

The Catholic Journal.

VOL., II NO. 19.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1891.

PRICE, 3 CENTS.

GOLDEN JUBILEE.

**Mother Hieronymo, the Servant of God,
Fifty Years a Professed Nun.**

February 14th She Will Have Been Half
A Century in the Religious Life—
What She Has Done Here and Else-
where on Her Various Missions—De-
scription of the Handsome Home of
Industry.

Norfolk, W. Va., and in 1856 went to Buffalo, where she did great work nursing and ministering to the victims of the ship fever. She came to Rochester in 1857, and on September 8th opened what is now St. Mary's Hospital. It was then a poor little log cabin with two rooms. One apartment was occupied by Mother Hieronymo and the two Sisters who shared her labors, the other was given up to the patients. Here she ministered to many cases of that dread disease, typhoid fever. When the war broke

becoming useful members of society and at the same time practical Catholics. And here, too, young women from the country who were working in the city could find a home, in which they would be under Christian guidance and supervision.

The Home was opened in a dwelling on Edinburg street, behind what is now the school of the Immaculate Conception church, and where in time a convent will be fitted up for the teaching Sisters of that church.

In 1874 the Home was removed to South St. Paul street. Here the laundry and bakery were opened and other industries started.

THE HOME OF INDUSTRY.

In 1888 the present handsome edifice of the Home of Industry on East Main street was completed. W. Foster Kelly was the architect, and designed a place worth of his genius. The building is in Romanesque style, four stories high, fronting 70 feet on East Main street and 45 feet on Prince street. The basement is ten feet in height, the first above eleven feet, the second ten and the third the same. The first story above ground is rock-faced dressed stone. The main entrance is of cut stone, with a large and spacious vestibule.

The first floor is given up to the "domestic economy" kitchen. Here those who wish are taught how to sew, cook, bake, and all the other accomplishments of inestimable value to a housewife.

One of the most interesting features which presented itself to the JOURNAL representative was the "laundry." This is equipped with all the modern improvements, including a patent washing machine, in which the clothes are washed, blued and rinsed without removal; a centrifugal "wringer," which turns out clothes far dryer than the ordinary house wringer; a mangle operated by machinery and heated by gas, etc. A large amount of family laundry is done at the Home, which sends out a wagon every day to collect and deliver work. Those who wish to help the Home can do so by sending their laundry there. They will find as good work done as anywhere and just as good a gloss on starched work. One advantage they will have. There are no chemicals used in the laundry at the Home.

Another interesting room is that where are the sewing machines. Six of these are kept in constant operation by as many girls; a girl but young in years acts as cutter. In this department are turned out a great number of jumpers and blouses for a large wholesale house.

All the machinery is operated by electricity furnished by a 25-horse power motor.

The second floor is given up to general apartments, the community room and sleeping rooms. The third floor is also devoted to rooms or dormitories.

THE LACE WORKERS.

On the second floor is one room, however, that is of more than ordinary interest. Entering, your eye falls upon a number of little girls, each with a sort of cushion upon her lap. On the cushion is what looks like crochet work. But where is the needle? A closer observation reveals the fact that each girl is working in left way with either hand a number of what look like sewing machine bobbins. Now you see your mistake. These little ones are learning to be lace makers. Their instructors are genuine lace makers from Grammont Belgium, Madame De Bloch and Mlle. Bawmiers. The newspaper man was shown several specimens of the work done. It included Duchess, Brussels applique, handkerchiefs in Point Duch-

ess, gauze mixed with Duchess, and pure gauze (all the handkerchiefs were worked with a common sewing needle). Madame De Bloch then exhibited some of her own work, so beautiful that it is impossible to do it justice in a newspaper sketch.

In the near future we will invite our readers to an exhibition of the work done here.



RT. REV. B. J. McQUAID.

Mother Hieronymo has an employment bureau at the Home, and ladies suffering from poor help would do well to apply to her. No fee is charged girls applying for situations. All girls who are sent out from the institution to take places have been taught how to govern themselves, so that the little contradictions they meet with in the discharge of their duties may be smoothed over and made bearable by self-control. This fact militates much with ladies who desire competent help who are not seeking to run the business of their employers. Young ladies who are delicate and to whom a sedentary life would be injurious, are sent out to learn the millinery trade, or to become saleswomen. The bakery connected with the Home enables, by the sale of bread, to pay for that consumed in the institution.

There is also a school at the Home, where the children are taught all the ordinary branches of an English education, as well as music. A night school is also conducted, which is well attended.

All applicants in this department must come well recommended by the pastor of their parish. The rules are none other than those governing a good father's or mother's home. They are required to be in the house every evening at 9:30 o'clock and the lights extinguished at 10, excepting those who are engaged in stores and who are obliged to remain later Saturday evenings. The accommodations for the boarding house are very pleasant; their sleeping apartments are well lighted, ventilated and heated; their dining room is a cheerful room separate from that occupied by the regular inmates; they have a large room for the purpose of assembling in the evening for amusement, reading, music and games, but all must be conducted in a decorous manner. Here we take the liberty to suggest to persons who have books which they have read and for which they have no further use, that they will do an act of charity by donating them to the incipient library. No religious discussions are allowed in the house, as women are not supposed to be theologians, and such conversations are calculated to breed uncharitableness and discord. Reasonable questions or inquiries are always politely and cheerfully answered.

At the table they are always allowed to hold conversation in a low, modest manner. No loud, boisterous laughing or screaming is permitted, and the inmates pass through the house in a ladylike manner. The good Sisters on all occasions take pains to give the girls lessons in etiquette.

At present there 95 inmates in the Home, inclusive of boarders, and a thoroughly happy family they are, too.

MOTHER HIERONYMO'S NEEDS.

Now we come to the practical part of our article. Mother Hieronymo has labored long and zealously among us. She has provided this noble institution and brought it to the high state of perfection it now enjoys. But to do this she has been compelled to rely upon the goodness of God and the generous contributions of friends. Both have been vouchsafed to her in



VERY REV. MGR. DREGGE.

THE BOARDERS.

Mother Hieronymo always has under her charge as boarders a number of young ladies who come to this city for employment, and whose parents would not allow them to remain were they not under the protecting roof of the Home. These young ladies find employment as copyists, stenographers, milliners, tailoresses and dress-makers. They remain at the Home until the busy season is over, and then return to their own homes. The board charged is \$2 per week.

large measure, and she is very grateful to all who have so nobly assisted her, but there still remains a debt of \$11,000 upon building and lot. The Home is self-sustaining. The interest upon this and that upon the mortgage of \$8,000, still remaining upon the St. Paul street property, is a heavy drag upon the not over large income of the Home.

What more fitting acknowledgment could be made by those who are indebted so much to Mother Hieronymo than by their generous contributions. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.]

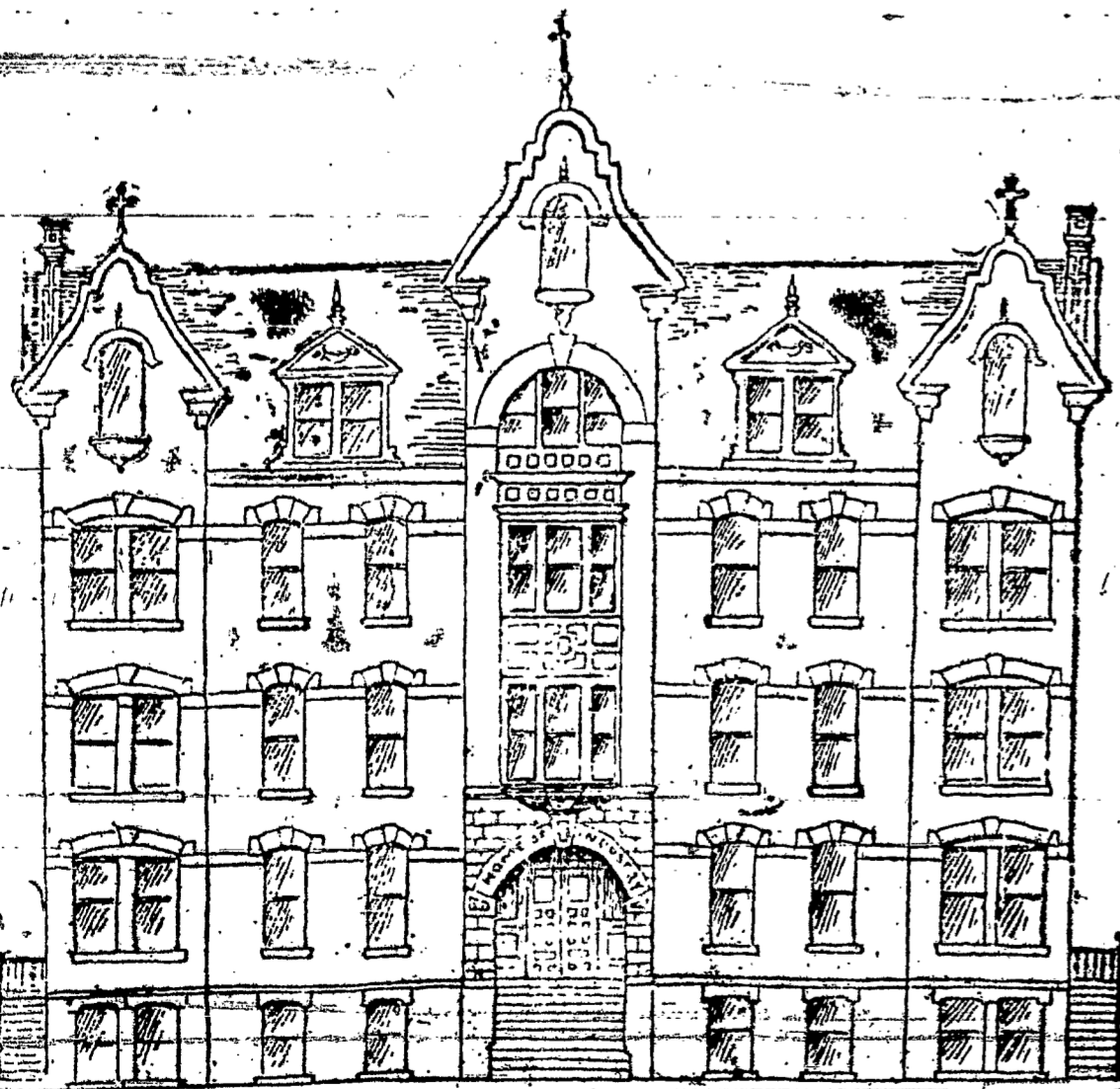


Mother Hieronymo! What Catholic or non-Catholic in this vicinity—and for that matter in towns far distant—hears that name without a feeling of love and respect. So long has she labored in our midst that she is like a milestone along the way. Were she removed it would seem an old familiar landmark had disappeared—one whose place it would be difficult to supply. Many a young girl—now grown older in years—can look back to days spent under the watchful care of Mother Hieronymo, and thank God they were privileged to enjoy her friendship and motherly care. And may she be spared yet many years to continue her good work, we are sure is the earnest prayer of every one who reads this article.

out the hospital quarters were enlarged. The story of the work done at St. Mary's by the good Sisters during the great Rebellion would of itself make an article far too extended for present space. Suffice to say that the number of soldiers who treasure up the kind offices of Mother Hieronymo, runs up into the thousands, and that 700 soldiers were in the hospital at one time.

In 1865 the present St. Mary's hospital was completed.

In 1870 Mother Hieronymo was dispatched on a mission to New Orleans and returned to Rochester the following year, taking up her abode at Nazareth Convent. Shortly after she was appointed Superior of St. Patrick's girls' orphan asylum, and



SKETCH OF HER LIFE.

Mother Hieronymo was born April 19, 1819, in Maryland. She felt drawn by Divine Providence toward the religious life, and in 1841 entered the Convent of the Sisters of Charity in Emmetsburg. Her first mission was in Pittsburg, on the feast of St. Francis Xavier, December 3, 1843. Afterward she served a mission at

remained there until 1873. But her heart was bleeding at the sight of so many unemployed girls on the street, and in June, 1873, she conceived the idea of establishing a Home of Industry, where young girls could be taught the various arts and accomplishments that enter into practical housekeeping and go to make up a complete domestic economist, thereby