river east of the same mountain range St. Mary's colony is located. About the real condition of this colony I cannot say anything definite since the reports thereof differ. But I do not expect much of it. I shall not call it a pure speculation, but to believe that there is no speculation connected with it would be foolish. Neither Benziger nor Eschbacher would dare to deny it. In short the arrangement of the colony will appear to any one not biased as a kind of squirearchy, if I may so express myself. Sad to say some priests are promoting the undertaking who will be sooner or later sorry for having done so, especially those who enticed the people from the pulpit to go there. Naturally in such an undertaking as soon

as these people have satisfied their first hunger and look beyond their fence they will become dissatisfied. Naturally an undertaking artificial and unnatural in its arrangement with all kinds of rules and regulations will never develop. The very publication of its constitution not only shows lack of prudence but also ignorance of the American spirit. A colony that cannot freely develop and one in which everyone is restricted to a certain piece of land, with the rest of the land controlled by the speculators, such a colony I say will hardly prosper. Simply to have a church will satisfy only a few for a certain time.

Settlements like those at Glandorf and Muenster, Ohio, and at Ferdinand, Indiana, where several hundred families settled down along side of each other to their own liking; settlements of Irish and Germans as I have them in the interior sections and along Lake Michigan, where only Catholics settle, and Protestants who had come there first, leave on their own accord; settlements, I say, where the immigrants according to their means buy land and cultivate it independently, only such settlements will prosper. What I have once said in praise of St. Mary's colony was that it saved many poorer families from the corruption of our large cities. But this is no more the case, because everyone has to bring along a certain sum of money. If the Redemptorists, some of them at least, had settled down as the Jesuits at Conewago, Pennsylvania, or the Dominicans at St. Rose, Kentucky, on a large and that time cheap tract of land, hundreds and hundreds of families would have settled down about them. All this could have been done without great effort, without rules and regulations, except those which church and state already impose. Finally I may ask what advantages shall we expect of a Catholic city to be started in a distant mountainous location, till now overlooked, and this certainly not without reason by well informed Americans of an old state like Pennsylvania. For a novitiate the location may fit but not for anything else. Besides the place is too far away from Baltimore or any other city. This is my opinion and the future will show that I am not mistaken.

May I kindly ask you to retain about 500 florins of the

sum allowed me by the Ludwig society to buy some simple church vestments for my mission chapels. They should be of such a color that they may be used for white and red. I also wish to get a black and violet cope for my cathedral. What about the precious mitre? The monstrance which you have sent fits indeed in a more beautiful cathedral than mine.

Greetings to my unforgetful benefactor, Canon Spaeth. For the repose of the soul of Nepomuk Blum a requiem was sung here. *Requiescat in pace*. Unto you my dear friend may the good Lord grant courage, perseverance and blessings for many efforts in favor of the splendid mission work.

XI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Dec. 9, 1846.

As a member of the society at St. Peter in Munich I feel myself attracted in a special manner by my friends on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. But you inform me that one of them Canon Spaeth has died. *Requiescat in pace*. No doubt he has received his reward for his work for the missions. As soon as this sad news reached me, I and the four priests who are with me said a Mass for the repose of his soul. This shall be done from now on every year as long as I am living and able to do so.

At the arrival of the Rev. Gaertner, who brought your letter, I was on a visitation trip along the Mississippi. Waiting from week to week for another letter from you, I did not answer. But since I received a few days ago a strange communication from Lyon I am anxious to submit it to you. Being afraid that the copying of the important passages may impair their authenticity I am sending the original. What I would like to know is whether the sum assigned to me by the general council of Lyon does not surprise you, or did this happen to most of the contributions of the Ludwigs-verein. In any case I think this new, unforeseen and unexpected mode of procedure is wrong, especially when I consider the mission conditions of the neighboring bishops, who are French, I grant. The extra support they receive every year from the Society for the Propagation

of the Faith exceeds greatly the amount I received for three years. God forbid, I do not murmur, still less accuse the benefactors of injustice but it hurts me to see how the kindness and efforts of my friends in Munich are so plainly frustrated. All this I feel the more, since the well founded expectations (as I firmly believed) prompted me to undertake things which I would have otherwise willingly postponed. I had all well planned but I never dreamed that my portion would be lowered more than half in Lyon, at least not in the first years of my episcopal effort. Am I the cause of this treatment or have I to accept it as a probation of divine providence? God's will be done.

On account of the foregoing reasons I am obliged to ask you not to spend the 500 florins for the purpose stated in my last letter, except you have already ordered the goods, for I will need every cent in order to meet all the payments I have promised to make. Besides I have bought from a travelling-agent, Mr. Jacob Neustaedter of Bayreuth, a number of cheap vestments for the missions. The price, \$243, I promised to pay in May. Many thanks for sending the processional cross (Capitelkreuz). It is really beautiful. I shall take the liberty to write soon again especially about the condition of our missions. I would have liked to send you the Catholic Almanac Directory, which contains complete statistics of our province, but I imagine you have received one from other sources, especially from one of the eastern sea-ports.

In the meanwhile I am continually living in the hopes that you will the more remember my diocese. This is my consolation.

Remember me kindly to Canon Windischmann. I fully trust that he will not only fill the place of our deceased friend as Canon but will also take his place as a friend of mine.

N. B. The first part of the enclosure deals with the real estate of the institution at Sinsinawa Mound. The Rev. Mazzuchelli, O. P., holds the beautiful property in his own name, with the intention to transfer it eventually to the Dominicans, whom I gave permission to establish them-

selves in my diocese. But this is rather uncertain, even dangerous, if the Rev. Mazzuchelli should die, and this may happen at any time. For this reason he made a will and testament by virtue of which I as bishop should become the proprietor, but with the clause to return the property as soon as the convent is established. The gentlemen at Lyon apparently understood the meaning of this clause for they informed him that he would not receive any support till the property was deeded over to the church. I myself declared that the testament as written would offer little guarantee, being exposed to every whim of the testator. But now I shall receive a satisfactory legal instrument, retaining however the foregoing condition.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

From Bishop Henni's correspondence to the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich, three more letters are presented in this issue. The third one (No. XIV in the *Salesianum* series) stops abruptly as indicated in the text. No. XII was written to the new Archbishop, Karl August, Count von Reisach, who had been coadjutor-bishop of Munich. XIII and XIV were addressed to the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, the society's general manager.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photo-stats see the *Salesianum*, January, 1942.

XII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Jan. 30, 1847.

Some days ago the sad news of the demise of His Excellency, the Most Rev. Archbishop of Munich-Freising, Lothar Anselm, Baron von Gebstattel, has at last reached us here in the distant northwest of the United States. The deep sorrow which filled my heart in memory of the many benefits bestowed on me by the deceased prelate was softened by the thought that divine providence has chosen you as his successor. I consider it my duty to use this occasion to offer your Excellency my heartiest congratulations with the fervent prayer that the Divine Bishop of all souls may grant you in these troublesome times, a long life blessed with every success.

We and all who are working in the vineyard of the Lord in this part of the world are consoled by the joyful thought that your Excellency has for many years taken a lively and active interest in the missions for the glory of God and the propagation of faith. For this reason the grand Ludwig-mission society will certainly continue and flourish more

and more in its charitable activities under your wise and careful guidance.

The condition and needs of my needy diocese of Milwaukee, hardly three years old, and numbering 30,000 faithful, mostly Germans, are known to the directors and members of the society and for this reason I do not give at this time a more detailed report.

Kindly allow me to express the humble petition that your Excellency may favor my diocese with the same consideration the society and its first president have given us in the past.

XIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, April 27, 1847.

Your letter of Oct. 5th in which you inform me of the demise of the Most Rev. Archbishop reached me a few weeks ago. Long before we had a solemn requiem Mass in my cathedral for the repose of his soul.

Yesterday I received your letter of March 1st. Naturally I was anxiously waiting for it for some time fearing that the check might have been lost.

You are right in not believing that I consider something as received what others receive or shall receive. If my complaints caused such surmising it was not my fault for I did not know that the Ludwig society had sent nearly 4000 florins to the Rev. Inama. On the contrary in your letter of April 17, 1846 you informed me that he would not receive any support this year, because the funds were already distributed or voted for other purposes. The same information came from Lyon where they did not grant any support to the Dominicans at Sinsinawa for reasons which I have stated some time ago. Therefore I had to consider or pity myself as the only favorite one. Thanks to my friends in Bavaria, this is not the case.

I regret very much that I do not have the excellent Father Boniface in my diocese. Knowing that St. Joseph would not be a suitable place for his purpose I invited him on his arrival at New York to come to Wisconsin. This

however he hardly could do on account of previous negotiation with the Rev. Lemke and other circumstances.

We have all the reasons to expect by and by good fruits from Mount St. Vincent. But our expectations would be more consoling if our missions would be better taken care of. For this reason I wish that others with the spirit of Father Boniface would come to the far West. The West is the ideal home for the Germans, for there is the wide field for German missionaries.

Just now I received a letter from Father Morell, superior of the monastery at Einsiedeln, which reveals to my astonishment that another spirit manifests itself there. The new abbot seems not to have the narrow views of the deceased one. He and some of his confreres seem to understand the signs of the time and to be unwilling to suppress all the vital strength of the Order. Immediately after my nomination I wrote to the former abbot encouraging him to start a branch in America. But I spoke to deaf ears. In the otherwise kind answer I received the subject was not even mentioned. I had appealed at the wrong time. Now I am asked to give them a more detailed report on the subject.

Dear benefactor, try to foster this spirit if you have not already done so. The approaching of a storm in Switzerland and the precarious condition of the monasteries in Bavaria give a monition or hint to far-seeing eyes to look for less troubled nations.

St. Mary's parish here will be very grateful for the altar-painting you have sent. I expect the same almost every day from Baltimore where I have written to redeem it at the custom-house. The ordered vestments you may pay for, then I shall at least not be obliged to pay excessive duty for them. Finally I kindly ask you to send me the rest of the money granted me. May the dear Lord give you good health which you so well deserve for your activity and enthusiasm for God's cause. This is my and our incessant prayer to the Bishop of souls. After all, I do not doubt that the recent trials with which God visited good, old, Catholic Bavaria, will only bring about a greater purification and separation of the good. Divine providence has within the last decades so fortified the Church in Bavaria,

as I believe, that she may just as well not bother about the support in order to show an unbelieving world that God is the protector of the Church in Bavaria. I sympathize with the good archbishop and his clergy.

My best regards to vicar-general Windischmann.

P. S. I certainly would not have mentioned the precious miter if you would not have said that you have one ready. There is no one here who could make it even if the necessary material could be ordered from Lyon. After all how does a precious miter fit into a frame cathedral. Gladly would I deny myself that pleasure if only other things would be taken care of.

XIV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Sept. 8, 1847.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of April 16 and July 1 and the enclosed check. All this I consider a new proof of your kindness towards me. Many thanks. After all I regret very much (to you I may confess this) that my hitherto main source and on which I relied so much seems to run dry so quick. I guess your Reverence is now the only one of my friends in Munich divine providence has left me. May the good Lord keep you for a long, long time for the benefit of my missions.

Mr. Beitter arrived here safe a few days ago. I am well pleased with him and for this reason I am selfish enough not to give him up to Chicago. I shall confer minor orders on him next week in the fall Ember days and later on appoint him assistant to the Rev. Heiss at St. Mary's church here. With him I shall ordain three other candidates, a German, an American, and an Irishman. With German priests I shall soon be pretty well supplied but I need several English-speaking priests. True, many Irish students of theology are roving around in the country but very seldom may you trust and still less impose your hands on them.

That the Rev. Schraudenbach has not written to his former bishop does not surprise me because he hardly has

anything pleasant to write about himself. The good man is not without a good range of knowledge and very zealous in his ministry but he acted often so imprudently as if he had lost all common sense. For this reason I was obliged to remove him from a good parish and give him another one. He could not get along with the people. His own experience however taught him a lesson and I expect that he will do better. Having always been a pious priest, in spite of all his mistakes, he deserves our pity.

Of the four priests coming from Austria I did not hear anything yet except what you told me. Unfortunately the Washington did not sail from New York on account of necessary repairs. I hope they did not wait for the Washington but sailed from le Havre. From Einsiedln I did not hear anymore since I wrote you. The painting of the Blessed Virgin is now placed to the joy of all in St. Mary's church, which will be consecrated next Sunday. Unfortunately, the other articles of which you write that they were sent, I did not yet receive; not even those which Mr. Beitter should have brought along, because the baggage by mistake followed Father Lehner. Please do not send anything anymore to Baltimore since the city is away from every convenient shipping route; on account of its canals and railroads, New York forms with our . . . [Rest of letter is missing.]

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

From Bishop Henni's correspondence to the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich, eight more letters are presented in this issue. They were addressed to the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, the society's general manager.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January, 1942.

The letters were written while Bishop Henni was visiting Europe in 1848-1849. He left Milwaukee January 10, 1848 and returned home on May 28, 1849.

The Rev. Anthony Minoux was Provincial of the Jesuit province of Upper Germany which included Switzerland. Due to the revolutionary troubles of 1847-1848, German and Swiss Jesuits became refugees, some two score of whom came to the United States in 1848. At the time when Bishop Henni was trying to secure Father Minoux' cooperation, the latter was busy endeavoring to bring about their return to Europe.

Other names refer to: Gabriel Rumpler, a pioneer Redemptorist in eastern United States; Bernard J. Hafkenschaid, Redemptorist Provincial; St. Ives is believed to be J. M. Ives, a convert and former preacher of New York city, who was pastor of the cathedral in Milwaukee, 1851-1853.

Other items refer to: the School-sisters are the Notre Dame Sisters, whose motherhouse was established in Milwaukee, 1850; the cooperative society is at present the Sisters of St. Francis, St. Francis, Wis. It is believed that Religio-Economic Cooperative describes their first aim; the Wuerzburg council was perhaps the most important in modern times for Germany. The priests in the postscript of letter XIX were Anthony Keppler, pastor in Kaufbeuren, Bavaria, and his assistant, Matthias Steiger.

XV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Würzburg, January 24, 1844

As expected I found here a letter from you and also one from the Rev. Pater Minoux. Since this Father, as he writes, can only indirectly be of service to me, there is no need of further negotiation in a personal conference. I wish that he would at once use his influence with his confreres in America and intercede for us. Kindly let him know if he should still be in Munich that I will call on the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Strasburg next week when travelling from Lyon to Paris. The day after tomorrow I shall return to Frankfurt accompanied by Mr. Brentano since I have not paid a visit to the celebrities there.

What is to be done if the Rev. Rimpler did not receive or did not cash the check which, as you will remember, I made out for him last July? This much is certain that he had not cashed the check in Milwaukee up to September. I informed him about it but did not hear from him till now. The bank in Munich should know whether the check was cashed or not.

I kindly ask to have my box shipped to New York as soon as possible. To His Excellency the prince-archbishop of Vienna I have written. Has Consul Schwartz returned to Vienna? If your Reverence can secure a not too costly monstrance we would be very pleased. Good Father Heiss sends his greeting to you and professor Hanemann whom he is asking for one or the other publication. He is especially anxious to get the work of the Rev. Sepp. Please procure it for the good missionary and if necessary charge it to my account.

Many thanks for your kindness with which you befriended my niece. Being a simple, uneducated girl I wish that she would get some education. Not having a boarding school myself and she being handicapped in German schooling, I would like that she remain in Europe for some time at least. For this reason I shall write to the Sister Superior. In the meanwhile will you be kind enough to defray the

expenses and later on I shall reimburse you. Should the girl be too much of a burden to the School-sisters I beg to ask you to place her in some other reliable institution. However I wish that she should be treated as a boarder and as such especially kept busy to perfect her education. Some house work however she should do, if this is not contrary to the rules of the institution.

How is it that you have nothing to say whether the School-sisters really intend to come to Milwaukee. I am anxious to know whether this, my wish, could be fulfilled before the year is over.

Is King Ludwig still the protector of the good sisters? I hope so.

You must visit the kind-hearted bishop of St. Gall this summer. The Swiss air will do you good in spite of the noise in some parts of the city. Apropos, were the two books which I left in the Royal library cancelled?

XVI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

St. Gall, Oct. 26, 1848.

Many thanks for sending the letters which have been forwarded to you for me. The news from Milwaukee is especially welcome and satisfying. Greetings to you from good Father Heiss. Regarding the visit of the superior of the School-sisters, he says merely: "The superior of the School-sisters visited Milwaukee, but she did not make any great reconnaissance." How frank! But it is just like him.

Your Reverence remembers that the poorly executed seal of the Most Rev. bishop of St. Gall made me somewhat angry as if it were not in conformity with episcopal dignity. Herewith I describe the impression of the family coat-of-arms. After dropping all the scrolls, this should be designed by a good engraver in the usual episcopal form with hat, mitre and crosier. Two seals should be made, one for documents, and the other in a smaller shape for private use. The expenses you may put on my account.

One thing more. I wrote to Chur that my niece, of whom I spoke to you and to the sister superior, wished to go to Munich as soon as a favorable opportunity offers itself. In case she should knock at your door this fall, I kindly ask you to befriend her, a simple and innocent girl.

I expect a letter from the Rev. Prosslmeyer of Wied. This and other correspondence which you may have received kindly forward in care of the bishop of Strasburg since I shall leave here tomorrow.

XVII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

[Strasburg, end of October, 1848.]

A few days ago I wrote to you from St. Gall and bothered you with new requests. Kindly excuse a rather impolite American.

I received the sketches of the altars. The bishop here selected with me the design representing St. John giving holy communion to the Mother of God. Beautiful! If possible I would like to have the main altar more distinctly designed in conformity with St. John's description. Must I return the sketch? After all, the work need not be rushed since I am informed by letter that only the basement of the cathedral will be built this year.

May I kindly ask your Reverence to forward the letters for me in care of the archbishop of Cologne. I shall leave here today for Cologne via Metz and Treves.

P. S. Will both paintings for the side-altars be painted on a gilt background? If only one is so done, the harmony would suffer.

XVIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Brussels, Dec. 10, 1848.

At your request I am returning the sketches. The necessary comments upon them I have already made. I desire that these paintings be well executed, especially since there is no hurry. Of things half done I have enough.

The seal together with the letters from America I have also received. With Pater Bernard I became acquainted in Lüttich (Liege), having stayed with the Redemptorists. Here I am with the Jesuits. With the collecting I am anything but pleased. I am a poor beggar, do you think so?

I hope that the conference of the bishops will be crowned with success. Their circular letter is generally praised here. How soon may I hear from you again. A few lines will do. If you should write soon, address the letter in care of Monsieur le recteur P. Hessels, College Notre Dame (Rue de l'Empereur), Anvers, Belgique, where I shall go soon.

P. S. Be pleased to offer my heartiest greetings to the pastor of St. Louis. Has St. Ives returned from Tyrol? Did you speak to Father Haid about his work? Give him my regards.

XIX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Cologne, Jan. 12, 1849.

Your two letters of Dec. 20 and 30 are at hand. Both, especially the last one, reveal again the great interest you take in my diocese. Many, many thanks. The advantage of the "Cooperative society etc. for the support of missionary priests" is evident to me especially if its founders are pious as you say. This is of course the first requirement to prevent scandal. I believe that this pious society can in conformity to your wish and arrangement settle down in Wisconsin and this not far from Milwaukee where the necessary property can be bought. I consider this idea as a sign of divine providence for my poor diocese. May this plan become a reality and help me to carry out one of my ardently longed for wishes. One thing however I would like to ask your Reverence, whether these priests bind themselves to remain with the society, even against the will of the bishop, if in the course of time circumstances should demand the separation of one or the other from the society. Naturally the episcopal power and canon law have to be safeguarded.

I cannot omit to tell you who are acquainted with my condition and have since my elevation been a loyal friend

that I was very fortunate at Antwerp. The Knight G. J. de Boey, a millionaire, and at the same time known as a very charitable man, graciously consented to give me 75,000 francs for the establishment of a college in Milwaukee. Of this sum I shall now take along 15,000 to buy the building site. The only condition is that two holy Masses have to be said every week for the future. This is the reason why I am on the Rhine again. I wish to go to Strasburg to meet Pater Minoux, the provincial of the Swiss Jesuits, in order to get at once some members of his province to start the college. As you know quite a number of them are already stationed in America.

Since the distance from Mayence is not great I would like to visit my good old benefactor Brentano at Aschaffenburg and also the convalescent bishop of Würzburg.

The rosette or glass painting of which we have spoken, do not order, since I am informed that a benefactor is willing to donate a window for my cathedral.

Happy New Year. I am wishing you a long, long life. May heaven grant that you may for many years be able to work for the benefit of our missions.

P. S. Kindly give my episcopal greeting and blessing to the two priests of the diocese of Augsburg, whom I do not know personally, and also to the founders of the foregoing society.

XX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Strasburg, Feb. 9, 1849.

From this letter you will learn that I am going rather at a snail's pace than with the fast mail. No wonder, if a person is lucky enough to fall into the hands of old friends. Brentano not only kept me in Aschaffenburg amongst his special friends, but introduced me into the intimate circle of the family. After having spent a few days here he accompanied me to Speyer. I thank him as long as he lives for giving me the opportunity to get acquainted with your special friend, the excellent bishop there. On my return trip to Mannheim, I was introduced to the good and genuine

German Baron von Sturmfelder. N. B. In the meantime all begging was left undone, in fact I forgot it, as usual, on account of the friendly reception I enjoyed everywhere.

Awaiting anxiously a letter from my best friend in Munich at my arrival here, I was informed that such a letter was forwarded to Milwaukee. This happened through my own fault by not informing the bishop in due time. If your letter contained anything I should know I kindly ask you to let me know and send the letters either to Lyon, c/o Messieurs Largue et Portales, Negotiants, Rue St. Marie des Terreaux, or to Paris, c/o L'Abbe Louis de Caurson, Superieur General de St. Sulpice, Rue du Pot de Fer. At the end of March please write to Antwerp, c/o P. Hessels, Recteur du College Notre Dame á Anvers, Belgique, Rue L'Empereur.

How does my niece get along? I at least expect that she is docile.

I hear that the Rev. St. Ives said his first Mass on Trinity Sunday. If this is true, when will he follow me?

Will you be kind enough to procure for me in the future the "Historisch-politischen Blaetter." As you know I have received only the first 20 volumes.

Having received as a present a beautiful particle of the holy cross I would like to get a fitting reliquary for it. May I therefore kindly ask you to get for me the reliquary formed like a monstrance, which we have seen in one of your stores, if it should not be too expensive.

No doubt you will congratulate yourself when I have left the country for I certainly have been a bothersome person to your Reverence. In fact I feel ashamed of myself but to whom else could I appeal. May the good Lord reward you. In the meanwhile I beg to remain with esteem, love and gratitude.

XXI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Lyon, Feb. 19, 1849.

On the point of departure, your letter was handed to me. I hastened to write out the letters of acception for the

good priests at least for the present. I did not think that they would embark before April and I felt happy because I expected to be home by that time.

I am very much concerned to have this colony if possible in the neighborhood of Milwaukee (2-3 hours away) so that the land and work of the colony may be used for higher, lasting purposes, the benefit of the German missions. For this reason I am anxious to get better acquainted with these people, especially I would like to know whether they prefer to live secluded and settle down further way from Milwaukee. In short, if possible I would not like that they buy land before I know the location and soil. Perhaps you are acquainted with their desires or specific aims. For this reason I kindly ask you to let me know by your next letter (to Antwerp), the frame of mind of these good people. Naturally as all immigrants they have their own ideas which they give up only when they get acquainted with the conditions as they are. After all, I am willing to respect their wishes and not to force my own ideas and rules upon them. Since I am not concealing anything from your Reverence I say candidly: that I expect through the means and work of this colony to establish a German seminary and thereby secure its permanency. Thus only can the work of the Germans continue even when I and my successors are gone. But before I undertake anything of the kind I must know the aims of these people. Should they agree with my ideas then I might say the undertaking and the establishment will become a fact. Then how simple and easy it all would be; as if inspired from on high. Now my dear friend you realize what I am aiming at. Pray with me for this purpose, for if I accomplish and try it for a while, then I may sing: *Nunc dimittis servum tuum*, etc.

I am very much pleased that my niece is more promising. Naturally she resembles a young hare, which when frightened out of the woods, runs against things, thus revealing malice less than lack of intelligence. I knew that the girl would show love and gratitude if she received proper guidance, in spite of her age and Swiss headstrongness.

Waiting to hear your opinion concerning the main point as above. Having your opinion I shall be able to instruct

my vicar-general. The way from New York via Buffalo and Detroit will be obvious to you. In Milwaukee, the Rev. Heiss and vicar-general Kundig will come to their aid till I arrive after the council the first week of May. Once more, I do not like that they embark at the the most unfavorable time or cross the English channel at the equinoctials.

N. B. I am staying here with the good Marist Fathers. Bishop Pompalei is also here and dares at last to return home. The French have to give up their policy if the missions shall continue and prosper.

XXII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Liverpool, April 6, 1849.

I returned to Liverpool from unhappy Ireland. There I visited the two outstanding institutions, All Hallows and Maynooth college. Both of these institutions will give me young priests. Two will follow me this summer and two next summer. Usually the Irish promise more than they can do. But let us wait and see.

I was informed, unfortunately too late, that the Herman had to stop at Southampton for a week to repair some machinery. For this reason I shall not be far behind the colony.

Ireland is flooded with invitations for St. Mary's colony, signed by Stowes, a lawyer of Philadelphia. This indicates how long St. Mary's will remain German. That will please Bishop O'Connor more, for he did not like the German element there, as I believe, and indeed observed on one occasion.

Chicago received Vandeveld as bishop and Vincennes Maurice de St. Palais, a Frenchman, an excellent man. I hope to meet them soon in Baltimore since we are sailing from here on the 7th of this month, a rather unpleasant time, on the steamer Europa. Pray for me though we shall be far out in the Atlantic when you receive this letter. The Bishop of Natchez with some students from St. Sulpice are my companions.

New requests: I would like to get the portraits of the archbishop of Munich and the bishops of Speyer and Würzburg which you can easily get as I am informed. Cologne is giving me the stained glass window representing the Immaculate Conception. For this reason do not bother anymore for one. Will you kindly remind Mr. Nebreuer at Beireuth to make the ordered candlesticks well and as cheap as he possibly can. He reveres you out of gratitude and for this reason you have great influence on him. I shall pay him by assignment, I say assignment, for you certainly will not forget me this year. I do not need to tell you again how much I stand in need for the allowance for two years. You know the allowance of last year was spent entirely for church goods, etc. Lyon is under the impression, so Mr. Mennies told me, that I receive more from Germany than I really do. After all Lyon wasted nearly all the money on the expeditions to Oceania and the Levant. Belgium especially is complaining.

Please, dearest friend, do the utmost for me. I am feeling sorry for the unhappy (king) Ludwig, for I always loved him. If possible convey my gratitude to him. Being home again, may I dare to write to His Royal Highness?

Being about to say farewell to Europe, kindly give my most cordial regards to pastor Stumpf, the superior of the School-sisters and their chaplain. Greetings also to my niece of whom you will take care in my place. Get her the necessary dresses, in short, everything she needs. Should I die before she leaves Munich send her home to her parents. This is my last wish concerning her.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue two more letters are presented from the correspondence with the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich. Both were addressed to the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, the society's general manager. No. XXIII was written by Bishop Henni and no. XXV by the Rev. Michael Heiss, pastor of St. Mary's, Milwaukee, and secretary to the bishop. Attention is directed to no. XXIV which was written to Mueller by Martin Franz Pitzer, dated April 10, 1848, Milwaukee, and which was published in the *Salesianum*, October 1939.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

Students are advised that letter XV (*Salesianum*, April 1943) should bear the year 1849. Before resuming the publication of letters of 1849, six of 1848, including the two in this issue, will appear.

The American student, destined for theology at the Propaganda Seminary, Rome, was John M. Norris, native of Washington, D. C., who enlisted for the ministry in the Milwaukee diocese. Upon his return Dr. Norris became the first rector of the new cathedral, Milwaukee. The Linz group consisted of the priests Joseph Salzmann, Michael Wisbauer, Anthony Urbanek, Fabian Bermadinger and the students Francis Fusseder and Matthias Gernbauer. The property referred to was the Protestant Female Seminary which stood on the se corner of Jackson and Oneida streets, Milwaukee. Doubtless the Mother Superior in Baltimore was Mother Caroline of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. The Rev. Michael Beitter, native of Munich, was ordained in 1847 at Milwaukee, and served in the diocese until 1883, when he returned to Europe. At the time he was pastor of St. Martin's, Engelsburg (Granville), and its missions.

XXIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Lyon, March 27, 1848.

On the way to Rome, accompanied by a young American theological student whom I wish to study at the Propaganda, I thought this would be the nearest place to dispose of some letters handed to me. With the same mail you will receive a letter from the Jesuits in St. Louis.

I have only a few moments to converse with you concerning my affairs for I have to hurry because only once a week a steamer leaves from Marseilles for Civitavecchia. Gladly I would have sent you an Almanac of our province but you may have one already besides the expense it would mean. You will learn from it that though my diocese is young, needy and unorganized, it compares favorably with older dioceses. But I need more priests, especially four or five who are able to speak English and some who speak French. It seems that I will get them. Two good young men, one a Bavarian and the other a native of Baden, who are studying at the Sulpician seminary, and were destined for Bishop Pompalian, are promised me because the bishop does not dare to return to his diocese on account of the disorder therein of which it is said he himself is the cause.

In Milwaukee, thank God, we are progressing pretty well. I have now 39 priests. Those who arrived from Linz came just in time. Everyone received his assignment at once. All appear to be excellent men, only in the Capuchin I have not much confidence. Generally men who try to evade under all kind of pretexts the strictness of their order seldom become good missionaries. St. Mary's church I have consecrated as you may know, but sad to say, it is already too small. The Germans are making preparations to erect another church in a more distant section of the city. On the 15th of November I laid the corner-stone of the cathedral which will be 175 ft. long and 74 ft. wide. It will be built in the plain Grecian style. On account of the building material at our disposal this style is the cheapest. The estimated cost amounts to 18,000-20,000 dollars, a rather small sum for a church of its size. It will be located on one of the most

beautiful sites in the center of the city. The building has to be roofed in during the summer for I do not know how to accommodate all my people. The present frame cathedral I have to turn over as soon as possible to the French-speaking Catholics. Besides, dear benefactor, I have bought another building for a convent and orphan home at the price of \$3,000. For some time I planned as a matter of necessity such an institution. Now unexpectedly a new building which was erected by Protestants for an educational institution was offered for sale because the school failed. This property I could not let go by especially since the price was very low. I bought it and on the first of May this year the institution will open its doors under the management of the Sisters of Charity whom I secured for the purpose. All these undertakings keep me busy. I have to wait to see what divine providence will have in store for me. I mean to say your Reverence will not forget me now in my all important and promising undertakings but intercede for me with the Ludwig society; if not, all shall be in vain as it to some extent appears.

In Baltimore I had a conversation with mother superior who was anxiously waiting for me. We ought to have here in Milwaukee also an institution of her order. The Sisters de Sacré Coeur I have engaged. These ladies are rich and they will found an educational institution in the neighborhood of Milwaukee. A boarding school of this kind will have best influence on the richer Protestants. They also intend to start a hospital which as experience teaches will gain the good will towards the church of Protestants and Catholics more than any other undertaking. With pleasure I would welcome some Jesuits to start a college. At present they are not short of men but whether they have the means to start I do not know. I shall see the general and see what can be done; if we only had the means.

Once more do not forget my diocese. We certainly shall not disappoint you if we are favored with some consideration. No diocese, I dare say, is more promising and this especially for Germans who are in great number seeking a new home here.

P. S. Pardon my poor penmanship; a steel pen with which I am unaccustomed is mainly to blame for this.

XXV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, April 11, 1848.

First of all a notice of death: The Rt. Rev. W. Quarter, bishop of Chicago died during the night April 9th-10th at one o'clock in the morning. On Sunday April 9, he was still able to preach. The telegraph message did not state any particulars.

The real motive that I dare to bother you is this. Last autumn a certain Caspar Henninger, born at Noedin, probate court of Adldorf, in the district of Arco, post-office Eukendorf, Lower Bavaria, died here. His estate was handed over to me. To a letter to his relatives I received an answer on the 8th of this month from the probate court of Adldorf. By this letter I was instructed that our church should get a donation of 100 florins and \$5.00 for holy Masses. The rest of the estate should be sent to the two heirs, Joseph Henninger, a farmer at Noeding and G. M. Henninger, now married to George Erhardtberger of Soeldern in Kottersdorf, royal provincial court of Landau, Lower Bavaria, with the remark that the manner of sending the money was left to me. I thought of relying on the friendliness of Bishop Henni who may be by this time not far away from Munich and your kind help, and that it would be the simplest way to pay the said legacy to the probate court of Adldorf by drawing on the fund granted to the bishop by the mission society. By the enclosed letter to the Rt. Rev. Bishop I reminded him again of the affair of which he already knows. I hope that he will grant my request. Should it be impossible to pay them at present, then your Reverence may, if the heirs are satisfied, pay them the current interest, charging it against our account. The legacy to be paid amounts to \$127, i. e. 817 florins, after deducting the above mentioned donations. Many, many thanks to you. However should it be impossible, then I would kindly ask you to write that I may send the money from here. It would be superfluous to add statistical information since the Rt. Rev. Bishop will do that better orally.

The Rev. Beitter who was for some time my assistant has been transferred into the country six miles from here by the vicar-general, where he was put in charge of a good parish. Not long ago he was here and he told me that he was well satisfied. The people love him and he shuns no sacrifice and work in his ministry. I am now again alone in my parish with nearly 3,000 souls. Our church is already too small. We have now spring weather and warmer weather has always a rejuvenating effect on me but the cold of the winter affects my health since my previous sickness. With the beginning of the Easter season my work will be very heavy.

Fiery, revolutionary discord reverberates through the union. In the meantime the Jesuits are overlooked, though they had been savagely attacked in the papers, and sorry to say, more so by the German press than the English, even here in Milwaukee. Three weeks ago I lost my patience and protested vehemently in church against the gross misdemeanor of a paper edited by a former Catholic. The poor fellow did not know a way out of the mess since he was unable to meet the challenge of German Catholics with a single factual proof. The students from Munich gained the admiration of many in this affair.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue four more letters are presented from the correspondence of Bishop Henni with the Ludwig-missions-verein, Munich. With the exception of letter no. XXVII, which was addressed to the president of the society, Archbishop Reisach, and to its board of directors, the others were written to the managerial secretary of the society, the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

Identification of some of the personalities mentioned in the correspondence is: The Rev. Gall Morel, O. S. B., was a superior at Einsiedeln; Bishop John Peter Mirer of St. Gall; the Rev. George Laufhuber, early Milwaukee diocesan priest (1849); and Maria von Moerl (1812-1868), stigmatic and Franciscan Tertiary. She spent her life in Kaltern, Tyrol, and for thirty-five years she was ecstatic. The literary remains of the late Msgr. Rainer contains a letter from her to him dated in 1867. A sister of Msgr. Rainer, Mrs. Anthony Palma, is a god-child of Maria von Moerl.

The Female Academy stood on the southeast corner of Jackson and Wells streets and was opened as a school on January 18, 1847. After serving as St. John's Infirmary from 1848 to 1854, the building was moved to the southwest corner of Jefferson and Detroit streets where it served as a hotel until it was burned down in 1862.

The allusion of Bishop Henni "if any American bishop may go there" [Munich], is a sort of an echo of a letter from Father Mueller in which the latter commented adversely on bishops who traveled about, and he added "I am instructed to beg you not to come because your personal visit will not be as helpful to you as a letter would be."

XXVI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Chur, June 26, 1848.

Just now the Rev. Father Morel of Einsiedeln informed me that your Reverence was placed in an unpleasant situation on account of me because you wished to meet me in Munich and on the other hand you would like to take a short trip. Naturally I had decided to write you a few weeks before my arrival in Munich for I was anxious to find you at home. The writing was not done until now because I desired to visit Obersaxen, our common birth-place, in company with the bishop of St. Gall, and then after two weeks to go on to Tyrol.

Your Reverence has therefore enough time before I arrive at Munich, if I as an American bishop may go there, to make your recreation trip. Kindly let me know when you shall return to your capital city in order that I may arrange my journey accordingly. If your Reverence should prefer that I come to Munich within three weeks I am ready. Kindly let me know at once. In short, command me.

Tomorrow we shall continue our trip to Obersaxen to celebrate the feast of St. Peter and Paul, and then at the beginning of the following week return to St. Gall. I would be pleased to find a few lines from you either at Chur or St. Gall.

XXVII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Munich, July 23, 1848.

Kindly permit the undersigned on the occasion of his sojourn here to express not only his sincerest thanks for the generous subsidies which the diocese of Milwaukee has received for several years but also to ask your Excellency anew for help.

The needs of my diocese, which in the past and at present is flooded with thousands of poor Germans from Bavaria, and especially from the Rhine and Mosel region, are certainly known to the members of the board of directors. There is no need of a detailed report thereupon. In fact the

requests reaching the ordinary from all sides are so numerous and so frequent that it will be nearly impossible, in view of the immigration from the States and Europe, to keep pace with the progress being made, especially if the people have to depend on their own meager means.

Hardly a year ago we had to begin building fifteen churches or chapels, not to mention the hospital and cathedral in Milwaukee and the establishments which the Norbertines and Dominicans have started for themselves. Late last year I fixed the cornerstone of the cathedral. While the German people moved in their own beautiful St. Mary's church last year, the frame cathedral, once remodeled, is still too small to accommodate the English and French Catholics of Milwaukee. For this reason I was obliged to begin the erection of the new cathedral, a building which cannot be erected for less than \$20,000, though the plan is as simple and cheap as possible. The building including sanctuary, will be 175 feet long and 74 feet wide. The new hospital, with which the orphan asylum will be connected, is under the efficient management of the Sisters of Charity. This building was erected by the Protestants as an academy two years ago and was used only for a short time. Later on it was offered for sale by the proprietors and I bought it for \$3,000. This was done with an eye on its location and advantages for the Catholic population. This amount with interest must be paid within three years. This debt I took upon myself without regret on account of the influence which such a charitable institution, receiving people irrespective of the belief, will have on those not of our faith and even indifferentists. Similar institutions in St. Louis and Detroit exemplify this fact.

May I also mention the missions amongst the Indians who expect every year special and considerable help from the bishop: namely the St. Francis Xavier mission among the Menominees on the Wolf river, the St. Joseph mission at Lapointe on Lake Superior and two others among the Chippewa tribe. Besides these yearly expenses, there are those in connection with the seminary and the running expenses for missionaries in the remotest and poorest missions.

After all I may say, being mindful of the blessings from above, that the Church has begun to develop in the territory of Wisconsin, especially among the Germans, in a most satisfactory and promising manner. For this I owe the deepest gratitude, next to God, to the benefactors in Europe, and especially to the Ludwig-Verein, for priests and subsidies arrived from over there.

May I therefore kindly ask your Excellency and the esteemed members of the board of directors not to deprive me, in spite of the turbulent time, of your assistance, at least until I fulfill the more difficult tasks. This will enable me to provide sooner for the higher educational institutions which are so necessary for my diocese. I harbor this confident hope especially since I can truthfully say that I spend the subsidies appropriately, conscientiously and in the spirit of the noble donors.

May the good Lord reward the benefactors and supporters of my diocese with His manifold and richest blessings. Your Excellency and esteemed members of the board of directors, this is my daily petition to heaven for you and the petition also of my clergy and the faithful of the diocese.

XXVIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Innsbruck, August 6, 1848.

I believed it possible to send the enclosed letter to the Rev. Laufhuber with a school teacher of this city who is going to Sac Prairie. But I waited in vain. Since I am taking a trip to Salzburg today I am obliged to mail the letter to you.

Graciously received by the prelate here I made an excursion to Brixen and I think to my benefit. The excellent canon Hablmann accompanied me to Kaltern where I witnessed the more than human manifestation in the stigmatic girl Moerl. I never shall forget this visit. Oh, what an angelic soul she is!

I hope your Reverence has returned from the health resort or the mountains refreshed in body and soul. May this relaxation prolong your active and fruitful life for many, many years. This is my incessant prayer.

XXIX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Munich, September 9, 1848.

I was sorry at not finding you home yesterday when I arrived, more so because you will not return for two weeks. What shall I do, for I can hardly leave here without having had a talk with you concerning many and important matters? Shall I make an excursion to Regensburg and Baireuth until your return?

The reason why I am writing is because the archbishop wishes to see you about money affairs (if I understood him correctly) or about instructions he has received from the Propagation of Faith. Perhaps this may be the right moment to prompt him to call a meeting of the members of the board of directors of the Ludwig-Verein. It would call on you at the very time when you are getting some rest. But I could not refrain from giving you a straight tip. The archbishop left today for Landshut but will return Tuesday morning.

May I hear from you soon that I may be able to prepare myself.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D.D.

In this issue two more letters are presented from the correspondence of Milwaukee with the Ludwig-missions-verein, Munich. Letter XXX was written by Bishop Henmi to the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, managerial secretary of the society, and letter XXXI was penned by the Rev. Michael Heiss to Archbishop Reisach, president of the society.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D.D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January, 1942.

The following identifications have been made for the convenience of readers. The Baron von Schroeder was interested in German colonization schemes and was more like a green dreamer than a wily speculator. He it was who misguided the School Sisters of Notre Dame into their first home in the United States, the German colony at St. Mary's, Elk County, Pennsylvania. The Rev. Gabriel Rimpler, C.S.S.R., an Alsatian, came to the United States in 1840 and was active mainly in New York City until he was recalled to Baltimore in 1847. He died in 1856. The Rev. Joseph Mueller, a Bavarian, came to the United States in 1843 and then joined the Redemptorists. In January, 1849 he was assigned to New York. He died in 1876 after filling positions of his Congregation in widely scattered places. The School Sisters of Notre Dame came to the United States from Munich in 1847, and after some fitful tryouts, they selected Milwaukee as their headquarters and arrived here in 1850. The seventh provincial council of Baltimore, last one before the plenary gatherings, opened on Sunday, May 6, 1849.

XXX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Philadelphia, April 29, 1849.

I hope you received the letter I mailed at Liverpool before leaving Europe. The steamer I mentioned, the Europa, brought us safely to New York in twelve days. You realize full well how divine providence favored us. Thanks be to the Lord.

I remained several days in New York, where I pontificated on the Sunday of our arrival in the Holy Redeemer church and gave first holy Communion to 113 children. Today in the morning at the request of the excellent bishop of Philadelphia I confirmed over 150 persons in St. Joseph's church, the oldest one in Philadelphia. Tomorrow I am leaving for Baltimore and from there for Washington to call on the highest custom official in order to obtain the permission to get the boxes duty free through the customhouse. Unfortunately a former law, very favorable to our churches, was recalled by the treasury department. For this reason I am afraid my endeavor will be in vain. For the three boxes you sent I had to pay because Mr. Striesberger had sent them to another agent instead of to Mr. La Sola. They were dragged through the customhouse to my great loss. I not only had to pay \$22 duty but was also obliged to repack every thing in order to get the books away which I otherwise could have imported free of duty. After all it is not Mr. Striesberger's fault, but the shipper's at Bremen who sent them to an unauthorized agent. They were delivered to Mr. La Sola together with the expenses only after this agent had lost much time and money in bungling. Please tell Mr. Striesberger that he make this known to his agent at Bremen otherwise you will have to recommend to me another shipper. In the meanwhile I have instructed this unauthorized agent in New York to leave the other eight boxes in the customhouse or inform Mr. La Sola. The box from Vienna did not yet arrive. This proves how carelessly things are handled. No doubt this would also be the case at Munich if divine providence had not selected you for this great purpose. For this reason

we here cannot be grateful enough to your Reverence.

Good Mr. von Schroeder is living here next to me in the bishop's house. He is resigned and wishes to remain unknown. He himself says that he was not sufficiently informed and was carried away by ideas which were anything else except harbingers of good luck. I like the sincerity of this good and really frightened man. Bishop Kenrick has in a fatherly manner befriended him. He is staying with him and eats at the same table. As an architect Mr. Schroeder designs country churches and is contented.

The Rev. Rumpler is now in Baltimore and in his place the Rev. Mueller from Pittsburgh is superior of the Redemptorists at New York.

Next Sunday the council will begin at Baltimore. You shall soon hear from me again. May the God the Rewarder be with you. Greetings to the sister superior of the School Sisters and also to my niece.

XXXI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Feb. 11, 1854.

Because of the great benevolence your Excellency bestowed on me during my visit in my native country I take courage to approach you again as a beggar. The Most Rev. Bishop Henni believes that he should not wait any longer with the founding of a seminary. If we wish to secure our hope for the future we must have sufficient and well trained priests according to the conditions of this country. This important and at the same time difficult undertaking was entrusted to me and two other German priests, Dr. Salzmann and Dr. Paulhuber. In order to raise the necessary funds we have begun with a collection in the parishes of the diocese. We also started a society the members of which pledge a definite annual contribution. The success was so favorable that we already have bought a suitable property five miles from the city, which is beautifully located on the shore of Lake Michigan. During the summer we shall start with the erection of the building. How soon it shall be completed depends on the contributions of the people. However we hope to occupy the build-

ing within two years. In order to keep up the interest of the people on which we depend so much the bishop and the interested priests have urged me to begin receiving students as a start of the seminary in a home large enough to house some of them. I resisted for a long time fearing that the expenses would cause me trouble since the bishop is burdened with debts on the hardly finished cathedral. At last I consented to begin the seminary next month in the above mentioned manner in the hope that your Excellency would graciously help me to get the support of the Ludwig-Mission society. After careful figuring I would need at least \$800 or 2,000 florins to take care of ten to fifteen students till the seminary is erected. My petition is rather overbearing, but keeping in mind that the difficult beginning of a necessary undertaking for a young and rapidly growing diocese is at stake, I have confidence that your Excellency will graciously support my petition.

Kindly permit me to add a few remarks concerning the conditions here. Perhaps the German newspapers carried the news that demonstrations were held against Monsignor Bedini the apostolic legate. If this news was not correctly reported, I wish to state that only the radical German and Italian elements which the revolution of the last years brought to our shores participated in them. The Americans conducted themselves very honorably. Especially five senators, among them General Cass, one of the oldest and distinguished members of the senate at Washington, protested energetically against the agitation of the radicals. As unpleasant as these demonstrations were, they served the good cause far more than they harmed it. Several papers and among them the most influential called the rabble a "Nuisance for the whole country." Here in Milwaukee Monsignor Bedini, when he for the first time publicly officiated on the occasion of the consecration of the cathedral, was very much pleased. Though the radicals gnashed their teeth they did not stage any demonstrations, realizing that not only the Catholics but also the real Americans were against them. Last night they intended to make up for the failure by calling a meeting in order to express their objection to the utterances of the "Jesuit!" General Cass

who had dared to expose them. We expected a burning in effigy, but since the Americans could not be induced to participate, the others disbanded quietly.

In spite of all the opposition, we, especially we German priests, are subjected to, our holy church is progressing quietly and decidedly. The radicals by revealing more and more their godlessness have lost their influence in the Catholic parishes. Formerly the dissensions were more frequent than now, because many thought they could remain good Catholics and at the same time refuse obedience to their pastor and the bishop. This attitude has now changed.

The School Sisters are filled with hope for the future. Especially in Wisconsin they receive sufficient candidates. The sisters are in demand everywhere. They have now about 40 candidates and novices and this will soon enable them to comply with all requests. Naturally new churches are built constantly. During the past summer twelve or thirteen were completed. Five of them, besides the cathedral, are beautiful structures. The priests of the diocese are generally zealous and good, but the Irish are not always as they should be. If divine providence prevents scandals caused by the weaknesses of the priests we have the best hopes for the church. For this reason we are eager to erect an adequate seminary and ask once more for your kind assistance.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue one letter is presented from the correspondence of Milwaukee with the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich. At the request of Bishop Henni it was written to the central board of directors of the society by the Rev. Michael Heiss.

The letter has been translated from a photostatic copy by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostat the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January, 1942.

Attention is drawn to the translation of *scholae internae* in the text. Some may prefer a meaning which is related to boarding-school. Reference to a point 20 hours distant northwards may mean either Sheboygan or Manitowoc. Lumber totalling 150,000 feet was purchased on October 6, 1853 at Manitowoc and in January (8-15), 1854 at Sheboygan. To provide fuel for the manufacture of bricks and other reasons 120 acres were bought near Cudahy in the fall of 1854. This property has Grange avenue as its north boundary and the Northwestern railroad is just within its eastern line. Likely enough the 48 acres mentioned in the text involved the purchase of two parcels of land, both dated August 9, 1853. The first was a strip about 100 yards wide, consisting of eight acres. The principal building on it is the seminary. The second consisted of 44.73 acres and included the land west to the boundary of the baseball fields, north to the city limits; the south line ran east from the cement bridge to the rear of the new gymnasium.

XXXII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, January 21, 1855.

The undersigned to whom the central board of directors assigned a subsidy of 1000 florins for the seminary in Milwaukee last year, wishes to express his most sincere thanks for it and to give an account of how the money was spent. As we reported last year, so too in the past year our finan-

cial means were doubly obligated. On one hand we began with the erection of a seminary building, on the other, we found it necessary, until the building is completed, to take the first step by receiving and educating students and by housing them in a temporary home. What prompted us to take this step was the urgent need of priests for the diocese and also to keep up the interest of the faithful in the education of priests which they have so gratifyingly manifested. Hence in May last year we opened a seminary in the city. Not forgetting our limited means, we accepted at first five students only and indeed those solely who had made preliminary studies elsewhere. After a few months conditions forced us to raise the number to eleven. We are obliged to pay for their maintenance and because of local conditions, we can expect little or nothing from their parents or relatives. Together with the seminary we started a Latin School [High school] for boys whose parents live here. The boys spend the whole day at the school but get their main meals at home. In spite of all the restrictions we made, our expenses were larger than we expected because of the unusual rise in the food prices. However we do not regret these expenses for we have made a good start in our undertaking.

The construction of an adequate seminary building diminishes our financial means far more than the sustenance of the seminarists. If we are to reach our goal, we need a favorably located and adequate site. It is the intention of the Most Rev. Bishop to erect only a diocesan seminary but it should be one that is worthy of its name. It should provide not only a course in theology but should include a *Seminarium puerorum* [preparatory seminary] and thereby lead gradually to the study of theology and thus train priests for the diocese as required by the peculiar conditions of this country. It is hardly necessary to prove the need for such a seminary, for if in Germany and other Catholic countries the training of an efficient clergy is only possible in seminaries with special departments (*scholis internis*), this becomes more imperative in our country where we are still lacking institutions of higher education. Besides, surrounded by a free and easy-going world, many a young man who has a vocation to the priesthood is liable to lose it if

he does not live apart from the world, especially during his formative years.

In a country like ours, progressing materially, both in a good and bad sense, greater demands are made than elsewhere on the priest, if he be true to his calling. Who would therefore doubt the necessity of such a seminary? Yes, I dare say the future of the church here depends largely on it. At any rate for that kind of a seminary nothing must be overlooked, particularly a suitable location. So we felt obliged to start with the erection of a building.

After careful planning we decided it should be 160 ft. long, 50 ft. wide, and three or four stories high, with a chapel in the center. Only when built according to these dimensions, can the building serve its purpose. If we succeed in establishing a good institution, the neighboring dioceses which need priests for their German parishes will get interested in the seminary, especially since the other seminaries of the country furnish only a few or no priests for German parishes.

Now what has been done during the past year towards the erection of the seminary? First of all we had to select a suitable location. The city not being the proper location for such an institution, we had to go outside but not too far away. Finally we selected a beautiful spot on the southern end of the Milwaukee bay, distant about five miles from the city of Milwaukee. It lies on a shore 50 to 60 ft. high of the vast Lake Michigan and offers a view of Milwaukee, a city of 30,000 inhabitants.

There we bought 48 acres of land and then selected a knoll as a building site for the seminary. The locality was covered with a primeval forest and until a few years ago Indians roamed about here as certain indications show. The excavations for the foundation are already made. Nearly all the building material is at hand. We set up a brickyard on our land and during the past summer manufactured about 700,000 bricks of the best quality. The lumber was shipped on the lake from a place about 20 hours [20 leagues] north of here. Though enough wood is found around Milwaukee, there is no building lumber, an item which cost us \$2000. The expenses for the bricks will be a

little higher particularly on account of the fire-wood we had to buy.

Next spring as soon as the weather permits we shall start with the building itself. It is our intention to bring it under roof this year and to finish its interior sufficiently to warrant the transfer of the city seminary by next autumn. Whether we shall be able to do this depends on our finances. These are nearly exhausted though considerable contributions are derived from our own and other dioceses. Besides the acquisition of the foregoing 48 acres of land which cost us \$2600, we bought, after serious deliberation, an additional 120 acres last fall for \$3450. This was done in order to secure the maintenance of the seminary. Though we do not plan to do extensive farming, we can raise many essential domestic provisions for which otherwise we would have to pay dearly. To delay the acquisition of the land was not advisable because each year the prices of land rise. In the fall of 1853 we could still buy an acre for \$50, but in 1854 \$100 was demanded. Thus our finances were not only exhausted, but besides meeting the expenses for construction, we must pay within three years \$4000 to \$5000 in instalments. If we wish to keep not only the acquired land but also to finish the seminary building this year, we will need considerable financial help. Therefore may we not hope that the Ludwig-missionsverein will grant us much aid? Should not an institution deserve special consideration which is not concerned about any private objective but which regards an urgent need of the Church, that is to say, the training of worthy and efficient missionaries? Should not special aid be expected from Germany for a seminary directed by Germans, though not in any spirit of narrow nationalism, and one wherein perhaps for the first time in America, due allowances will be made for German people?

Should not a diocese, guided by a German bishop, though one of the youngest sees in the United States, which within ten years has become one of the most flourishing, principally through German endeavor, enjoy the confidence of the central administration of the Ludwig Society? In the year 1844 the diocese possessed only two or three poor churches, or rather, chapels, but now at the beginning of 1855, we have

no less than 121 churches or chapels, without counting the thirty-three under construction.

Besides the undersigned, two other German priests, Dr. Paulhuber, a Bavarian, and Dr. Salzmann, an Austrian, have been entrusted with the affairs of the seminary. To the present time, with great sacrifice, Dr. Paulhuber not only has looked after its economic interests but also has untiringly taught several seminarians. By begging for the sacred cause in our own diocese and in the dioceses nearby, Dr. Salzmann underwent unspeakable hardships. Should these three German priests, who are willing to make any sacrifice and who undertook the work, prompted by its necessity, live in fear of being forsaken by the German supporters of the missions? Should a guarantee be required lest the undertaking be too difficult? Or should any security be asked for that the aid given will produce reliable fruit for the honor of God and the salvation of souls?

I have asked myself this question more than once on account of the grave responsibility I owe the central administration and the Catholics of America. Considering the need for such an institution and the fact that hardly anyone else can be found to assume the burden, and also the urgent request of the bishop, to whom I have declared all the difficulties, I consented to take up the burden. By doing this I thought of fulfilling the holy will of God, Who is able to strengthen the weak who labor for His glory. After all, the seminary is the concern of the bishop and we are merely willing to carry out his wishes. Should it become advisable at any time to entrust the work to others, we have no other wish than the success of the undertaking.

In view of all the foregoing we are confident that the central administration will not only grant us a new subsidy but will allot a large and extraordinary one for this year. We ask you for this aid in the name of our beloved bishop and the souls in his care.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue two more letters are presented from the correspondence of the Milwaukee diocese with the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich. The first one, no. XXXIII, was written by Bishop Henni to Archbishop Reisach, president of the society, and the second, no. XXXIV, by the Rev. Michael Heiss to the society's board of directors.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

Between 4 and 5000 people and fifteen priests witnessed the cornerstone laying. The preachers were the Rev. Michael Heiss, who delivered the principal sermon in German, and the Rev. George Riordan of the cathedral staff, who spoke in English.

By July 15, 1855, when the cornerstone was fixed, the foundation walls and the first floor of the seminary had been built. Shortly after October 20, 1855 the seminary was under roof.

XXXIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, January 25, 1855.

I will not forward the enclosed report about my prospective seminary to the board of directors without expressing to yourself my sincere gratitude and profound appreciation for the 3000 gulden granted to my diocese last year by the Ludwigs-verein. May God bless a thousandfold the Bavarian Church and its people.

[Here, after an incomplete sentence, the letter is missing up to another broken sentence, which is followed by a customary ending.]

XXXIV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Nojoshing near Milwaukee, July 21, 1855.

On June 30, 1854 the undersigned gratefully acknowledged the receipt of the 2000 florins allotted to the diocesan seminary of Milwaukee on May 12, 1854 by the Ludwig-missionsverein. Complying with your request, I am enclosing a written receipt. Later a report will show how the money was spent. Inasmuch as the board of directors may be pleased to receive some information, I will present a few brief statements.

As previously reported the seminary building is now under construction according to the prescribed dimensions. At the present time its ground floor and second story are completed. On last Sunday, July 15 the Most Rev. Bishop Henni set and blessed the cornerstone of the chapel which will be built as a part of the seminary. Though the seminary is five miles distant from the city, an immense throng gathered. The road to the seminary was so jammed with pedestrians and vehicles that it seemed as if all Milwaukee were abroad. Because the sun flamed unmercifully out of a cloudless sky, the weather proved almost too pleasant for the ceremony. Preliminaries were a German sermon, the cornerstone laying and an address in English. Then, according to the recommendation of the Pontifical, a pontifical high Mass took place near the building site, where a finely appointed altar and stage had been prepared.

Involving more work than expense, this celebration was arranged with the intention of stimulating and strengthening the interest of our Catholics upon whom the completion of our undertaking largely depends. Without doubt our purpose was fulfilled. Everyone was pleased with the location of the seminary and with the progress made in its construction.

Incidentally, we removed a misunderstanding which might have become a drawback for us. Until now as German priests we appealed principally to the charitableness of Germans, and figured that we might expect aid from the Irish and other nationalities after we had shown that the

enterprise was not impossible. So some thought that the seminary would become an institution solely for Germans. When however we also accepted Irish youths, certain parties spread the suspicion that it was planned to displace the Germans gradually and to make the seminary Irish. Both these suspicions were unfounded. We desire to establish a diocesan seminary, that is to say, one which is adequate for the needs of a diocese the faithful of which are chiefly German and Irish. The preacher explained this clearly and I am informed that everybody was satisfied with the pronouncement that in the future seminary the German element would be always amply considered, but indeed without neglecting other nationalities. Rivalry among various nationalistic groups is frequently a real nuisance over here and at present in a time of Know-nothingism, you may not even talk much against it without running the risk of being considered a secret Know-nothing.

According to the contract the walls of the seminary must be completed by October 1 so that the roof can be put on and a portion of the interior furnished before winter sets in. If the favorable weather continues we will be able to occupy the building next winter.

At present our expenses are understandably very considerable. Nearly every week we are obliged to pay out \$400, or 1000 florins. Therefore the 2000 florins granted to us by the Ludwig-missionsverein will be expended all too soon. At times we were hard pressed, but thanks be to God, we have been able up to date to satisfy the contractors and so our credit is good. Naturally we were forced to contract debts. However, if the subscriptions are paid up fairly well throughout the diocese during the coming autumn and if we can expect further help from our former homeland, we will be able to pay not only our actual debts but also to keep the seminary functioning. Before the end of the year a more detailed report concerning the foregoing will be forwarded.

In the meantime these few lines may serve to convince the board of directors that the important and difficult undertaking of establishing a diocesan seminary is making gratifying progress and that it is worthy of your interest.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue a letter is presented from the correspondence of the Milwaukee diocese with the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich. The letter was written by the Rev. Dr. Francis Xavier Paulhuber, pastor of St. Mary's, Milwaukee, to Archbishop Reisach, president of the society.

The letter has been translated from a photostatic copy by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For some details concerning the photostat the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

After serving as preacher for the parish of St. Maurice, Ingolstadt, Bavaria, Dr. Paulhuber came to the Milwaukee diocese in early summer 1851. Successively he became pastor of St. Boniface, Goldendale, overseer for constructing the seminary (September 1853-September 1854), and pastor of St. Mary's, Milwaukee, to August 1856, when he left for Europe.

Solomon Juneau is regarded as the founder of Milwaukee, where he settled in 1818. He became its first mayor in 1846. In 1852 he removed to Theresa, Wisconsin, where he had established a trading post in the early 1830's. He named it after his mother. Among his gifts of land may be mentioned the two lots for St. Peter's church on the northwest corner of Jackson and State streets, Milwaukee. The white bridge mentioned in the letter was a forerunner of the present Wisconsin avenue bridge.

It may be useful to note that at one time the locality of St. Francis Seminary was known as Nojoshing. This is an Indian word meaning a tongue of land.

XXXV

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 22, 1855.

A sense of duty seriously warns me that it is most fitting after a lapse of four years to write to the beloved Ordinary who so creditably governs the archdiocese which

I shall never forget and to which at one time I belonged by birth and seven years in the ministry. I always take a keen interest in all that happens there. Thus I have read with great interest letters from my brother about events at my birthplace near Eggsberg on the Inn river and also regarding your visit there.

For somewhat more than four years influences have been working on my primitive Bavarian nature and are trying constantly to change my tough southern German hide into Yankee leather. However, I do not know why it is accomplished so easily in many cases, or why it will never happen to me. They say here that before this process is completed no one may expect any promotion. To be sure, this is the reason why I encounter so many unpleasant things. Over here there is a powerful group of people who classify as a "Gentleman" only the true Americans, that is to say, only those are judged thoroughbred who are fully Americanized. The English and Irish are rated "Half-breeds" and of course a German is a mere Fanatic or a Pariah. Consequently to love the Germans means to fraternize with the lowest set of people, and as one of them to be unfit for any advancement. Willingly I undergo whatever else this penalty may entail. Contrariwise, my limited personality, which is particularly guilty of the mortal sin of loving Germans, enjoys much satisfaction because it is not endowed with the make-up of a "Gentleman" [*supra*].

This significant relationship among nationalities is not very advantageous to our church affairs over here. Even if I view the situation superficially, I think it would be very difficult to preserve nationalistic characteristics, say those of the Germans, anywhere in this country. Though the Irish always degenerate, the French in the South have kept themselves pretty much intact, and this is partly true of Germans in Pennsylvania and may happen here in Wisconsin. Indeed I am certain that total Americanization is accompanied by loss of the faith and will be more so because Yankee and unbeliever are synonymous. I do not know to what degree this fact is realized and considered by those in authority.

It is true that among the Germans in America there are many who nearly every day are a disgrace. What happened

to Kossuth and Bedini is well known. But it should not be forgotten that if a million Germans indulge in that kind of humbug there are on the other hand three million who remain quietly at home, build churches and schools, support about 1,000 German priests and are making surprising progress in religious, moral and civic matters. Besides, do not forget that generally speaking Germans over here are only cast-offs from Germany, whereas France, England and Ireland are represented here by their noblest and best groups. If the German [mutilated] Reasons for this are [mutilated] with him into the colony, also the Irish [mutilated] nations accompany their people and soon bishops visit them. What priests accompanied the Germans?

In recent years many German priests were sent to this country, of whom Milwaukee received most. In spite of this there are German settlements here, from six to ten years old, consisting of fifty to sixty Catholic families, which up to the present have never seen a German priest. So is it any wonder if Germans in some places are a bit neglectful of religion? Where are German bishops to be found? or any bishops who entertain a friendly and similar attitude towards Germans which they extend to other nationalities? There are two or three who are accounted as such. I do not know what more to add regarding this matter. On the other hand, what should I say concerning the considerable financial aid for the American missions from Germany, particularly from Bavaria, Austria, and so on? May Your Excellency excuse me at this time from speaking on this topic.

Though there may be a great deal to bewail, what good is complaining? The saying, The good Lord will take care of everything, is welcome comfort to me also in spite of all the storms which thunder about me. Frequently these become so violent that I feel myself obliged to seek safety elsewhere in America or indeed in Europe. Often they howl about me as if to say: Your usefulness here is ended. At any rate, let it be as God wills. If invited, I would not mind returning to my native land and becoming the last among its priests. Anyhow, over here our assignments as priests are strange. For example, I have been everything from an assistant-pastor to a pastor; from professor to seminary

rector; from procurator to building inspector [seminary]; from episcopal agent to spiritual advisor and diocesan administrator. However, these appointments had a beginning and end only, but no connecting link, or substance. Thus they are so indefinite that no mathematical formula is available to express the situation. How often was I appointed to work at the local seminary? I had complete charge of it at one time, but now all this is at an end. Indeed, because I am no longer connected with it, they were alarmed very much lest I might forward to Your Excellency a report unfavorable to supporting the prospective seminary. As far as I am concerned, they are mistaken about this.

Sometimes I am inclined to carry out a plan which I had when leaving Munich to inspect the missions everywhere in the world; but the thought rises: Why do this? even though such an undertaking can have a practical value. Nevertheless, another thought prevails: Do not leave but wait, even if it should mean death itself. At the age of forty-three it is quite natural to think of death.

I hardly know what I should tell in general about American ecclesiastical affairs, except that at times I am so pleased with them that I am on the verge of praising God, and at other times they frighten me to the extent of becoming truly angry at men. But perhaps this is a characteristic feature of beginnings.

Over here there is no relation between the state and church except that which exists between the state and any private society. At first glance this is all to the good and so no one should desire anything more, but below the surface, among the people or parishes, there is a worse spirit, namely, Democracy, which militates against us. Indeed, the thoughtless people believe that they have the right and duty to dominate the Church like they rule politics. Obviously only an efficient missionary is best prepared to exorcise such a demon.

Would that I were in error, but the worst condition of all exists among us Catholics, because our bond of unity is very loose, and indeed, is broken in many respects. The variety of nationalities itself contributes a great deal to this condition. I understand this easily when I consider the

dissatisfaction which I noticed here and there in Germany if foreign, or even non-diocesan, priests joined any diocese. A change in the relationship between bishops and priests would be desirable for the good of the church. Again I gladly hold my tongue. I add an otherwise peculiar word, which is also questionable and sonorous: Progress. By this term I mean the development of ecclesiastical affairs according to the canon law as followed ever by the Church, when not inactive nor corrupt. Our trouble is that the Council of Trent and the Provincial Councils of Baltimore exist only on paper.

With special regret I view our science and art over here because the outlook is truly heart-rending. If it continues so, all the fundamentals will be lost. Then not only the prospect of further progress but also all the present achievements will be jeopardized. Very little is done for elementary schools because no one cares for them except their local patrons. It seems to me that the School Sisters [Notre Dame, Milwaukee] dispense with the thoroughness they acquired in Germany. I do not know about the School Brothers sufficiently, but the other teaching Orders accommodate themselves more or less to the wishes of the country, that is, of the Americans. The Jesuits conduct only the so called high schools [Buergerschulen] and are well paid by the Yankees. The Benedictines take whatever they can obtain.

If Your Excellency peruses our Almanac and notices numerous seminaries, colleges and schools, you may safely believe that many of them do not exist at all and others are full of humbug. In knowledge our lawyers and judges are much inferior to the clerks in German courts. If not educated in Europe, our physicians are far behind the barber-surgeons of Germany. Our priests, for instance, fifty per cent of the Irish, do not know Latin any better than many a Mass server in Germany. I shall make no mention of the curriculum of studies in our theological seminaries. With reference to art I notice merely that the architects of our cathedrals are mainly German bunglers who imitate a bit, so why talk about it?

For a while I had hopes that with regard to its prospective seminary Milwaukee would prove an exception to

all the foregoing. Indeed that hope had some worth. Now I do not know what the outcome will be.

I am informed by the latest immigrants that America is more than ever discredited in Germany because of its pretended cost of living and also on account of the Temperance question and Know-nothing activities. Regarding the latter I can state that there is nothing to it, or at least not very much. Perhaps this is merely the final convulsive action of Uncle Sam who is afraid that the immigrant masses will not only wrest from him the scepter of government but also all privileges. Though grain is rather dear, a Bavarian bushel of wheat costing \$9.00, remember that the dollar is like a gulden in south Bavaria, and so the American farmer makes a better living. A similar condition exists in both industry and commerce. Famine is as unknown to us, especially in the West, as to the spendthrift of the Gospel. With reference to the Temperance movement, the Liquor Law or Maine Liquor Law, this folly was started by fanatical Methodist preachers who are making vain efforts here and there. The Temperance Law may be satisfactory for English and Irish because as everybody knows they drink solely to get drunk. In drinking a fifteen year old boy would surpass a brewery worker of Munich. The Know-nothing Association, lately called the American Republican Association, is disappearing from the scene except in the East, among the New England states, where it still sputters a bit. It will probably be done away with in the next presidential election.

The best observation regarding this country refers to the speedy advance of settlement and agriculture. I take the greatest interest in this observation. Recently I visited the founder of Milwaukee, a Franco-Canadian, Juneau, who resides about fifty English miles from here. Allow me to relate his history of our city. "In the spring of 1821," said he, "I arrived with my family, my wife being the daughter of an Indian chieftain, in an Indian canoe at the site where the city of Milwaukee is now located. I was a trader and exchanged goods with the Indians and understood eight or ten of their languages. Near the present white bridge in the city I built a poor log cabin. Here I lived for eight years without ever seeing a white person

and was associated solely with Indians. My food consisted of wild game and herbs and only rarely could I procure flour. In 1829 when the first ship came into the bay, I bought two barrels of flour for \$54.00, which now in spite of the high prices, cost only \$14.00.

"In the meantime white settlers arrived. One of the first of these was hanged by the Indians. Soon after a white man shot an Indian and on account of this the red men hatched a plot to kill all of us on a certain night. A loyal Indian woman revealed it to me the evening before. I went to the Indian camp and was able to prevent the massacre. In 1834 Milwaukee, a beautiful place, was a city of which I became the first mayor. Once again the Indians intended to massacre us because their burial ground had been desecrated, but once more I was able to avert the disaster. The Indians had their main camp at Nojoshing where the diocesan seminary will be built.

"To accelerate settlement, I was able to furnish building lots through gift, lease and low cost, because all the land in and about the city belonged to me. However, my kindness was abused shamefully, and though I could easily be worth five million dollars, I am now a poor man, owning only three building sites in the city. Here I am making a second attempt to found a city, where I am doing better. At present Milwaukee has about 40,000 inhabitants." Thus cities come into existence, and Your Excellency herein has a brief history of one.

For lack of space I am closing this letter. I wish only to repeat that I am ready at the order of the Ludwig-missionsverein to visit the different missions, or as many as desired, after receiving the necessary instructions. The expenses would not be important but the gain would be great. For how is the financial aid used? Where is the support needed most? At any rate, I expect to visit Germany next year and my oral report will be more explicit.

P. S. It would please me if the Bishop of Eichstaedt could peruse this letter.

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue one letter is presented from the correspondence of the Milwaukee diocese with the Ludwig-missions-verein, Munich. It was written to the society's board of directors by the Rev. Michael Heiss, rector of the seminary. It is also subscribed by the Rev. Joseph Salzmänn, procurator of the seminary.

The letter has been translated from a photostatic copy by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For details concerning the photostat the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

The following items may help to interpret the letter. It is probable that there were seventeen students in residence on the opening date of the seminary, January 29, 1856. Annual fees for tuition and board were \$90. To organize lay support for the seminary, a Salesian society was started in August 1853. Its dues were \$1 a year. Income from thirty-two students for the first semester amounted to \$368.22. The orphanage was transferred from the city in the fall of 1855. The professors and their branches were: the Revs. Michael Heiss, philosophy and moral theology; Joseph Salzmänn, dogmatic theology and Church history; George Rehrl, the classics; and Mr. Bernard Isaac Durward, rhetoric and elocution.

XXXVI

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Nojoshing, near Milwaukee, Wis., February 23, 1856.

The undersigned do not wish to submit to the members of the governing board the annual report concerning the difficult undertaking entrusted to them, the founding of a clerical seminary in the diocese of Milwaukee, without expressing their deepest gratitude to God, the Giver of all good gifts, and also to all the benefactors of this holy undertaking.

Since our last report, with God's help, we have come decidedly nearer to our planned objective. We now own a valuable property of 168 acres for the new institution, and a majestic building now stands on an elevation of this property. Overlooking the city of Milwaukee, it is located on the shore of the vast, oceanlike Lake Michigan. The building is 160 ft. long and 50 ft. deep. With the ground floor it is five stories high. With the beautiful cathedral of Milwaukee it proclaims to the wide world that our holy Church, the Tree of Life, has taken deep roots in the far west of America.

Extraordinary efforts made it possible to complete a part of the interior of the new building so that on the 29th of January of this year, on the feast of St. Francis de Sales, the Rt. Rev. Bishop of the diocese could open the seminary with a roster of 32 students. Thus in spite of the many difficulties, a good start of this undertaking has been made, and perhaps we may say half of the work is done. Though rejoicing over the present success of our life's work, we cannot conceal to ourselves that many more difficulties must be overcome before we shall be able to say that we have satisfactorily finished our task. First of all the heavy debt which we contracted by buying the magnificent property and by the erection of the building causes us not inconsiderable anxiety. Indeed, we could get some relief if we would sell a part of the property at a great gain, but by doing so we would jeopardize the future subsistence of the institution.

From the students we can expect only small contributions for their maintenance. The contributions from a society organized in the diocese for this purpose are not sufficient and are a still less sure source to rely on. For this reason we have to take advantage of a broad hint given by divine Providence to look for another source. To build the seminary we had to start a brickyard on our property. The result was remarkably good. The brick-clay we found was of such good quality that the bricks were of the first grade. Since the nearness of the lake on the shore of which we are located facilitates transportation not only to Milwaukee but also to Chicago and other places, it is the advice of

experts and the explicit wish of our bishop that the brick-yard should be kept up, thereby securing a good and sure source of income for the seminary. For this reason we are now engaged in building a pier from our property into the lake for larger boats. This may bring about other advantages for the seminary. For all this we need the forest which forms the greater part of our property. To preserve it is for us a real vital question. We therefore cannot sell it in order to reduce our debt without endangering our sacred undertaking. For this reason we have to look for help elsewhere. But whence may we expect help? Until now we had no sources of income other than the generosity of the Catholics here and the Christian charity of all those noble souls in the beloved homeland who by their sacrifices throughout many years, did not become weary in promoting the expansion and firm establishment of the kingdom of God in this new world. Therefore, may we not hope to receive their help also in the future? We are sure that the Catholics of the diocese, especially the Germans, to whom we as German priests appealed first will, having grasped and valued the importance of our work, continue to lighten our burden to the best of their ability. May we not also hope that the board of directors of the mission society, whose charitable consideration we have enjoyed to the present time, and for which we are very grateful, will favor us with even greater consideration?

By the success which we have had, we have proven to a certain extent that we shall succeed eventually. It is a question of two or three years more, and if we are able within this time to get out of debt, the future will be brighter as far as economy is concerned. Every donation made at the present time is doubly, perhaps triply valuable to us, considering our present difficulty, and if judiciously spent should be 100 per cent productive. Bearing in mind this condition, the undersigned can hardly be accused of audacity if they dare to ask the board of directors not only for a donation but for a very generous one for this year.

It would be superfluous to speak of the importance of our sacred cause in order to support our petition. There can be no doubt about it since authoritative voices of the

Church have spoken of it and the Church herself at the Council of Trent urgently commanded it. We may be allowed to state some special reasons why the importance of seminaries in America is just now paramount. As is well known, most of the dioceses in America, especially in the west, were recently erected. The diocese of Milwaukee was established in 1843. It is also certain that the development of these new branches on the Tree of the Church is more rapid than it was at any time in the preceding 1800 years. As eye-witnesses we can testify that the diocese of Milwaukee which had 12,000 Catholics, four or five priests, and one or two chapels in 1844, has now in 1856, although three years ago the newly erected diocese of St. Paul was a part of the Milwaukee diocese, according to official statistics, 128 churches, 27 under construction, 59 stations without a church, 83 priests, five religious communities and a Catholic population of 120,000. From this it is evident that these dioceses in the west, though recently created, develop rapidly, and therefore one must expect that if they develop normally, they will soon pass from the mission stage into fully developed dioceses, and be subject to the regular ecclesiastical government.

Till now the priests who came here from various countries guided by Providence and vocation, tried to satisfy the most urgent needs. However, if all that has been gained through so many sacrifices is not to be exposed to the danger of disorder and ruin, and if the Church is to grow out of its stripling stage to a healthy, vigorous and active maturity, then above all else priests are needed who combine with their good will the knowledge and qualifications which the peculiar conditions of this country demand. Besides, we need priests more uniformly trained than we have had thus far, so that they may work as a powerful unit under the guidance of the bishop, their God-given leader, for the thorough and manifold cultivation, care and protection of this part of the vineyard of the Lord. Generally, Americans are open to conviction and love the truth. However, because the Church membership has been chiefly immigrant, it has been comparatively easy for the enemies of the Church to deceive them. The enemies take particular

delight in branding our holy faith as politically dangerous. For this reason we think that the interest of the Church demands that an American clergy ought to be trained according to strictly ecclesiastical principles. Were there ever anywhere such populous and extensive dioceses which were obliged to obtain their priests from distant lands? Should not such a condition be considered as abnormal, and therefore unprofitable? Does not history prove that after the Church has been planted and watered anywhere through the sweat and blood of the first missionaries, its priests were taken from among the faithful [natives] themselves, and that if this could not be accomplished, the young plant withered away?

It must be plain to anyone who knows and realizes our conditions that well organized seminaries are the indispensable condition for a successful development of the Church in this country. Until we have a clergy able to meet our conditions in all respects, it cannot be expected, humanly speaking, that the full light of Christian truth will shine on this country, which is favored in so many other ways. How will America ever acquire such a clergy, if not through good American seminaries?

Not seldom you hear the objection that the worldly mind of Americans militates against the erection of seminaries and therefore also against the training of an American clergy. Indeed, this objection does not seem entirely unfounded, if one bears in mind that American seminaries have not come up to expectations. Nevertheless, it is our opinion that the difficulties should not be overestimated and be considered insurmountable. Otherwise, unlike other countries, America would never have the grace of God to enjoy a period of truly Catholic life. To me this is unbelievable. Besides, it should not be difficult to prove that if the seminaries have not met the goal set for them, it was due not only to the worldly spirit of the country but also to defects in the seminaries themselves. As a rule the seminaries had no other objective than to relieve as fast as possible the great scarcity of priests. For this reason and in order to enlarge the number of priests, they endeavored to prepare young men for Holy Orders in the mere essen-

tials. Under these circumstances one could hardly think of a thorough scientific training, although as always, there were striking exceptions. Without a scholarly thoroughness instruction is necessarily mechanical and lifeless and cannot produce anything worthwhile and lasting.

Another drawback may be found in the neglect of the German element of our population as a necessary factor in the development of an American clergy. Though not intentional, this neglect may be attributed to our present conditions. To our knowledge the management of any important seminary over here was never entrusted for any length of time to German priests. This may have been due to the lack of German priests of whom none could be withdrawn from pastoral work. As a result, few young men of German descent entered our seminaries, and yet it is just such young men who, if thoroughly trained, would be fitted best for conditions over here. They can acquire easily and fully the two important languages, German and English, which will be of great effectiveness in the pastoral ministry since a fusion of the languages will never take place or at least only in the distant future. Without fear of being accused of national prejudice, we also maintain that in the steady, thorough, progressive, zealous and persevering German character is to be found the solid, healthy and productive nucleus, needed for the solution of our present conditions, better than in the rest of our Catholic population. These factors and a host of others which we must drop for the present will always in our opinion be considered drawbacks which must be removed if the seminaries are to enjoy a real and fruitful efficiency.

Involuntarily the thought arises, a question we have frequently asked ourselves, will this newly founded seminary not be subjected to the same problem? So far as the consideration and choice of the German element is concerned there will hardly be any difficulty, since we as priests born and educated in Germany, are not only under a German bishop and in charge of the seminary, but also in a diocese predominantly German. It is apparent that German young men are pleased to come to us. In spite of the fact that we made no distinction for registration, 24

of the 32 students listed are of German extraction.

But it is an entirely different question as to whether we shall succeed in giving our seminary in this land of superficiality a truly scientific spirit so needful for the sacred purpose. Naturally we cannot answer this with any degree of certainty because the obstacles are indeed very great. We can say only that we clearly recognize what is to be done in this matter and that with God's help we will not shrink from any labor and sacrifice in order to accomplish the task.

As far as the faculty is concerned we have less choice than in Germany, particularly since we are not in a position to pay a good salary; and yet this is not a great worry since we can always find the necessary men among the German priests of this diocese. For a start there are four professors, who are three German priests and one layman, a Scotchman. This gentleman has an excellent knowledge of the English language and its literature, as well as ability in drawing and painting. Through his critical writings for the St. Louis Leader, the best English Catholic newspaper in these states, he is widely known, and in addition, is dedicating himself to this holy cause with enthusiasm and disinterestedness. In the beginning our teaching will be coupled with many difficulties. On account of the diversity of preparation and languages grading the students is complicated. For this reason we must try our best to bring about more uniformity and thus be able to make successful progress. God grant that within a year we may be able to report some satisfactory results to the governing board.

As far as books are concerned, we have all that is necessary for the present; however we would welcome good textbooks, and good editions of the Latin and Greek classics, as well as texts in history and mathematics. For the future of our library we have good prospects of obtaining a well selected collection of books through the generosity of our Most Rev. Bishop. However, we have no apparatus for teaching the natural sciences, and yet these studies are as necessary here today as everywhere else. Especially over here the knowledge of these sciences is so highly rated that in order to be considered educated one must be well versed

in them. Would that some good friend back home were pleased to provide us with the necessities in this regard. Regarding music we feel that we cannot get along without it entirely, but we shall for reasons important to us hold fast to the principle: rather too little than too much. We shall restrict ourselves to instruction on the piano and in singing, preparation for which has already been made. Moreover, whilst it will be our endeavor to give our young men a good mental training in all the required sciences, it remains self-evident that our primary attention must always be centered upon the development of the spirit in true asceticism through the means supplied by our holy religion. In this way they shall become efficient instruments in the hand of God for the purposes of their high calling.

In conclusion we wish to mention that we are enjoying a great blessing as far as the housekeeping is concerned. Adjoining the seminary land and lying near the lake is the property of a rather unassuming religious community of the Third Order of St. Francis. This community was established here in the year 1849 as a religious colony by two excellent priests from the diocese of Augsburg, the Rev. Pastor Keppeler and his assistant, the Rev. M. Steiger. But the inscrutable ways of God often differ from the plans of men, so it happened with this new foundation. Before it was fully organized and an appropriate field of activity secured for it, both priests died of the cholera and overwork within three days in September 1851. This unfortunate event made it appear as though the entire undertaking would end in complete failure. However, at this very time, the Catholic orphanage for boys was transferred from the city to the neighborhood of the small convent and near it also the new seminary was erected and opened. The good sisters not only take care of and teach the 48 orphan boys but also are in charge of the kitchen and the other housework in our seminary. By this arrangement we not only save much financially but are also assured that everything will be properly taken care of.

Relying on your kind forebearance, we have candidly stated in detail all our anxieties, cares and desires. We have also given our frank opinion concerning the manage-

ment of a seminary. May we therefore hope that the members of the governing board will have sufficient reason to grant us the support we asked for in order to alleviate our burden. What has endured until now and will continue with God's grace, in spite of all the difficulties and inconveniences, is the full consciousness that we do not seek our own glorification in this worthy undertaking. We could have found not only at home but also here a field of activity which would have been more agreeable to our natural inclination and less beset with thorns. But realizing the urgent necessity of a seminary and complying with the repeatedly expressed wishes of the Ordinary of the diocese in whose wise judgment we have full confidence, and disregarding our imperfections, we took this heavy burden upon ourselves in order not to go against God's will. Clothed with this heavy responsibility and with the fear of occasional faint heartedness, due to our meager qualifications, shall it not be permitted to us to cry out again and again: *Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini, qui fecit coelum et terram?*

DOCUMENTS

The Rev. Peter Leo Johnson, D. D.

In this issue four more letters are presented from the correspondence of the Milwaukee diocese with the Ludwig-missionsverein, Munich. Numbers XXXVII, XXXIX were written to the board of directors by Bishop Henni and XXXVIII to the Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Mueller, erstwhile business secretary, by him. Number XL was addressed to the board by the Rev. Michael Heiss, rector of the seminary.

The letters have been translated from photostatic copies by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breig, D. D., librarian at St. Francis Seminary. For details concerning the photostats the reader is referred to the *Salesianum*, January 1942.

It is believed that letters XXXVII and XXXVIII are notes written by Bishop Henni to accompany letters XXXVI (*Sal.*, Jan. 1945) and XL.

The following items may help to interpret the letters. English Ladies is a popular name for the nuns of the Institute of Mary. The Institute regards Mary Ward, an English woman, as its foundress. The sisters date from the seventeenth century and have been associated with Munich (Nymphenburg) since then except for a brief intermission in the time of Napoleon. The German School Sisters are the well known Notre Dame Sisters, Milwaukee. The Rev. Mathias Gernbauer entered the Milwaukee diocese from Austria as a theologian in the fall of 1847. He was ordained to the priesthood July 25, 1849. He acted as procurator for about one year. Later on he returned to teach the classics at the seminary, beginning in 1862 and ending with his death here in 1876. In the following lines there is a slightly altered version of a part of his epitaph: *Ipse pauper, stipibus collectis, oratorium sylvestre B. V. M. aedificavit et viam crucis erexit.*

XXXVII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, February 28, 1856.

With sentiments of profound respect and gratitude I herewith submit a report concerning my seminary to the members of the governing board of the Ludwigs-Society.

Since I am convinced that the life and more perfect development of our holy Church in these parts of North America depend on the success of this seminary, the members of the governing board will not take amiss, if I beg of them again to grant kindly the request made in this report.

With the assurance of my prayers at the altar and my lasting gratitude. . . .

XXXVIII

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, January 10, 1857.

Enclosed please find a report concerning the diocese of Milwaukee and its seminary which is progressing very well under the guidance of its excellent rector, the Rev. Heiss. The 1500 florins granted to the seminary I have at once transmitted to that place.

Soon after the receipt of your letter I myself said the holy Mass according to the indicated intention. On the same day the Revs. Heiss and Rehrl at my request said holy Mass according to the same intention.

XXXIX

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Milwaukee, January 10, 1857.

By this letter I wish to express my deepest gratitude for the gift of 1500 florins granted in the past year in favor of my clerical seminary, the principals of which have my full confidence. A short report on the promising progress of the seminary and the diocese in general is enclosed.

Since the most necessary churches are nearly all built,

my solicitude is now concerned about schools. With joy would I greet the arrival of a colony of the English Ladies from the motherhouse near Munich. I have already selected a suitable place for them. I would like to recommend this matter very urgently to the members of the governing board with the request to support this important undertaking as soon as it is feasible.

XL

[FROM THE GERMAN]

Nojoshing, near Milwaukee,

Septuagesima Sunday [Feb. 8], 1857.

At the request of the Most Reverend Bishop of Milwaukee the writer respectfully begs to submit to the members of the governing board the following report on the Milwaukee diocese in general and on the diocesan seminary, called the Salesianum, in particular.

As previously, the diocese of Milwaukee embraces the extensive territory of the state of Wisconsin. Because the population of the state grows constantly and rapidly each year, the bishop's foresight and care must furnish the essentials, at the least, for the ever-increasing needs of the Catholics here. The Catholic population is about 130,000. A contrast between 1856 and 1857, based on statistics, will demonstrate clearly how much has to be done everywhere to satisfy religious needs.

At the beginning of 1856 the diocese had 128 churches and chapels, but at present it has 151, which indicates that 23 churches and chapels were built in a single year. Besides, 46 churches and chapels are being built. There are also 53 mission stations, that is, places where there is no church building but where one must be built soon. To be sure there is great variety in the size and style of the churches and chapels. In the beginning of a settlement people are satisfied with any decent place which has been arranged for divine worship. Older settlements, including the rural, very soon build better churches, though indeed the finest ones are built in cities or towns. For example, German Catholics of Milwaukee built a third church for themselves last summer.

This is St. Joseph's, which is second only to the cathedral in size. If it were finished inside, it would be rated as spacious and beautiful in our homeland of Bavaria. This recent and zealous congregation is mainly Bavarian from Pfalz-Regensburg. They have always been so loyal to our holy faith that for years we have been in the habit of referring to them as "the good Bavarians on the Hilltop." Likewise the number of priests increased from 81 to 96, but in spite of this, many parishes, desiring a resident pastor, were obliged to trust in future developments.

Among the religious communities which have settled in the diocese the German School Sisters might be mentioned. Their motherhouse is in Milwaukee. By their charitable action here and in other dioceses they already have earned great merit. Lately they sent ten sisters to far distant New Orleans. Here in the past year they added two new places to their other charges. There is still a vast field of activity open to this community which squares so well with local conditions. This is true because Catholic elementary schools are an urgent necessity in all parishes and because this need can be satisfied solely by the work of such a community.

Regarding the diocesan seminary, first of all, in the name of the Most Reverend Bishop and the priests who have charge of it, the writer expresses profound gratitude to the members of the governing board for the 1500 florins, this year's contribution to the institution. Because the seminary building, now under roof and nearly half finished inside, includes enough room, if completed, to accommodate 120 students, it could not be constructed without heavy expenses, and so even now the land and building carry a debt of 25,000 florins. Besides, 10,000 florins more are needed to complete everything, including the indispensable chapel. How to pay this huge debt would frighten us indeed, if the priests and people of the diocese would fail to continue their active support, and also if we might not look again hopefully to the old homeland for help in such a sacred undertaking. Daily we become more convinced that hope for the future of our holy faith in this country depends on the establishment of well organized seminaries. Should we

therefore not hope that God will enable us with the generosity of our coreligionists to place the seminary on a solid basis as a guarantee of its future blessed activity, especially since it has overcome the initial problems? Doubtless, we may once more respectfully ask the members of the governing board to allot a subsidy for the current year to the diocesan seminary, the Salesianum. Indeed, the Most Reverend Bishop will testify that the priests entrusted with the guidance of the seminary conscientiously expend every gift offered for this holy purpose. The complete unselfishness of all those who are engaged in this sacred task assures the writer ever of renewed courage and hope that God's blessing cannot be wanting to it.

At present there are forty students here. Prior to coming here fifteen of them had made their studies elsewhere. After one year in philosophy here, they were admitted to theology at the beginning of this month. The seminary observed the feast-day of its patron, St. Francis de Sales, January 29, the date on which a year ago it was opened for the first time. According to the program, a week before the feast-day the candidates for theology satisfactorily passed a test (*examen rigorosum*) in the preparatory branches in the presence of the Bishop, then a three-day retreat was held for them, and finally on the patronal day, they received Tonsure. They are diligent and willing, and for the most part, talented. The preparatory studies could be better, but they were sufficient, after a careful examination, to admit the students into theology. As far as we are concerned, nothing will be neglected to provide our seminarians with a thorough course in theology. In starting the seminary our aim was to inaugurate, with the help of God, a basic clerical education, and one which is adequate for our conditions. We are fully aware that because of this objective, a heavy burden rests on our shoulders. May God give us the strength and perseverance to contribute at least a part of the total which shall be accomplished here.

The seminary faculty is the same as last year. Besides myself, the Rev. Dr. Salzmann, the Rev. Rehrl and Mr. Dorward [Durward] attend to the teaching and discipline, and the Rev. Gernbauer acts as procurator and collector

of alms. Three Brothers of the Third Order of St. Francis tend the temporalities for us. Sisters from the nearby convent of St. Francis continue to look after the seminary housekeeping, kitchen and laundry. The convent was established in 1849-1850 by two priests of the Augsburg diocese, the Revs. Keppeler and Steiger, both of blessed memory. Near the convent there is an orphanage for boys in the charge of the sisters, wherein there are always from forty to fifty children.

May I also mention that the seminary makes it possible for the diocesan priests to have a yearly retreat here. In the vacation of last summer two retreats of seven days each were conducted by two Jesuit Fathers from St. Louis, the first being for English-speaking priests only, and the other for the German-speaking ones. The seminary is fitted admirably to serve this purpose because of its location on the shore of the vast Lake Michigan, about five miles from the city, and because of its ever increasing accommodations in properly finished rooms.

With a consoling confidence that the governing board may kindly accept this slight expression of our gratitude, and graciously remember our sacred undertaking. . . .