

## SHORT CORRESPONDENCE.

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*S. H. L., Keene, Ont.* — Your letter came too late. Shall use the contents later.

*E. P., Rouse's Point, N. Y.* — Replying to your letter of Nov. 21st, have recommended your intention to the prayers of the League.

*O. N., Port Arthur* — We have been able to gather the following notes on the founder of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Father John Paul Medaille, S. J. He was a friend and fellow-missionary of St. John Francis Regis, S. J., in whose footsteps he walked, and from whom he learned the secrets of a successful apostolic career. Father Medaille was one of the most illustrious missionaries that France possessed in the seventeenth century. He preached the word of God in a great many dioceses and founded sodalities of men and women who gave themselves over to spiritual and corporal works of mercy to preserve the fruits of his missions and retreats. But this was not enough for the zeal of Father Medaille. Following the example of St. Francis of Sales, founder of the Nuns of the Visitation, he founded the Sisters of St. Joseph, a community so well known in Europe and America. The humble daughters of St. Joseph are carrying out the designs of their founder in not merely working fervently for their own perfection, but also by consecrating their lives to outside works, visiting the sick and prisoners, consoling the afflicted, helping the poor, instructing the ignorant, founding and directing pious associations of women and young girls. It was Father Medaille's plan to unite the lives of Martha and Mary, external work of charity with the repose of contemplation. In a few years, the Sisterhood of St. Joseph had gained a strong foothold in France where it still flourishes in many dioceses, chiefly in the South of France. The Sisters are doing God's work in the United States and Canada as well. Father Medaille died in the odor of sanctity, at Auch, in France, on the fifteenth of August, 1689.

*T. D., Cramac, Ont.* — The Mass Cards mentioned in the December MESSENGER are not memorial cards, but cards for ordering masses. These cards are signed by priests, and sent to bereaved families instead of flowers. Let us show you by an example what we mean. Suppose one of your friends dies and you desire to give an expression of your sympathy. You take a Mass Card to a priest, make him an offering for two, or five, or ten Masses, ask him to sign the Card, and you send it to the family. This Card is placed on the coffin instead of