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## DEATH OF FATHER KIERNAN.

### Rochester's Vicar General Passes Away

Very Rev. James P. Kiernan, rector of St. Mary's church and vicar general of the diocese of Rochester, died at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at St. Mary's hospital. Last week Tuesday he was taken ill and the physicians feared he was threatened with pneumonia. He was removed to the hospital where the disease developed with astonishing rapidity. Other complications set in and on Saturday the priest's condition was regarded as extremely precarious. Sunday morning he was much improved, so much so in fact that the ceremony of Forty Hours' devotion was begun and was to have ended Wednesday morning. In the afternoon Father Kiernan was still improving and at 6 o'clock a message was sent to Rev. Thomas F. Connors, assistant rector of St. Mary's, that the rector was practically out of danger and he was delighted to be able to give the good news at the services Sunday evening. An hour later another message was received stating that there had been a sudden change for the worse and that the beloved priest had just breathed his last.

James Patrick Kiernan was born in the town of Ogden, Monroe county, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1855. He was the son of John and Loretta Brennan Kiernan, and was the youngest of four children. His father was a farmer, and during the summer time and vacations farm work engaged the spare time of the young student. His early schooling was obtained in the district school at Ogden and the Union school at Spencerport. Mr. Kiernan early evinced a desire to become a priest, and after his graduation at the latter institution, he came to this city and entered St. Andrew's Seminary on Vought street near the bishop's residence, and began his classical studies, which he pursued for the next four years. He then matriculated at St. Joseph's Provincial Seminary at Troy, N. Y., where he continued his studies for four years longer. During his course at Troy he received the minor orders, that of sub-deaconship in December, 1881, and that of deaconship at Trinity, 1882. On July 9, 1882, the young priest was ordained by Bishop McQuaid in St. Patrick's cathedral in this city. A few days later, July 20, 1882, Father Kiernan was appointed assistant to Father O'Hare, who was then rector of the cathedral. This position he held until March 9, 1886, the date of Father O'Hare's appointment to the rectorship of Immaculate Conception church, when Father Kiernan was promoted to the rectorship of the cathedral. After his assumption of his duties as assistant rector, Father Kiernan had charge of the Cathedral parochial school, although Father O'Hare retained chief supervision while he was rector. School work always had great interest for Father Kiernan, and it is to his enthusiasm and energy that is mostly due the prosperity and prominence now enjoyed by the cathedral school. At the synod of 1885 he was appointed a member of the diocesan school board. It was due to his efforts that the regents' examinations were secured for the children of the Catholic schools of the city, for he was instrumental in obtaining for Nazareth Academy a charter from the University of the State of New York. Under this charter the Catholic students are examined in the regents' studies, and the charter also allows the examinations to be given in the Cathedral school. For the legal part of the work Father Kiernan held the position of principal of Nazareth Academy. In the fall of 1882 Father Kiernan was appointed secretary and treasurer of the Holy Sepulchre cemetery, which office he occupied to the great satisfaction of his bishop and the Catholic worshippers of the city to the time of his death. After a twelve year's pastorate at St. Patrick's cathedral Father Kiernan was appointed February 1, 1898, as pastor of St. Mary's church, where he was still serving at the time of his death.

In August of the same year he was appointed vicar general of the Rochester diocese, a position next in importance to that of bishop. Father Kiernan is survived by his sister, Mrs. Morgan, and by a nephew, Rev. Father William H. Morgan of San Francisco.

The funeral services over the late Rev. James P. Kiernan, vicar general of the Catholic diocese of Rochester, Wednesday morning attracted a multitude that filled St. Mary's church to overflowing and blocked up South street in the vicinity of the church. City and county officials and prominent business men touched elbow with the humblest citizen, all came to pay a last tribute to the man who was recognized as one of nature's noblemen and a Christian whose life and work were not bounded by sectarian lines.

**IMPRESSIVE SERVICES.**  
The services were vested with all solemnity and impressiveness and powerfully affected the large crowd. The venerable bishop, who celebrated the solemn pontifical requiem mass, felt unequal to the task of preaching the eulogy of the captain who had fought so long and well the battle of Christianity under his command, and to Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, rector of the Cathedral, was assigned the sad task. Bishop McQuaid was assisted by Father M. J. Lavelle of St. Patrick's cathedral in New York and Dr. J. J. Harley of St. Bernard's seminary, and Father T. C. Murphy of Holy Apostles' church acted as deacons of honor. Rev. D. Laurensius was deacon of the mass and Rev. Thomas Connors subdeacon. Monsignor Hoppolyte de Rasse was master of ceremonies and Rev. Dr. Meschan, second master. Among the many clergymen in attendance were Bishops Ludden of Syracuse, Quigley of Buffalo and Burke of St. Joseph, Mo. Professor Eugene Bonn presided over the combined choir of St. Patrick's cathedral and St. Mary's church. Rev. Drs. Gefell and Nolan, in their capacity of chanters, led the singing of the Gregorian or plain chant. The front seats of the church were occupied by clergymen from this and other dioceses. Among the Catholic organizations represented were the Knights of Columbus, Cathedral School association, C. M. B. A. and A. O. H. St. Patrick's cathedral sent a delegation consisting of Thomas Devine, William C. Barry, Dr. Richard D. Curran and D. B. Murphy.

#### LIST OF MOURNERS.

These prelates and priests also assisted in the obsequies:  
Rev. James Quigley, Buffalo; Rt. Rev. Bishop P. A. Ludden, Syracuse; Rt. Rev. Bishop Burke, St. Joseph, Missouri; Monsignor Kennedy, Syracuse; Rev. M. J. Lavelle, rector of the New York cathedral; Rev. Rev. J. S. M. Lynch, Utica; Very Rev. M. P. Connors, vicar general of the diocese of Buffalo; Revs. Ludlow E. Lapham, St. Bernard's; E. J. Hanna, D. D., St. Bernard's; Owen McGuire, D. D., St. Bernard's; A. B. Meenan, D. D., St. Bernard's; J. Hartley, St. Bernard's; F. C. Curtis, St. Bernard's; D. J. Bustin, St. Bernard's; John Sheridan, St. Bernard's; M. J. Ryan, St. Bernard's; J. J. Quinn, St. Bernard's; Very Rev. J. S. Lynch, Utica; Revs. J. T. Dougherty, Danville; J. M. Kelley, Ithaca; John Nelligan, Union Springs; H. Hyland, Syracuse; George Steinmiller, Wayland; John Boppo, Cohocton; Father May, St. Louis; J. J. Donnelly, Victor; J. Rosbach, C. J. Albert, M. J. S. R. of St. Joseph's church, Rochester; Revs. A. A. Notebaert, T. F. Hickey, M. J. Nolan, E. J. Gefell, W. P. Ryan, O. P. Farron, C. V. Fisher, G. V. Burns, A. M. O'Neill, William Gleeson, T. C. Murphy, J. J. Leahy, J. P. Brophy, D. Laurensius, S. Engberth, J. G. Van Ness, F. Scheid, Frederic Rauber, T. L. Rossiter, J. P. Hopkins, T. A. Hendrick, B. W. Gellhorn, M. J. Hargather, J. P. Schmitt, F. Oberholzer, M. R. Knappe, Netzel, L. Schwable, C. S. R., Rochester; William Slavia, Whitesboro; W. A. Ryan, Utica; J. F. Farrell, Hornellsville; P. A. Neville, W. Bloomfield; Dennis J. Curran, Avon; D. Bustin, Wilkesbarre; C. O'Byrne, Buffalo; John Casey, Rexville; John Darcey, Addison; J. J. Bloomer, Elmira; J. A. Hickey, Genesee; Luke J. Evans, New York; F. J. Lamb, S. J., New York; D. J. Ryan, Bergen; Dennis English, Canandaigua; M. Hendrick, Penn Yan; Very Rev. Dean W. McDonald, M. R. Geneva; Revs. M. J. Garvey, Livonia; George J. Eisler, Caledonia; Felix O'Hanlon, Clifton Springs; W. H. Harrington, Waterloo; A. B. Breen, St. Bernard's; M. A. F. Holmes, Macedon; John F. Mullane, Syracuse; J. H. Day, Mt. Morris; M. Kirschel, Danville; E. Rawlinson, Rochester; M. Wette, New Orleans; Joseph Miller, Webster; Very Rev. J. J. Swift, V. G., Troy; Revs. L. Hoffmeyer, city; F. A. Gilmore, Buffalo; D. McMahon, D. D., New York; F. Naughton, Waverley; M. T. Madden, Trumansburg; B. F. Schauer, C. S. R., Buffalo; W. J. McNab, Medina; Very Rev. P. Mahle, Niagara university; Revs. J. L. Cadyne, Fairport; T. F. Lynch, Brooklyn; F. Sullivan, Albion; R. J. Story, Brookport; J. B. Hartley, Palmyra; H. B. Milde, Middleport; M. Baker, D. J. Walsh, John Beiden, J. McGrath, J. Martin, Buffalo; J. A. Stafford, Seton Hall college; William Maher, Hartford; J. Guadagni, Fort Wayne; J. J. O'Connor, Newark; D. W. Kavanaugh, Lyons; J. F. Staub, Greece; M. J. Clune, Syracuse.  
The active bearers, Revs. Luke Evers of New York, D. A. Curtin, of West Albany, W. A. Ryan, of Utica, J. J. Ruby, of Cato, J. J. Gleason, of Clyde, and J. A. Hickey, of Genesee, then tenderly lifted the coffin and bore it down the center aisle while the large congregation knelt in prayer. The honorary bearers were the trustees of St. Mary's church, Edward Keenan, F. M. Talling, Edward Maher, W. J. Reid, John Stone, Patrick Cooper, Thomas P. Loughney, Michael McAnally, Charles Shell, Charles J. Chism, John Courneen, James Kennedy.  
The combined chorus of St. Mary's and the Cathedral sang a Gregorian mass of requiem. Before the services began Mrs. Kathryn C. Mahon sang "A Message from the Sacred Heart" and as the casket was borne down the aisle Miss Fannie Moran sang.

#### FATHER HICKEY'S EULOGY.

Father Hickey's sermon was a fitting tribute to the character of the dead priest.



REV. JAMES P. KIERNAN, V. G.

"Today the scriptural words 'Dust thou art and unto dust thou shalt return,' are given an added and forcible emphasis. It is no ordinary mortal who has been stricken down. The ranks of the royal priesthood have been invaded by the angel of death; the light on the candlestick has been extinguished, the anointed of the Lord has been called away. Today we are gathered silently and mournfully to pay our last tribute. We miss his well known voice. Clad in his sacerdotal robes he lies there cold and still.

"Today do we realize better than ever before that God's ways are not the ways of men. In our human understanding we can see how many others could be better spared. I do not doubt that the expression has gone forth from hundreds of hearts that they would gladly exchange places with him could he have been spared. But God has called his faithful servant and not until the last day when all things will be made plain, will the reason for this be known.

"Today the pall of sorrow hangs over this city. Go where you will the signs of sorrow are visible on every face. The municipality has lost an honored citizen. Education in its highest and best sense has lost a noble champion. The poor have lost a constant friend and protector. The sorrowing have lost a comforter and consoler. This parish has lost a devoted and zealous pastor. The priesthood has lost an ideal, a magnificent character.

"It has been my privilege to know Father Kiernan nearly 26 years. First we met in the preparatory seminary where, while yet a lad, he had that staunch and noble character he bore to the grave. When we were boys together, he was always known as the 'model boy.' Ever since he felt that God had called him to be a priest one trait in his character was marked and that was fidelity. By his fidelity to his trust he earned the confidence of his superiors, the esteem, respect and affection of his fellow-citizens. From that eventful day when he knelt before his bishop and was ordained he was a true priest.

**A TRUE PRIEST.**  
"What is it to be a true priest? It is to be another Christ. What was He? He was the priest of mankind. He saved the sinners. He reclaimed the fallen. That Father Kiernan was such a priest I need not tell you. Was he a preacher? Aye, his whole life was a sermon, an open book that his brother priests, his flock and the little children could read with profit. Did he save sinners? Ask the thousands who have knelt at his knee with laden heart and heavy conscience, of the healing balm he poured into their open wounds. Did he offer up sacrifice? Day after day he offered up the august sacrifice of the mass for the benefit of poor sinful mankind. All his life was like his Master's. The night before he was taken ill, he went to attend a dying man. The very morning he was taken to the hospital, while disease was then racking his frame, he knelt to the altar to offer up the mass like his Master. Was he obedient? Ask his bishop who watched him 35 years as boy, as student, priest and vicar general. If his heart permitted he would tell you of his own personal loss. He would also tell you that never for a moment was our dear brother aught but the ideal priest? Did he, like the Master, love little children? Ask the thousands who have attended the Cathedral and St. Mary's schools. He example taught them to love and respect all their priests.

"We are about to say farewell today to his mortal body. We will soon bear his remains gently to their last resting place where they will be placed with those of his brother priests beside the chapel where he so often prayed for the souls of others.

**LESSON FOR THE LIVING.**  
"My friends, this occasion is not without a lesson for us all. My brother priests, we have his life before us as a model. If we are called upon to make sacrifices let

the principal streets. The funeral procession consumed 40 minutes in passing a given point. Hundreds of people went to the cemetery in street cars, the entire body of pupils from St. Mary's school attending the services at the grave. Expressions of sorrow at the untimely death of the good priest were heard on all sides and from all classes of people. The scene at the grave was particularly striking. As the aged bishop pronounced the final absolution, many of the fellow priests and the parishioners of the deceased sobbed aloud, and the venerable prelate, who feels keenly the loss of his able assistant, was unable to conceal his emotion.

#### IN MEMORIAM

It was with deepest sorrow and sympathy that we, the members of the Cathedral choir, received the sad news of the death of Very Rev. Jas. P. Kiernan, Vicar General of the diocese of Rochester, and former rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

As rector of the Cathedral, Father Kiernan was for 12 years the spiritual adviser of our society. His wise and fatherly counsel, his kind words of encouragement in the cause of ecclesiastical music shall ever be gratefully remembered. Now often, whenever he chanced to meet with us, would he not turn the conversation to music; encourage us in our work; congratulate us in our success; and stimulate us to greater efforts in a week he is dearly loved; The memory of his firm stand against everything wrong or unjust, his kindness and consideration; and above all, his edifying example of a daily life shall live with us forever. By his death we have lost a loyal friend, a true champion and a staunch supporter. Wherefore, be it

Resolved, That we be represented at his funeral by a delegation of eight of our number, and that we have offered up for his eternal welfare a high mass of requiem.

And, Oh!  
"May He who halloweth the place  
Where man is laid,  
Receive thy spirit in the embrace  
For which it prayed."

Eugene J. Sackett, Marie F. O'Laughlin, Agnes Newman, Dennis G. Kavanagh, Committee.

Rev. J. P. Kiernan's Recent Picture.  
Photographs of the late Rev. James P. Kiernan, which were taken three weeks prior to his death, can be bought at Mook's studio, Liberty building. They are the best likenesses of Father Kiernan ever made heretofore.

**Fine Wedding Invitations.**  
Invitations at this office at reasonable prices. Call and see them.

#### FATHER KIERNAN'S PICTURES.

Those of our subscribers who have not as yet secured one of the elegant photographs of the late Father Kiernan, can procure one, or more if desired, at the extremely low price of 50 cents, by calling at this office any time during the next week.

A non-Catholic, the late Madison H. Dickinson, bequeathed the sum of \$5,000 to St. Mary's hospital. Father Kiernan.

The date for the consecration of the new Catholic cathedral in London is fixed for the Feast of St. Peter and Paul, 1901.

According to the Australasian Catholic directory the total Catholic population of the Colony of New Zealand is over 33,000 and the number of priests 116. There are 213 churches and 141 schools attended by about 11,600 pupils.

Rev. Xavier Sutton, a Passionist, will conduct a mission for non-Catholics in Our Mother of Sorrows Church, Philadelphia, the mission to open Sunday, April 22nd. Only a few weeks ago a remarkably successful mission was held there for the Catholic congregation.

#### PUBLIC RECEPTION.

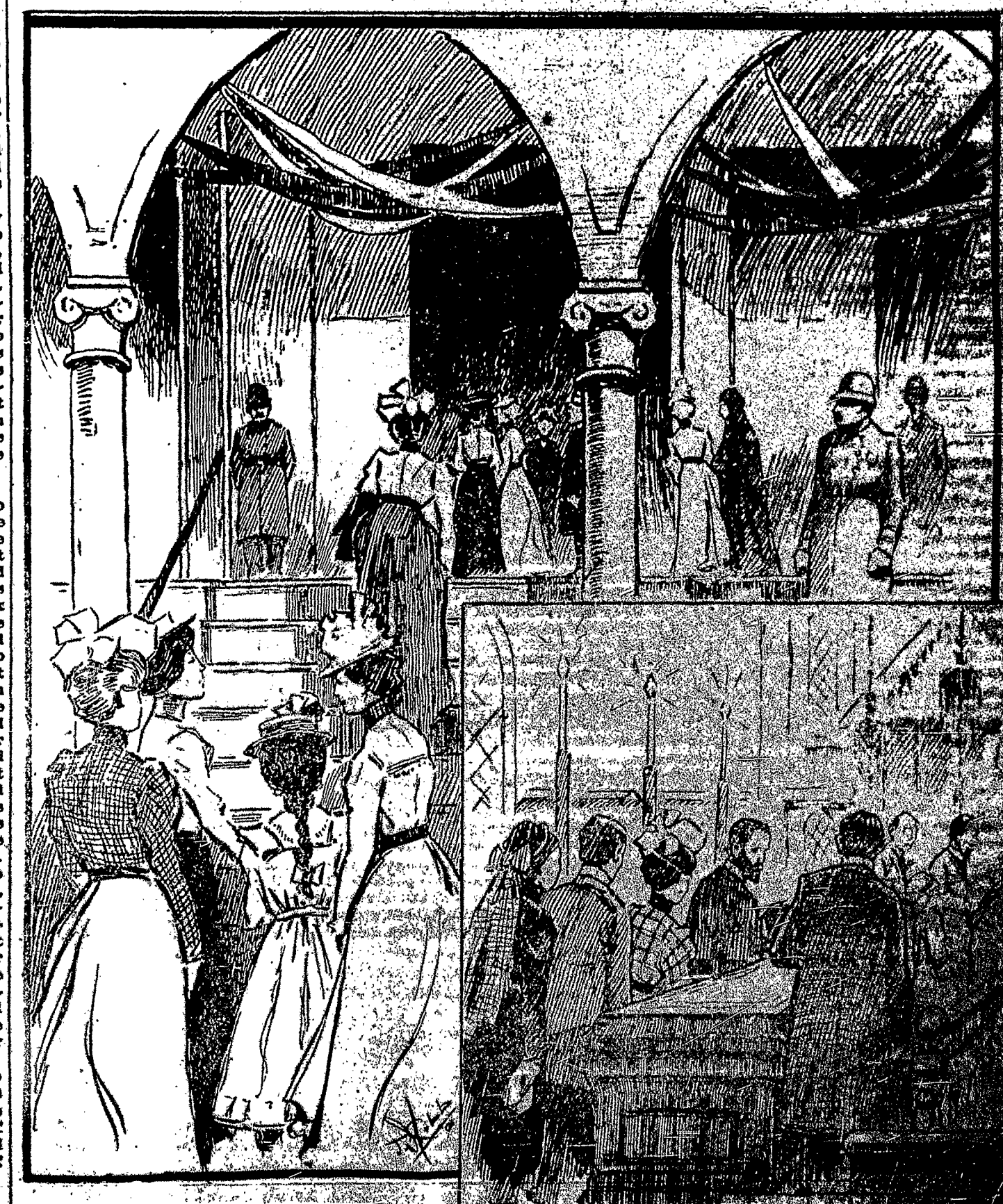
An innovation introduced at the reception of the religious habit by the Brothers of the Christian Schools recently, was the admission of the friends and relatives of the young nuptials to witness the ceremony. The following are the names of the new Brothers: Raphael A. Patterson, Watertown, N. Y.; Brother Barnaby, Matthew J. Donahue, New York City; Brother Anthony-Cyril, John J. Bels, New York City; Brother Basilian-Joseph, Anthony, Brother Wrath, New York City; Brother Aloysius, Louis J. Kishner, New York City; Brother Bonitus-Ignatius, James F. Maher, New York City; Brother Andrew-Gabriel, Joseph J. Bennett, Portland, Me.; Brother Alexander-Edward, William H. Hubbard, Cleveland, O.; Brother Alphonsus-Edwin, David Roberts, Burlington, Vt.; Brother Alban, James J. Satter, Providence, R. I.; Brother Alban-Warwick, R. L. Brother Alban-Warwick. The reception took place at the Amawalk novitiate.

#### CLERGYMEN DEPARTED.

Rev. Francis X. Frenzel, formerly in the diocese of Cleveland, died recently in New York city of consumption of the throat.

St. Rev. Mr. Thomas R. Moran, vicar-general of the diocese of Trenton, N. J., and rector of St. Patrick's church in Princeton, N. J. died at his home there last week from pneumonia. He was 64 years old. He was born in Dublin, was educated for the priesthood at Rome.

Rev. William M. Bartlett, rector of St. Ann's church in Baltimore, and one of the best known priests in Maryland, died recently of Bright's disease. He was born in Baltimore in 1814. His parents were Quakers. They lived opposite St. Ignace church, and when son, through friends, his mind was in the habit of attending services. He eventually embraced the faith and became a priest. He made several trips to Europe. He had auditions with Pope Pius IX., and also with Pope Leo XIII.



Scenes at the Church with the Body.