

### The Late Father Albert Heimann, O. C. C.

AFTER forty-seven long years as a priest of holy Church and twenty-seven years spent as a professed religious of the Order of Mount Carmel, on September 16—a Saturday—the day consecrated to our holy Mother and on which she promised to free her children from the purging flames, there peacefully passed to his reward, a pious priest and model monk, our beloved brother, the revered Father Albert Heimann. For over a year prior to his death his gentle soul had been purified by a prolonged illness which he bore with edifying patience.

Father Albert was born on July 26, 1815, the Feast of a great Saint to whom he was always ardently devoted—St. Anne the mother of the Blessed Virgin. His birthplace was Delbrueck, in the diocese of Paderborn, Prussia. In 1837, when Queen Victoria was about to commence her lengthy reign, Heimann the young and zealous student came to America. On the day after Christmas, 1846, he was ordained by Bishop Chabrat, of Bardstown, Kentucky. He was, if we mistake not, the first secular priest ordained for the whole State of Kansas. Father Albert's early missionary work was in the diocese of Bardstown (afterwards Louisville), St. Louis and Leavenworth. He labored chiefly in Kansas. His life on the wild western plains would furnish material for an interesting volume. In company with Bishop Miede, who has since died, as he willed, a humble and retired Jesuit at Detroit, Albert witnessed the havoc done by the Kansas civil war in 1854 and had many a hazardous escape during the raids of the famous John Brown. In those pioneer days on the prairies the life of a missionary was not an easy one. For long hours he was in the saddle, often through the dreary night, and frequently exposed to the fiercest storms. More than once was he forced to snatch a few hours of

repose at night in the open prairies. But it was all for God and his neighbor's soul and everything became easy. In all his trials and labors Father Albert had unbounded confidence in Mary. He was never lonesome in his long journeys, provided he had with him his Rosary.

A great part of Father Albert's labor was spent among the Indians, especially those of the Osage mission by whom he was much beloved. He was quite familiar with several Indian dialects. The deceased was a familiar friend of General Sherman and his family, with whom he became acquainted whilst administering to the spiritual wants of the troops at Fort Leavenworth. Many handsome churches and flourishing parishes in the west owe their origin to Father Albert.

As a Carmelite, Father Albert's life dates to 1854 when he received the holy habit. He was the first novice received into the Order in this country. He was an exemplary friar and carried out to the letter our holy Rule. He was appointed superior over many of our convents, among them Scipio, Kansas, New Baltimore, Pa., and Falls View, Canada. As a superior he was ever a kind father to those under his direction. One fact worthy of emphasis is that *to Father Albert we owe the foundation of the only Canadian Carmelite Monastery*, namely that of Falls View, founded in 1875. From 1884 to 1889 Father Albert was stationed at Pittsburgh, Pa., and among the the good-hearted and pious parishoners of Holy Trinity he won a host of friends. Afterwards he went to our seminary in New Baltimore, Pa., where he passed his remaining days in retirement. On Sept. 16 he finally succumbed to the effects of a third paralytic stroke. The funeral obsequies were held on the 18th. As is the custom his remains were laid out in the habit of the Order. A solemn mass of Requiem for the repose of his soul was celebrated in all our monasteries. On the 21st inst the Very Rev.