

MARSHLANDS.

On October 24, 1836, the institution was removed to its present site, and upon the death of Sister Petronilla, the superioress in August, 1843, Sister Gonzaga succeeded to its management and remained in charge until October, 1844. Here she went on with her good work, placid and calm in the midst of the turbulent waves of anti-Catholic bitterness and persecution, which at times threatened the lives of innocent women and children. In the latter part of 1844 she was sent to Donaldsonville, Louisiana, as assistant in the novitiate of Southern postulants.

After some years of service in New Orleans and a reassumption of her charge at St. Joseph's, Philadelphia, she was sent, in 1855, to the Mother House of the Order in France, where she remained a year, obtaining and imparting much valuable information regarding the work and duties of Sisters in an administrative capacity. In May, 1856, she returned to the United States, and the following year took charge of her old love, St. Joseph's Asylum, for the third time.

The beginning of the Civil War, a few years later, was to mark the most eventful epoch in the career of Sister Gonzaga and to develop her extraordinary qualities of administration. The Satterlee Military Hospital was established in Philadelphia. Dr. Walter F. Atlee, who is still living, an honored physician of the Quaker City, felt that the interests of the government and of the soldiers would be benefited if the Sisters of Charity were installed as nurses in the army hospital. He had several interviews with the surgeon-general and with Secretary of War Stanton. As a result of this the Sisters of Charity were invited to assume charge.

On June 9, 1862, Sister Gonzaga, accompanied by forty Sisters, assembled from all parts of the United States, left

the asylum and entered upon their duties in the hospital. It is difficult to estimate the good work done by them during the period they spent in this place, which has been aptly styled the "shadow of the valley of death." In those three momentous years they nursed and cared for upwards of forty-eight thousand soldiers. Only those who have had the care of the sick can begin to estimate the amount of ceaseless labor and patience involved in such a vast undertaking. The sick and wounded comprised both Union and Confederate soldiers, and the gentleness of the Sisters endeared them to all under their charge.

Sister Gonzaga, although in her eighty-fourth year, still retains clear and vivid recollections of those trying times. She rarely introduces the subject herself, but once it is brought into conversation, she talks with enthusiasm upon it. The hospital was one of the largest in the country, and everything was arranged on a generous scale.

Sister Gonzaga remembers two events in the history of the hospital with particular distinctness: the first was after the battle of Bull Run, and the second the days following the battle of Gettysburg. After the battle of Bull Run the soldiers were brought to the hospital by hundreds. At the time of the three days' battle of Gettysburg there was a terrible period of suspense for the people of Philadelphia. They knew that a battle was taking place somewhere in the neighborhood of the State Capitol, but they had no information regarding the result. The earliest intelligence came with the first consignment of wounded soldiers to the Satterlee Hospital. Then there was much rejoicing over a Union victory. The sick and wounded from the blood-stained battlefield were received in thousands. One