

ceived by the Holy Father, Pope Gregory XVI., who gave him and his efforts his benediction, placing the young congregation under Mgr. Boussen, then Bishop of Bruges, as its protector. Under the paternal protection of this saintly bishop and his illustrious successors, the rising Congregation, after passing through various hard and bitter struggles, that emanated from sources whence they were least expected, has, at last, triumphed over the past difficulties and is now on the most firm footing with every fair prospect before it. He began the institution of the Congregation at Bruges, Belgium, June 5, 1839, after which several young men came to join the Congregation, and on the 22d of October, 1846, he, with twelve young brothers, made their profession, taking himself the name of Bro. Francis Xavier, after the great apostle of the Indies, who was chosen patron of the Congregation. After making his profession Bro. Francis immediately opened, in Bruges, St. Xavier's Institute, an Institution for day scholars and boarders, which, at the present time is the most flourishing school in the city. Since then several more schools were established by the Brothers in Bruges as well as in others cities of Belgium.

In 1848 Bro. Francis set out for England, where he planted the first branch of the Congregation. That branch has been steadily growing, and they now conduct several flourishing educational establishments, in London, Manchester, Mayfield, Preston, &c.