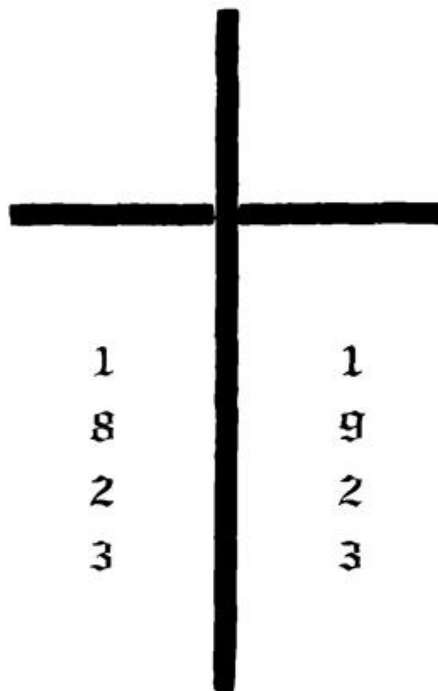


ST. CATHERINE'S ACADEMY EXTERIOR FRONT VIEW

# CENTENNIAL

St. Catherine's Academy



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Sisters of Charity, of Nazareth  
Lexington, Kentucky

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## Dedication

To the Memory of our  
heroic and devoted Pioneer Sisters  
to whom, under God  
Saint Catherine's Academy  
owes her existence and  
her prosperity.

# Centennial Ode

---

Amid the city's strife and din,  
Close to the busy mart,  
Where ceaseless flows the living stream,  
St. Catherine's stands apart.  
A holy stillness reigns within,  
And round the sacred spot,  
A peace the world can never give,  
A joy it knoweth not.

Tho' far from Nature's favored haunts,  
Yet Nature's self is here,  
To join to praise of human hearts,  
Her myriad voices clear.  
The birds, unconscious worshipers,  
Pour forth their sweetest lays,  
The flowers sing with silent tongues  
Their endless hymns of praise.

They seem as if instinct with life,  
Around Our Lady's shrine,  
So reverently they bow their heads,  
So lovingly they twine.  
The blossoms whose blest lot it is,  
To deck the chapel fair,  
Breathe incense sweet as if they felt  
The blessed Presence there.

The butterfly that idly sips  
The nectar they distill,  
Does homage to God's providence,  
Adores His holy will.  
The blue dome bendeth over all,  
An image of the love  
That knows no bounds, no height, no depth,  
On earth, in heaven above.



**SACRED HEART**

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O'er roof and tower with tender grace,  
The evening sunshine falls,  
And floods, as with a sea of light,  
The dear old convent walls.  
It lingers, as if loath to leave,  
On arch and casement old,  
And like King Midas' magic touch,  
Turns everything to gold.

The twilight hour comes on apace,  
The time for deepest thought,  
When memory's scenes so fair and bright,  
With fancy's forms are fraught.  
The veil that dims the past is drawn,  
We see the bygone years,  
As a beauteous landscape leaps to view,  
When the gray mist disappears.

Behold! from Nazareth's peaceful shades  
Comes forth a valiant band,  
To do the Master's noble work,  
With willing heart and hand.  
To sow the seed which by His grace,  
A harvest rich will yield,  
And in the Blue Grass garden-spot,  
They find a fertile field.

Around them gather eagerly,  
Kentucky's daughters fair,  
The pride, the boast of all the land,  
Endowed with talents rare.  
To seek the knowledge they have craved,  
The rugged hill to climb,  
Led on by Faith's unfailing light  
To reach to heights sublime.

How nobly they have played their part  
On life's eventful stage,  
The records of their deeds will tell,  
Go, read them page by page.  
Tho' long ago, their labor done,  
They laid them down to rest,  
Their children's children, grateful still,  
Rise up and call them blessed.

But oh ! how blessed are they who strive,  
To lead these souls to God,  
Who teach them how to follow Christ,  
To tread where He has trod.  
The years go by and, one by one,  
They're called to their reward,  
To joys which only they can know,  
The Spouses of the Lord.

But others come to fill the ranks,  
God's work must still be done,  
And prayer and labor sweet unite,  
From rise to set of sun.  
And fair young maidens flock around,  
As in the days of yore,  
To learn the lessons wise and good  
Their mothers learned before.

To learn the science of the saints,  
To suffer and be strong,  
To know the truth, and love the right,  
To shun the false and wrong.  
To conquer self, and humbly bow  
Beneath the chastening rod,  
To give to Caesar, Caesar's own,  
To God, the things of God.

Two rosaries of fruitful years,  
St. Catherine's, hast thou told,  
Each bead, a pearl of priceless worth,  
The chain of love's pure gold.  
And oh! how very dear to God  
Are all thy hundred years,  
Of labor, prayer, of noble deeds  
Performed through smiles and tears.

On this, thy grand Centennial Day,  
We Thee crown with our love,  
Uniting heart and voice in prayer  
For blessings from above.  
Ah ! may thy star that shineth bright,  
Ne'er sink beneath the wave,  
While there are human hearts to mold,  
And human souls to save.

Sister of Charity.

# Brief Historical Sketch

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**A**MONG the Religious of the West, the name of Mother Catherine Spalding must long stand pre-eminent. She was endowed with attributes of mind that fitted her beyond others for leadership. In purpose she was straightforward. She was conciliatory in speech and manner. She discovered quickly and acted promptly. She sympathized deeply with poverty and suffering and it was the comfort of her life to be able to relieve the one and assuage the other. It is impossible that one in her position, so qualified, should not be able to command willing support. This she did from the beginning to the end of her career. She lived to see the unpromising seedling she had helped to plant, and to which her tender care was given at every stage of its growth, lifting its branches in the free air of heaven and scattering its fruits broadcast for the refreshment of the multitudes.

Catherine Spalding was born in Maryland, December 23, 1793. She and her sister, Ann, having early lost their parents, were cared for by their aunt, Mrs. Thomas Elder, of the Cox Creek settlement. At the age of nineteen, she left her comfortable home to become the companion of the two young women who had preceded her to Nazareth, with the avowed purpose of devoting themselves to the Religious life and its unselfish pursuits. By the suffrages of her associates, she was placed at the head of the community for eight terms of three years each.

In April, 1823, Mother Catherine, having been replaced at the Mother House by Mother Agnes Higdon, went with three other sisters to White Sulphur, Scott County, to establish a school on a farm given for that purpose by Mr. James Gough. This gift was made on condition that the donor should receive a small annuity during the remainder of his life. The transaction really amounted to a purchase as Mr. Gough lived a long time and the annuity was paid to the last.

The house was named St. Catherine's in honor of Mother Catherine's patroness, St. Catherine of Sienna, in compliance with the desires of Bishop Flaget and Bishop David. By a coincidence the Nazarenes started for their new field of labor on the feast of St. Catherine of Sienna. These sisters carried with them the following letter from Bishop Flaget, Bishop of Bardstown, to Father Chabrat of White Sulphur. It was written in French.



Nazareth, April 30, 1823.

My dear Chabrat:

Sisters Catherine, Josephine, Bibiana and Mildred leave this morning for Scott County, and if this school proves a success, which I hope it will, we may send two or three other sisters there. We will do all in our power to make that establishment solid and flourishing.

Three of these sisters, before their entrance into Religion, were under your spiritual guidance and they have requested me to entreat you to continue your interest in their spiritual welfare, so that they may accomplish their own sanctification and thus promote the glory of God and win many souls for Him.

Begging God's blessing on this new undertaking, I am,

Yours in Christ,

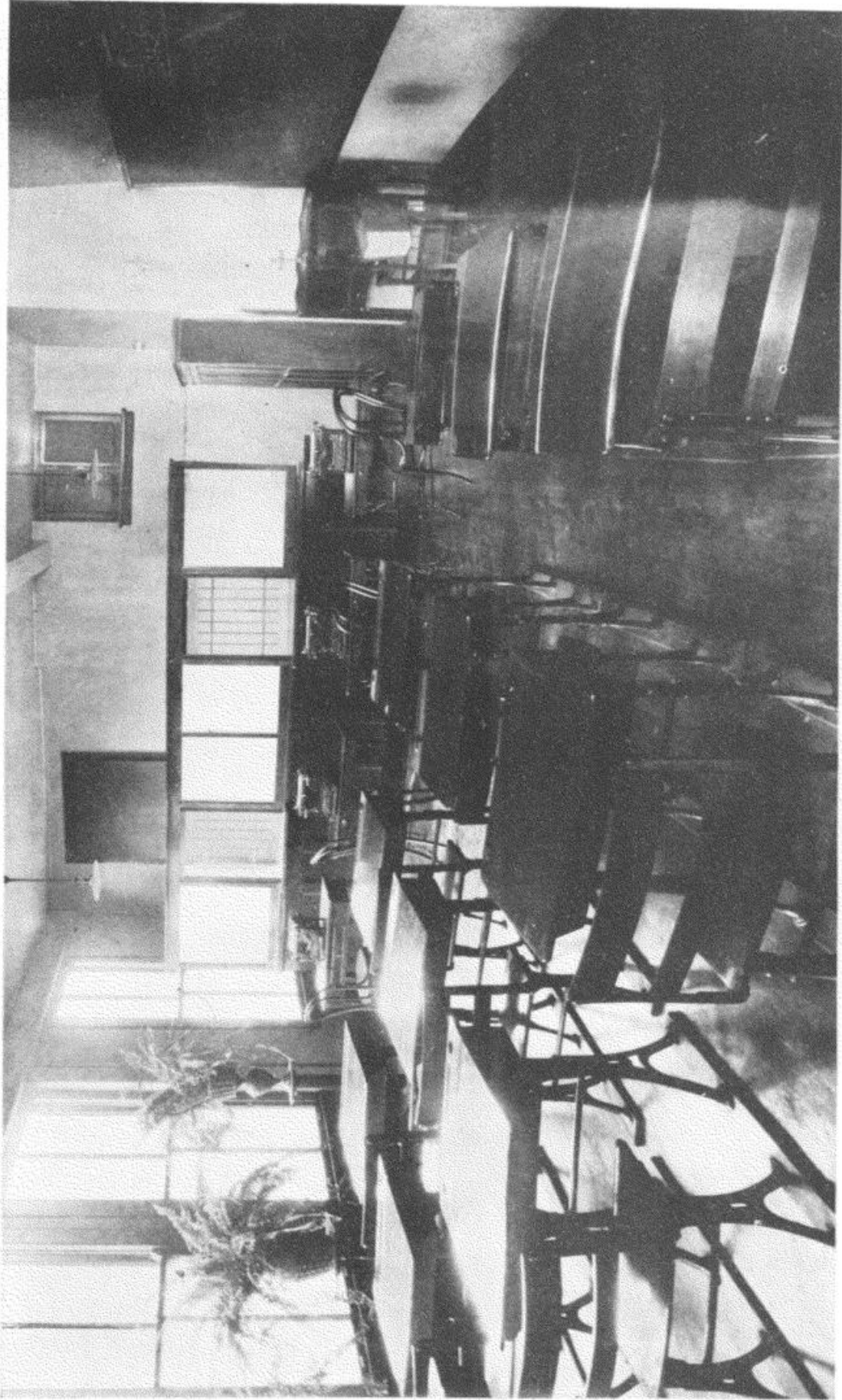
BENEDICT JOSEPH FLAGET,  
Bishop of Bardstown

The little colony in Scott County met with many hardships. The sisters used to tell of many trying circumstances connected with this hard and seemingly fruitless mission. Journeys back and forth to Nazareth had to be made on horseback or in a private carriage. It took about three days to make this trip; the nights were spent in farm-houses on the way. They never failed to take advantage of the hospitality of Mrs. Bostows, an English lady living at Frankfort. She had two daughters who were educated at Nazareth and she was always glad to harbor the sisters when they passed through Kentucky's Capitol.

The school at White Sulphur was never very prosperous; the congregation was scattered, the pupils few; hence it was decided to move the school to a more propitious location. The farm in Scott County was sold and the proceeds helped to purchase property on Limestone Street, in Lexington, eighteen miles distant. Thus after the first decade of the history of St. Catherine's had been told at White Sulphur, the sisters, acting under the guidance of Father Reynolds, Nazareth's new Ecclesiastical Superior, took up work in the new field November 28, 1833.

Sister Ann Spalding, the youngest sister of Mother Catherine, was at that time in charge of the school. Sisters Seraphine, Clementia, Pelagia, Christine and Claudia labored with her.

The Lexington property was conveyed by deed dated May 4, 1834, from James Logue to the Rt. Rev. Benedict Joseph Flaget, in favor of Nazareth Literary and Benevolent Institution. It extended from Limestone Street to Walnut, having a depth of six hundred feet and frontage of one hundred and twenty feet, and costs four thousand dollars. On the Limestone side there was a small frame house opening on the street. Back of it was Mr. Logue's residence, the first brick house in Lexington. There were four rooms above and four below. The rooms



COMMERCIAL ROOM

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on the first floor were utilized as parlor, music room, girls' refectory and sisters' refectory; the last named served also as community room. On the second floor a room was fitted out as a chapel and used until Saint Peter's Church was built. The other rooms were dormitories. Soon after the sisters' arrival, the frame building at the front was moved to the rear and a brick house was repaired and enlarged for class rooms.

All the buildings on the new property were in a delapidated condition, and it took time, labor and expense to put the whole in a becoming state. The sisters thought the tribulations of Scott County were to be renewed, but their fears were unfounded, and their school was immediately patronized. Lexington was then growing rapidly; railroads and other improvements were a means of greatly increasing the population of the sparsely settled city.

In 1837 the sisters allowed St. Peter's Church to be built on a portion of their lot. Rev. E. McMahon, pastor at the time, supervised its erection. Then Father McMahon bought the Walnut Street end of the sisters' property for one thousand dollars. On it was a two-story brick house which was the priest's residence until St. Paul's Church was built. This house became the girls' parochial school after it had been purchased back by Nazareth from Father Becker on the sixth day of November, 1866. This old school had been built partly from the brick which once composed the walls of the old Catholic Chapel in which the celebrated Father Baden officiated for so many years.

A remarkable incident took place at St. Peter's Church on Sunday, August 13, 1854. Just a few minutes after the congregation had retired from the building, the entire ceiling fell to the floor beneath, flattening everything to its level, with the single exception of a statue of Our Lady. This statue was later enshrined on the Academy grounds.

On the 16th of August, 1845, Nazareth gave permission to build. Sister Ann Spalding was still in charge of St. Catherine's and superintended the work. It was not completed when she died, May 15, 1848, and Sister Isabella Drury, who replaced her the following August, saw it finished.

The death of Sister Ann, who for fifteen years had been the guiding spirit of St. Catherine's, was tragic. In those days the sisters had some women slaves working about the house. Sister Ann unwittingly offended one of these slaves and was poisoned by her. The fatal dose was administered by mixing poison with some seemingly fine buttermilk. Sister Ann died very suddenly and by some accident it was discovered that she had been poisoned. The sisters had the young slave sent south, but had nothing further done to her.

Sister Ann was buried in the old Catholic graveyard on Winchester Street, now Third Street, but the remains were afterward removed to our beloved "God's Acre" at Nazareth.



Among the pioneers, Sister Ellen O'Connell deserves a distinguished place. After holding many important offices at Nazareth, she was transferred to St. Catherine's where she accomplished much in a few years, and where she died in 1841.

St. Catherine's has experienced seasons of depression and of prosperity. Her early years were marked with trials of various kinds, not the least of which was her struggle with prejudice; but Providence took care of her and raised up chivalrous men who nobly defended her cause. Their sentiments are voiced in an editorial of the time which says: "There is nothing more calculated to raise us to an eminence than nurseries of learning of this kind. Many of my acquaintances have been under the sisters' tutelage; and I have found the sisters affable, agreeable, intelligent, polite, though quite plain, unassuming and unaffected in their dress and manner."

The work begun by Mother Catherine and Sister Ann was continued by worthy successors—Mother Frances, Sister Isabella, Sister Gabriella and Sister Mary. In 1864 Sister Lucy was placed in charge. This proved an event of importance not only to St. Catherine's, but to the people of Lexington as well.

Just before her arrival, a destructive fire burned the whole third story of the academy and damaged much of the second. The building was saved from utter destruction by the bravery of the fire department and the prompt and kind assistance of the men of Lexington. Sister Lucy's first labor at St. Catherine's was to repair the damage as soon as possible. The sisters had been given shelter in the homes of kind friends, but soon returned to resume their school work. This siege of hardship was followed by a period of prosperity—the number of students increased steadily and St. Catherine's soon reached a high degree of efficiency.

On May 18, 1874, Sister Lucy left St. Catherine's for the new Saints Mary and Elizabeth Hospital in Louisville. The duties of superior were then assumed by Sister Cleophas who had spent the first fourteen years of her Religious life as music teacher at St. Catherine's. Sister Lucy's absence was of short duration, for in a few years she was again at St. Catherine's.

The commodious music hall and auditorium, which stands in the rear of the academy, may be justly styled a monument to the memory of Sister Lucy. The last two years of her life were spent in planning and erecting this building. Sister Lucy died suddenly May 11, 1892, before she saw the first commencement exercises in the new Saints Mary and Joseph Hall.

Many remember with affectionate gratitude the noble self-sacrificing character of Sister Lucy and many owe to her not only their accomplishments in education, but also their training in character and

manners. Sister Lucy did much for the moral uplift and mental advancement of the pupils of St. Catherine's. She was not only capable and accomplished, but pious and solidly learned. During her twenty-eight years at St. Catherine's, the institution prospered materially as well as intellectually, and even today her name is a household word in many non-Catholic as well as Catholic homes of the city.

Mother Cleophas was a second time Sister Lucy's successor, having been at Nazareth in the meantime filling the office of Mother Superior. After five years she was recalled to Nazareth to resume the duties of Mother Superior. It is to good Mother Cleophas that we owe the privilege of having our dear Lord in the house with us. She had the parlor transformed into a chapel, calling it Saint Lucy's, after the patron saint of the late beloved superior.

Reluctant as Religious are to receive any publicity, certain ones have, by long service, become identified with certain schools. A sketch of St. Catherine's would hardly be complete without mention of some individuals who have given the best years of their lives to its upbuilding and maintenance. Prominent among these are Sister Lauretta, Sister Miriam, Sister Johanna, Sister Salesia, Sister Wilhelmina, Sister Christine, Sister Agnita and Sister Alma. The last named has spent her entire Religious life in Lexington and her diligence in the office of Sacristan has become almost proverbial. Sisters Francina, Ambrosia, and Wilhelmina taught at St. John's Parochial School. Sister Anita came to St. Catherine's in 1872. Such a true mother was she to the little ones under her care that a whole lifetime has not been able to obliterate her memory from those whose early years she trained. After nearly twenty years the voice of obedience called her to other fields. Some one asked her on the morning of her departure, "Sister, have you had your breakfast?" "I really do not know," was her forced reply. Indeed her bodily needs were all forgotten in her deep grief of heart.

Saint Paul's Parochial School, adjoining Saint Paul's Church, was for the boys of the parish and was taught by lay teachers. These, except a professor for the older boys, were replaced in September 1887, by Sisters Mercedes, Hilda and Geraldine. Thus the number of Sisters at St. Catherine's was increased to fifteen, and in the year 1888, to seventeen, by opening a school on Jefferson Street for the colored children, Saint Peter Claver's School. Sister Ambrosia was in charge of this school, assisted by Sister Mary dePazzi. For more than twenty-five years Sister Ambrosia labored among the colored people of Lexington. She effected much good. Among those whose influence at St. Catherine's will be felt for many a day is Sister Mary George, who is still in charge of the primary department, after thirty-five years of service. The names of Sisters Kostka, Susanna and Mechtildes also will long be remembered. To the interest and activity of Sister Salesia and Sister Mary Benita is due the establishment of the Alumnae.

St. Peter's Parochial School was opened in 1915 with three Sisters and a lay teacher. During its short existence it has prospered and each year has increased its attendance and efficiency.

For the last quarter of the century affairs at St. Catherine's have been directed by Sister Ligouri, Sister Mary Vincent, Sister Evangelista, Sister Teresina, Sister Imelda and Sister Constance. Under the guidance of these superiors many improvements have been made.

In 1895, Nazareth granted St. Catherine's the privilege of conferring high school diplomas, recognized by the State. In 1918 the academy was affiliated with the State University of Kentucky. Standardized methods, up-to-date equipment and carefully planned school rooms have enabled St. Catherine's to keep pace with the times.

Among her loyal friends the academy gratefully numbers Major Falconer, who, during many years so generously rendered valuable aid to the growing institution. An honored guest at the commencements since '64, he has lent material as well as moral support to these exercises by sending a decorator each year to help to beautify the hall and stage whence St. Catherine's daughters entered Life's school.

St. Catherine's also owes a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. R. C. Falconer, who has, for over a quarter of a century, given his professional services, not only gratuitously but unsparingly, promptly responding to every call, whether by day or night, that might be requested.

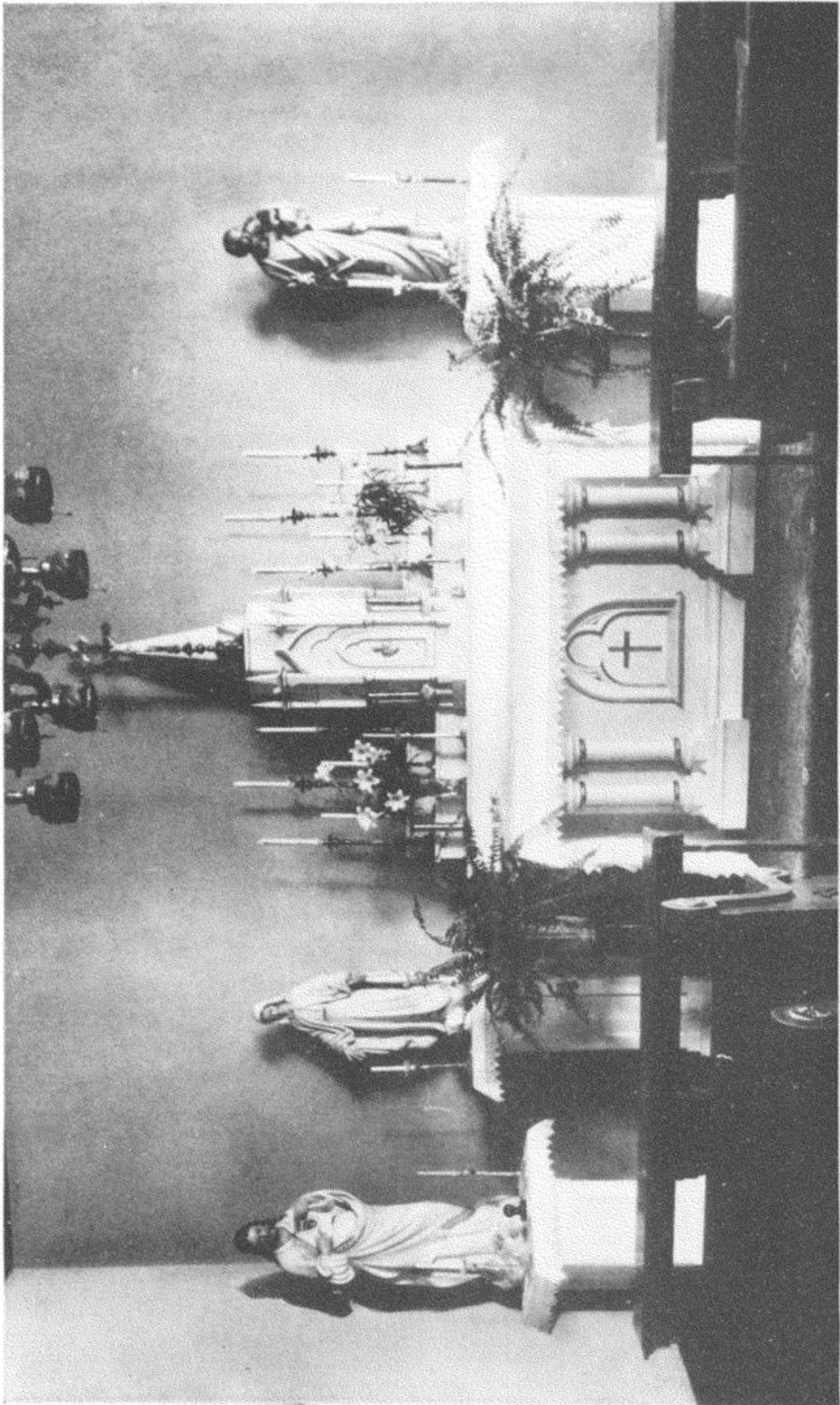
Our thanks are due to our patrons and former pupils who have interested themselves in our success. We appreciate the fact that the splendid work done by our predecessors through a century of educational work, has merited the respect and confidence of the public.

Our thanks are also due to the business men of Lexington who have made it possible for us to place our commercial graduates in good positions.

We desire to thank in a special manner the Reverend Clergy who are co-operating so cordially to further the welfare of our institution.

One hundred years have passed and the ebb and flow of life touching the shores of time and eternity have ushered many into life and out of it. As St. Catherine's celebrates her Centennial, she recalls with love and pride her many faithful children and the friends whose companionship has increased her joys and lessened her sorrows. For those whose spirits have flown, she breathes a prayer, and for those who still live within the sphere of her gentle influence, she calls down a great benediction.





CHAPEL



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## “A Monument Not Built by Hands”

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The pyramids and Parthenon, the broken arcs of fame,  
The “dreaming spires” of Oxford and the steel marts of today  
Preserve in form some mystic past, some lofty monarch’s name,  
Till, yielding to the strokes of Time, they crumble to decay.

Then who will tell their story to the ages yet to be,  
Or voice the might of heroes and the majesty of kings;  
For earthly pride no hand will carve that fearing eye may see,  
When o’er the scattered ruins, earth’s last trumpet loudly rings.

Not thus, oh, dear St. Catherine’s, you’ve built these hundred years;  
He seeks in vain who fain would see pride’s stately columns rise.  
A living monument you’ve reared, unstained by blood and tears,  
A monument not built by hands or seen by mortal eyes.

You’ve shaped the souls of “Little Ones,” a graven stone each life,  
And you, the Architect of God, have fitted each in place,  
Without the grime of earthly toil or sound of worldly strife,  
Until, at last, all radiant it stands before God’s Face.

And though our dim eyes cannot see the glory of this shrine,  
The great Lord and His blessed saints will enter it today  
Through gates of pearl and jasper stone—a company divine,  
To bless a hundred years of toil, when time has passed away.

—Sister of Charity

## Looking Backward

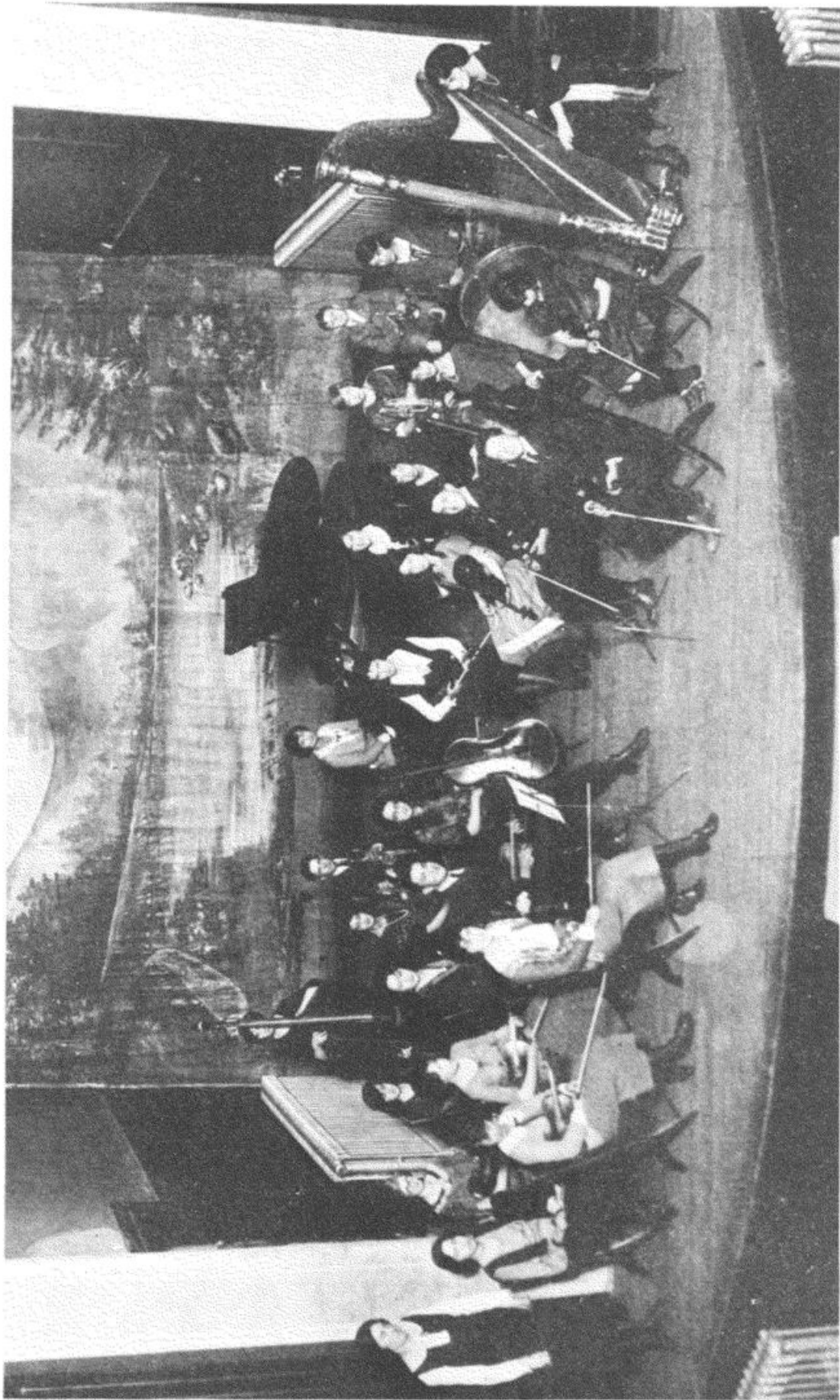
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ONLY pleasant and tender memories are evoked in my heart when I think of St. Catherine's Academy. Ad multos annos! to the dear old school, its principles and precepts and spirit! and a heart full of congratulations to the dear Sisters of Charity, both living and dead, who labored there, or who labor there, carrying on a work that the on-looker can never gauge by merely human standards.

Someone has spoken of bygone life as "days that streamed down the tide of time with envious haste." The sentiment is not mine; that period has never streamed away; it is mine always, more mine today than then. While at school we are too immature, too unthinking, too little able to appreciate just what blessings and privileges we really have: it is only in "sober manhood"—womanhood—that the real value of our early years can rightly be appraised. So at least in my case.

Dear Sister Lucy Lampton was superior at St. Catherine's during the years that covered my school life there; from time to time everybody was made happier by visits from Mother Cleophas of beloved memory; she was my own dear mother's friend; as such was always doubly welcome. Sister Borromeo was disciplinarian when I first entered school; memory recalls her as severe, but memory also has record of the tears that were shed when one day "she was moved," in school girl's parlance, and the tall young Sister who later was to be my own teacher—Sister Francina—took her place. Sister Anita, the gentle, the kind and the patient of soul, was my first teacher; then Sister Agnita who had the extraordinary power of making Norton's Natural Philosophy bearable, if not actually interesting; Sister Agathina was Academic teacher until our last year and then Sister Christine adopted us. "We were seven"; there were three "Ella's" in that class: Ella Colbert who became your Sister Rose Vincent, and who died after her devoted life in the service of the schools; Nell Hegarty who died young; then there was Maggie Hannibal who was our musician and songster. Virginia Richardson who even in those days was characterized as the girl who never said an unkind word of anyone; finally, the Bradley twins, Kate and Sue, of whom I have lost sight for many years.

Of the many Sisters whom I shall never forget, let me say a special word of dear Sister Johanna; if our mothers had known how devoted we were to laundry work, what a help we might have been at our re-



ST. CATHERINE'S ORCHESTRA

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spective homes ! For Sister Johanna's ironing boards were lovely, and the stories she told—always new ones, or at least never retold ones—were so absorbing that it is no wonder that from time to time we just did not, could not, hear the school bell that summoned to arithmetic. Particularly at First Communion time were her stories and her instructions beautiful and compelling. I recall that at that privileged time we went with this dear old Sister up to the garden summerhouse, where far from all distractions and surrounded by the beauties that only that old summerhouse could afford, we listened to what He did for love of us, the wonderful story of "How God so loved the world."

Then Sister Alma who is still at St. Catherine's and Sister Miriam are among the remembered ones, and always good Sister Mary Cantius who stayed so short a time in this poor world. At Commencement times we had the unsparing attention and care of Sister Salesia; at the last two Commencements I recall Madame Carpentier who came to coach the French plays that the adventurous class of 1887 had the temerity to stage.

Of all the early memories none has been so persistent with me as that of the procession to the cemetery on All Souls' Day. It is thirty years now since I entered on my life work in the Congregation of Divine Providence, and I am sure not one All Souls' Day has passed since that the pilgrimage of old to the graves of the holy dead has not returned to my memory. It was a lovely custom; here where we are too far from "God's Acre" to institute or follow such a custom, it appeals to me with ever-increasing force as one of the best and most salutary lessons of my early life.

To look back over a hundred years, to trace out the work attempted and achieved, to dwell thoughtfully on the memory of those who gave their very life to make the ideal bear fruit in reality; to recall the hardships, the disappointments, the failures, and the successes of that long period; and then to remember what has come of it all to Mother Church, to our State, to our national life, to our home life! This indeed is the spirit of St. Catherine's Centenary.

Ad multos annos ! May the future perfect and extend the work which you have so faithfully done ! May the years to come bring you many and generous souls to perpetuate the ideals which have made your service, dear Sisters of Charity, so fruitful and so precious.

SISTER MARY CAMILLUS,

Religious of Divine Providence

(Ella F. O'Brien, Class of 1887)



# Recollections of School Days

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The following from Dr. J. Vincent Falisi will no doubt be of interest to many of his "friends of long ago."

Born: Lexington, Ky., February 2, 1885.

Entered St. Catherine's as a "special" at the age of three years.

Early history very hazy, yet can remember the saintly Sister Lucy, who patiently allowed the use of her waste basket and its contents, together with the official seal, as material for the "Post Office."

From this time on to 1900, life was as full of school, play, sorrows, and joys, as could be crowded in, and while entirely too much occurred to be recorded, yet some things made impressions never to be effaced.

The first real playmate and "partner in crime" was Mary Feeley, and only Sister Mary George knows the extent of our numerous deviations from rectitude, many times catching us "in flagrante delicto"; however, we DID learn that guardians of little folks apparently were endowed with X-Ray eyes which could see through untruths.

Sister Philomena's reprimands and Sister Lucy's rebuke for the outrage, Sister Laurentine's "bread and butter," Sister Miriam's vexation over trampled flowers, Sister Francina's story of the "seeno," and Sister Salesia's corrections, together with a love second only to a mother's, are just a few of the side lights remembered by the "old timers."

Suffice it to say that the teaching of many mentors, entirely too many to name, builded a foundation, not only adequate, but stronger and finer than the super-structure added later.

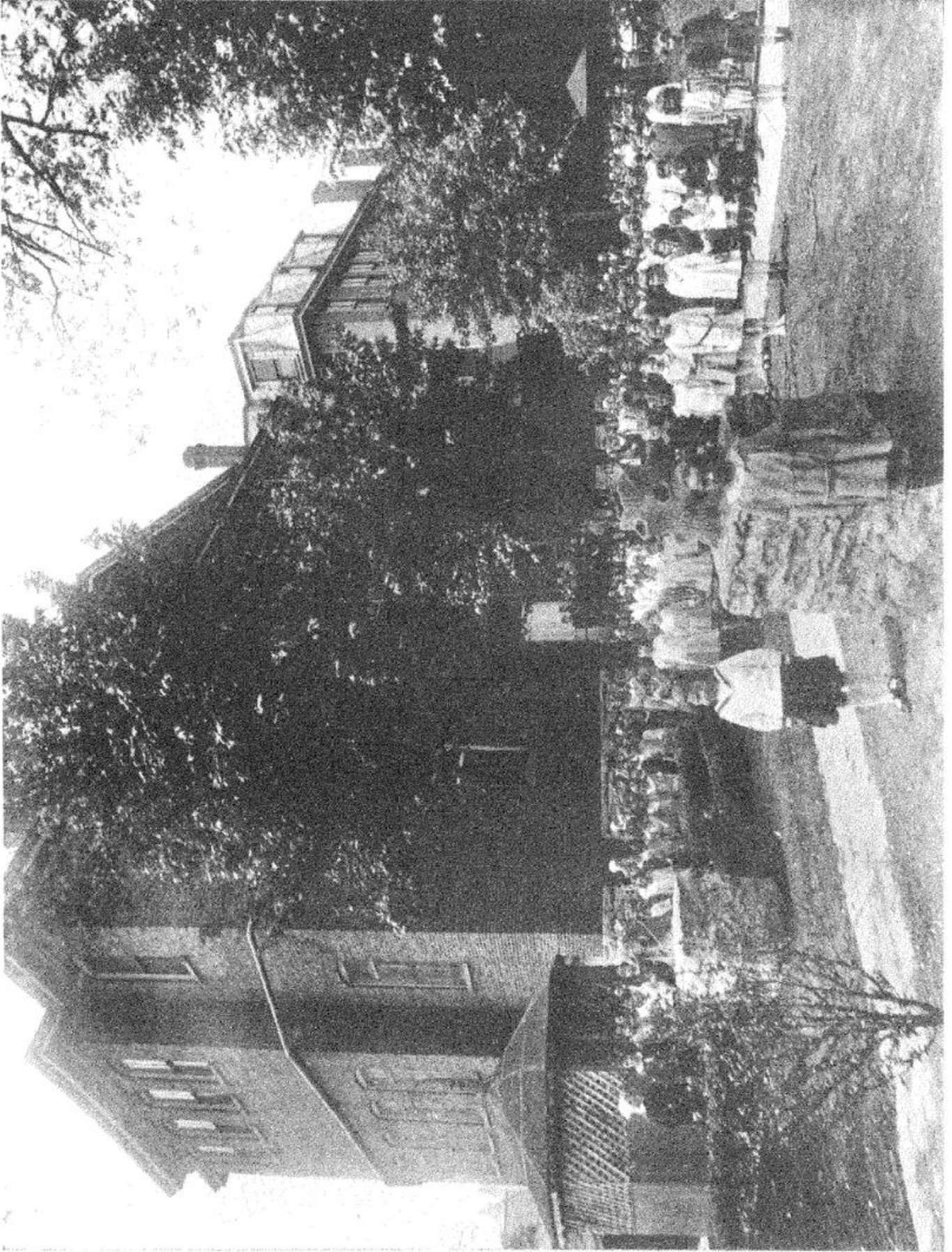
A brief outline to the present, shows:

A classical education at St. Mary's College, Kentucky, where the same type of training was continued until graduation in 1904. During part of this time was in charge of all college musical activities, developing a Band and orchestra which is still a source of pride. St. Mary's was good enough to award medals for Music, Oratory, Debating, Classics, Christian Doctrine, and Philosophy.

Next came the professional education in Medicine with graduation in 1908, followed by a year as interne at St. Vincent's Infirmary, Little Rock, Ark., where once more the Sisters of Nazareth took up the burden of my care.

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CAMPUS

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Until 1917 practiced Medicine, specializing in Surgery. Was Assistant Professor of Surgery in the University of Arkansas, Instructor in Latin and Physiology at Little Rock College, and Instructor of Physiology at Mount St. Mary's College for girls at Little Rock.

In 1912 was married to Miss Laurita Tunnah. Of this union were born Francetta Salesia, Laurita Mai, and a son who died.

In 1917 was commissioned in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Army, and in 1918 accompanied troops to the field in France, seeing service in the Ainese-Marne and Oise-Ainese offensives.

Returned to the States in 1919 and since that time have been associated with the Laboratory Service, at present specializing in Serology, Chemistry, and Basal Metabolism.

Commissioned Major, M. C., in 1920.

Degrees: A. B., A. M., M. D., Ph. B.



# Congratulations from Lourdes

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Lourdes, May 19, 1923

Dear Sisters:

I send you greetings from the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes on the occasion of your Centennial Celebration Saint Catherine's Academy, Lexington, Ky.

It was founded by Mother Catherine Spaulding at a time when Lexington was only a country village, and when Catholics were few and far between. Like every other undertaking of this kind at that time, it had its struggle for existence and were it not for the indomitable courage that comes from Mt. Calvary, you would not to-day be gathered together to celebrate the triumph of Thabor.

It is a celebration of Divine Faith which opens up another world—a world which knows no failure or defeat. It is also a celebration of Hope on the firm conviction that as long as you are working for God and humanity, though days and months and even years may be dark and dreary, God will triumph in the end. But above all it is a celebration of One Hundred Years of Charity. How many of the poor and even of the rich in the Blue Grass region owe the best that is in them to St. Catherine's Academy. This is true not only of the good she has done in recent years but of every day since the saintly Mother Catherine planted the seed that raised its little stem above ground and in spite of the icy breath of winter and parching heat of summer, became a giant oak. No one but God knows the good St. Catherine's has done for the past hundred years and He alone is able to reward those who sacrificed their lives in making her what she is—the light of the Blue Grass Country and the glory of old Kentucky.

I am saying Mass every morning over the same spot where the Blessed Virgin stood when she appeared to Bernadette and I will continue to remember you and pray that St. Catherine's will progress and prosper "ad multos annos."

Yours in the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

(Rev.) RICHARD DAVIS.

## Greetings to the Alumnae

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I am rejoiced to learn that the Graduates of Saint Catherine's have formed an Alumnae Association.

Be assured I feel a deep interest in all that appertains to the welfare and progress of St. Catherine's.

May your zealous work prosper. May it increase your devotion to the old school home, and, binding your hearts in closer sympathy, may it be a means of enlarging your opportunities of doing good.

I shall be well pleased to find you sending your representative, in due time, to the Nazareth Alumnae, for it is the wish of our ladies to unite in kindred interests the Alumnae of all our Academies.

This is the era of unions and it is well to turn to account the tendencies of the times, when we can do so for the accomplishment of good.

To each and every member of the Alumnae, the love and cordial good wishes of their old friend,

MOTHER CLEOPHAS.

Nazareth, Ky.

June, 1900.

From the "Abe Maria" of February 22, 1919

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"In the matter of loss of life, the Influenza has proved a much greater evil than the war, but even the Influenza has not been without its compensations.

To cite a case in point: The malady introduced the Catholic Sisters to the stragglng populations in the mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee and revolutionized the notions entertained by those mountaineers concerning the nuns whom they had, for years, heard vilified and calumniated."

They speak of the Sisters in much the same laudatory strains as did our soldiers at the conclusion of the Civil War.



## “Letters of Appreciation”

The following letters were received in acknowledgement of the work done by the Sisters of St. Catherine's during the influenza epidemic in 1918:

University of Kentucky  
Lexington.  
Office of the President

October 29, 1918

Sister Constance,  
St. Catherine's Academy,  
Lexington, Ky.

My dear Sister Constance:

Not all the medals for bravery and distinguished service are won on the field of battle. Some of them were won right here during the epidemic. By the unflagging efforts and personal sacrifices of the eight sisters from St. Catherine's Academy amounting to a real heroism during the epidemic, they have won the gratitude of the University.

May I express to them, through you, my appreciation and thanks.

Very truly yours,

FRANK L. McVEY,  
President.

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The American Red Cross,  
Washington, D. C.

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Lexington, Ky.  
November 25, 1918.

Sister Constance,  
St. Catherine's Academy,  
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sister:

The Lexington Chapter of the American Red Cross wishes to express their deep appreciation for your kindness in loaning to us your most efficient and unselfish Sisters during the epidemic at Camp Buell. We do not feel that we could have handled the situation without them.

With deep appreciation,

Sincerely yours,

MARY WARFIELD BENNETT,  
Secretary.

Banner Fork Coal Corporation  
Miners and Shippers of  
"BANNER-KENTENIA" Coal

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Kentenia, Ky.  
November 29, 1918

Sister Constance,  
St. Catherine's Academy,  
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sister Constance:

I wish to express to you our genuine thanks and appreciation of the services your organization rendered during the flu. They were indeed Sisters of Charity in an hour of severe trial, and I want to assure you if at any future time our company can be of any service to you, or any of yours, do not hesitate to call on us.

With very warm personal regards, and assuring you again of our appreciation of your services, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

ABNER LUNSFORD,  
Gen. Manager.

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Catholic Women's Branch of  
the Lexington Red Cross Chapter  
Lexington, Ky.

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November 16, 1918.

Sister Constance,  
St. Catherine's Academy,  
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sister Constance:

As you probably know, Miss Alice Caden and I have just made a trip through the Big Sandy and Kentucky River region, under orders from Major McMullen of the U. S. Public Health Service of Lexington, Ky., in an endeavor to ascertain conditions relative to the influenza situation. We were to visit especially those places where the sisters of the various communities were assisting. While we were able to interview most of the nuns, it was impossible to reach each locality where they were stationed. Consequently, to assist us in making a more complete report of the services rendered, we request that you have the accompanying questionnaire filled and returned as soon as possible.

The noble and self-sacrificing work of the sisters has been greatly appreciated and spoken of in the highest terms. May I add our humble thanks and assure you that it was a genuine pleasure to be associated even in a small way in the glorious manifestation of charity they displayed.

Very truly yours,

MARY J. McGUIRE,  
Secretary







**GROTTO**

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The Duties of the Gardener of St. Catherine's in 1838  
(A page from old Manuscripts)

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Let it be understood that under the term "gardener" is comprised all the work to be done about the establishment which the Sisters can not well do themselves:

First—To clear out the old rubbish and level the yard.

Second—To saw and split the wood in winter and bring it in from the yard.

Third—To work the garden during the proper season and to rear vegetables enough, or nearly so, for the use of the family during the year.

Fourth—To take the cows to pasture and bring them home at evening  
—To slop and feed them when required.

Fifth—To bring up parcels, boxes, groceries, etc., from town when desired to do so.

Sixth—To gather and take care of the garden seeds.

Seventh—To have a general care of the establishment—to see that the fences are all kept in good repair and no injury done by rude boys.

Eighth—To look out each night before retiring to see that there is no danger of fire in or near the buildings, and also to see that the gates are all closed and fastened.

Ninth—And further to ascertain that there are no servants or others in the enclosure not belonging to the house.

Tenth—The gardener will be required never to leave the premises without giving notice of his intention to be absent and above all, never to be absent at night.

N. B.—In return for these services the Sisters will furnish the gardener a comfortable room, have his washing and mending done and pay him ten dollars (\$10.00) per month exclusive of his board.

FRANCIS CROGHAN.

Witness,

THOS. W. WHITE.

# Bill for Work Done at St. Catherine's in 1840

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## St. Catherine's Academy DR.—to Thos. McCracken

To mending front gate .....	\$ .50
To mending kitchen door .....	.12½
To mending 7 benches—New feet included .....	1.00
To mending wood horse .....	.12½
To mending and hanging bell .....	.25
To mending new sill, etc., at door .....	.50
To mending porch floor .....	.50
To mending roof of school house .....	.25
To mending settee .....	.37½
To mending large square table .....	.37½
To mending small square table .....	.25
To mending fence back of church .....	.25
To different material found (plank and nails) ....	1.10
	<hr/>
	\$5.60

Rec'd. payment in full

THOS. McCracken

## Extracts From Sister Lucy's Diary

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To the dear old Pupils of St. Catherine's Academy,  
Lexington, Ky.

September 15, 1872: The school opened on September 2nd with twenty-four day pupils, but to-day the number went up to sixty-five.

November 3, 1872: Mother Frances and Mother Columba paid a visit to St. Catherine's, and the latter helped with the teaching as two sisters were sick.

November 22, 1872: A most destructive fire broke out at night just as the sisters were reading the meditation. The fire was on the corner and swept off nearly the whole square. The wind changed, the Academy was saved. A colored child which had the small-pox was burned to death. The men who saved their homes worked hard. The engine had to be drawn by men as the horses were all sick, due to an epidemic among them at the time.

January 4, 1873: Little Mary Higgins, one of the boarders, was taken ill with small-pox on December 4th and, in consequence, school had to be closed from December 9th till after Christmas. On the 14th, she was so ill it was thought best to let her make her First Communion. She rallied and with some careful nursing will soon be restored to health.

January 28, 1873: Willie Hogarty celebrated his first Mass in St. Peter's, at his own request, but to-day he went to Louisville, the scene of his future labors.

July 30, 1873: The Retreat for 1873 commenced as usual on the tenth of July, but the priest was sick and did not appear till the fourth day.

At the close, on Saturday the 19th, good Father Bekkers sang High Mass. Father Foster, the Retreat Master, said an early Mass and gave Holy Communion to twenty-two Sisters.

September 10, 1873: School opened on the 3rd with fifty-eight pupils; yesterday there were sixty-four.

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In 1881 her diary was resumed at St. Catherine's. Not many incidents are related, the theme being mostly of a spiritual nature. Every little incident was an occasion for raising her great heart to its Creator in love and thanksgiving. For instance, she writes of having had to dismiss the girl from the kitchen because she could not agree with the gardener's wife. "I feel sorry for poor Maggie for she is a helpless sort of creature, having received no religious training. God help her and enable her to save her soul."

Page after page is devoted to pious colloquies on the beauties and benefits of God. A single remark about the weather is sufficient to inspire effusions of heartfelt love. A passing funeral draws forth from her grateful heart whole pages of thanksgiving to God for her call to the true faith and her religious vocation.

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To return to her diary. September 28, 1881: School opened on September 5th with fifty-eight pupils and nineteen music pupils.

September 26, 1881: The Catholics of Lexington had a procession commemorating the death of President Garfield, which occurred on the 20th. Liberty was impersonated by Miss Nannie McNamara, and Ireland by Miss Nellie Anglin, both pupils of St. Catherine's Academy.

The little girls wore white dresses with black sashes; the little boys wore crepe on their arms. The various societies turned out in different uniforms headed by the militia. Father Brossart and Father James Kehoe were in a carriage leading the procession. The members of the societies and the school boys walked. All business was suspended.

December 19th, 1881: The Forty Hours commenced. The Jubilee also was going on and the attendance was truly edifying. The three visits to each church were faithfully made, a stream of people going and coming all the time. Even little children kept the black fast.





# Congratulations

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St. Catherine's Church  
New Haven, Kentucky.  
June 11, 1923.

Dear Sister:

I give you and the Sisters and the Students of St. Catherine's Academy my warmest congratulations, and wish you all joy in your Centennial celebration. What a joy, that your community has worshiped and served God here in perfect self-sacrifice for one hundred years. Well may you think at this time of expecting a memorial, as Jacob did, when he awoke from the vision of the angels ascending and descending, and exclaimed "This is no other than the house of God and the gate of Heaven."

What a joy, that here for one hundred years your Community has instructed the young unto justice. "They that instruct others unto justice shall shine as stars in the firmament." There they are, those Sisters of yours, a shining cloud of witnesses overhead, beckoning to you to prosecute your mission, and then share with them their splendid eminence.

And who but God can tell what has been accomplished in the souls of pupils these hundred years!—more by example than by precept. It was such institutions as this that evolved a Thomas Aquinas, a Dante, a Thomas a Kempis, a St. Louis of France, a St. Elizabeth of Hungary, a St. Joan of Arc, an Isabella of Spain, a Pasteur, a Marshal Foch. Fame is not always the measure of greatness. To know God with the whole mind is to be great; to love him with the whole heart is to be good. To love God and to love Him only is the real success of life. So to know and love Him means expansion to all His immensity, participation in His greatness and goodness. Your lives of conservation must have borne their proper fruit.

I unite with you in giving thanks to God for the blessings and graces and successes of the century just closed. And I pray that new courage and zeal may fill your souls for the new century that now commences. Great work lies before you:—to live every day a better, higher life, and to promote the higher education, the higher moral as well as the higher intellectual education.

I pray that St. Catherine's Academy may ever stand pre-eminent among educational establishments. She will: if you make St. Catherine and her heroic client, St. Joan of Arc, your enthusiastic study. Why shouldn't you take St. Joan of Arc for the subpatroness of your

school? Her cult should be one of the specialties of your curriculum. You may be sure St. Catherine favors such a cult. And the Maid herself will co-operate. Under the combined influence of these two models of womanhood, the new century will prove more glorious than the old.

“Proceed, prosper, and reign,” O School of Christ!

Yours faithfully in Him,

(Rev.) W. P. Hogarty.

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**AMERICA National Catholic Weekly**  
Thirty-nine West Eighty-sixth Street  
New York

June 11, 1923

Dear Sisters,

A hundred years is a long time in this young country of ours, and it is an especially long period for Catholic education in Kentucky. The good which has been done by St. Catherine's in a century of work is beyond measure and beyond price; for a hundred years it has stood as a monument attesting the principle of Catholic education that Almighty God must have His place in the heart of the child and in the life of the community.

The past is but a pledge for the future. Young with all her hundred years St. Catherine's will go forward to achievements that are of even greater worth in the sacred cause of Catholic education. I beg you to convey my respectful congratulations to the Community, Kentucky's pioneer teachers, and to all the members of the faculty at St. Catherine's.

Very sincerely,

(Rev.) PAUL L. BLAKELY, S. J.

Associate Editor, America



# Sermon Delivered by Rev. Walter Freiberg

At the Solemn High Mass

June 18, 1923

“And this shall be a memorial to you; and you shall keep it a feast to the Lord.” *Exod. 12-14.*

Rev. Fathers and Dear Friends:

From the shades of the past, brightened by this festive celebration one hundred years rise before us, a full century of heroic sewing and fruitful reaping here in the heart of Kentucky. Fitting indeed it is and proper that this centennial anniversary of St. Catherine's Academy should be observed as a memorial and as a feast to the Lord: a memorial of holy endeavor and of blessed achievement in the field of Christian education of youth; a feast to the Lord in which to rejoice and to express our gratitude to heaven for the harvests of faith and of Christian culture garnered during these many years.

Blessed memories of one hundred years whose reapings in the fruit of knowledge and of virtue were enjoyed by the numerous alumnae of this academy—children, parents, grandparents living today—and others before them, now resting in the sleep of death; sweet recollections of a century, the heat of whose days and the burden of whose years was borne unfalteringly by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, to-gether with the zealous priests and faithful laity of this city—these are reflections which bring joy and gladness to our hearts on this happy occasion.

The history of St. Catherine's Academy takes us back to the trying period of pioneer life and struggle in the virgin soil of our State. We of today, enjoying the advantages built up by a century and more of toil and labor find it hard to realize the depth of faith, the high degree of courage, the willingness to face weary years of poverty, protracted hardships, disappointments and reverses that animated Mother Catherine and her three companion Sisters when in April, 1823, they left the nursery at Nazareth to plant the seeds of knowledge and of faith in the souls of the scattered children of Scott and adjoining counties. In our vision of the past, months and years run together. With one glance we take in an entire epoch. Yet in the actual unfolding of time, each week had its seven days of twenty-four hours, first to last witnessing unabated self-denial, noble effort, unselfish toil in the Christian education of youth. Undaunted by the first decade of generous service at White Sulphur during which the balance

seemed to weigh heavier on the side of effort than on the side of achievement and cherishing the hope of greater opportunities, the Sisters happily changed the location of St. Catherine's Academy to the growing city of Lexington.

This very site which we occupy today has become hallowed and sacred by reason of the ninety years of uninterrupted devotion to the greatest of beneficent influences, instruction in the combined truths of nature and of God. Shall we compare this institution of Saint Catherine's, venerable today by one hundred years, to a nursery attended by skilled and devoted hands, whose flowers transplanted to the hundreds of homes encircling it have done so much to keep them fragrant with the sweet odor of Christian virtue? Shall we compare it to a beautiful orb of light that has itself become steadily brighter while diffusing its golden rays of knowledge and of piety over this fair city and its environs? Truthfully and justly we may! But better still if we put aside comparisons and view this institution as it really is, a school for the instruction of youth in which Jesus Christ, the Master-teacher of mankind has an honored chair and is daily given a hearing.

Some time ago, two American Republics, Chili and Argentina, concluded a treaty of peace. In order to have before their eyes a perpetual reminder of this agreement, the two nations in the persons of their Presidents and their Bishops, met on the border lines and erected there on the mountain summit a colossal statue of Christ. The press of our country, secular and religious, was unanimous in praising that magnificent deed. It was befitting, it said, that Christ, the Prince of Peace, should stand guard on the mountain top, and keep the lands around Him in perpetual peace. But that very Prince of Peace is also the teacher of men, the light of the world. The Catholic school and Academy has the distinction of being more than a bronze representation of the historic Christ. On its sacred ground, Christ has a living presence. He may gather at His feet the children whom He loves with a God's affection. Each day His pure lips may speak to them that message of truth divine which will not only gladden their earthy pilgrimage but likewise bring them safely to the portals of a better hereafter.

The education of youth to which St. Catherine's Academy is dedicated, is without question one of the most important and beneficial factors in life. The greatest boast of our Country today is not its military equipment, not its busy commerce, but its high development of educational opportunity. Now if every attainment in matter of educating the citizens of tomorrow and of eternity is commendable, then we surely have reason to give credit to those schools which undertake with efficient means the burden of developing the whole



child, of maturing and perfecting its every faculty, of shaping and moulding its many sided nature in such a way as to fit it for the right performance of its manifold duties to itself,—to its fellowmen,—to its country and above all to its God—and such are our Catholic Schools. In their curricula full attention is given to the training of the mental faculties of the pupil-mind, memory, imagination, so that these will respond freely to the demands of social intercourse and to the numberless duties which every calling in life brings with it. But the Catholic School does not stop there. Man is a moral being, endowed not only with a mind, but also with a will, with affections, with a conscience. He has duties in the moral and spiritual order that far surpass in importance the demands which the purely material order make upon him. He must be taught to know and to love and to seek which is right; to hate and shun what is evil. The training of the will, this development of character in the process of education is a far more important and more difficult task than the training of the mind. Over and above a knowledge of the fixed unchanging principles of right and wrong, it is necessary that the pupil be imbued with such motive power as will enable him to live up to those principles with courage and constancy, for in the daily combat against the foes that assail him from within and without he must be inspired with such high ideals as will raise him above his own little self, he must be supplied with such moral anchorage as will hold him fast and immovable when trials and temptations surge in upon him.

You remember the story of Ben Hur. As a prisoner he was forced to row the galley slaves of his captors. But he made an agreement with his master whereby he was permitted to change occasionally from one side of the boat to the other, in order that both arms and both shoulders might develop equally, and that he might not grow up deformed with the right biceps of a man and the left biceps of a baby. In like manner a rounded equal development of the whole soul, mind and will, will and mind, is necessary before the responsible task of the education of youth is fully attained. For what is education but the science which teaches men how to live. Where the training of mind goes on without a corresponding training of the will there results the mind and passion of a man coupled with the will of an infant, men and women with big minds and little wills, unprepared and consequently unfit to live aright their temporal and their eternal life.

All educators, secular and religious, likewise statesmen and men of public affairs, realize the necessity of this mutual development of mind and will in the training of youth. All realize that integrity of character is indispensable for the well being of society and for the stability of State apart from the demands of God, of future judgment and eternity. But it may be truthfully said that all educators have not been equally successful in this accomplishment and are frank in acknowledging it. Week after week we may read of confessions made

by eminent educators from presidents of universities on down, and by statesmen, that, tested by actual experience, the natural sciences are important in building up character and that the only efficient means of developing habits of right living must come from religion. Only last week, Secretary of War, Mr. Weeks and General Pershing, at a conference for the promotion of religion among our American soldiers, voiced these very sentiments. Ever more wide spread grows the conviction that to attempt morality without religion and without God is like building a magnificent building upon sand, it does not weather the storms of life. The reason is easily seen. Take away religious instruction from the child, from the boy and girl, and you have taken away from them the one sufficient foundation, sanction and motive power for the self-denials in which virtue consists. Take away religious instruction and you have taken away from them the lessons and the influence of the Savior of men, Jesus Christ. And it was the good example of Christ that inspired and sustained the Saints and the Christian heroes and the noblest men and women the world has ever known. The short martyrdom of fire, sword and wild beast, the long martyrdom of a life of purity, justice and charity, the starry host of virtues that light up the darkness of men's moral lives was and is made possible because Christ has lived and His followers have learned to love Him. A few indeed may be virtuous because of some exceptional influences of nature or environment, but the vast majority of us will strive for the higher, nobler, purer things in life only after we have been taught that heaven invites it, that Christ's life and death have exemplified it, and that the eternal Creator and Redeemer of us all has commanded it.

The Catholic Church has always had the highest esteem for the secular branches of education. From her earliest centuries she has taken the philosophy, literature and science of the time, and far from destroying them, has made them instruments for good. Plato and Aristotle, Virgil and Homer, Demosthenes and Cicero were ever studies in her schools. The great universities of Europe, Bologna and Paris, Oxford and Cambridge were born and brought up under her fostering care. Among her children are to be numbered many of the leaders in scientific research and discovery, Ohm, Ampere Galvani, Roentgen and Pasteur, among a host of others.

But while the Church has ever encouraged every advance of profane learning, she has never forgotten that there is another branch of knowledge far more important for the common good of men and for the good of the individual soul. She has never forgotten the command of Christ to teach and to teach thoroughly whatsoever He revealed to her, nor has she faltered when tremendous sacrifices became necessary to fulfill her sacred charge.



Today the Church is educating one million eight hundred thousand American children in her schools. She has spent three hundred million dollars in building up her vast educational plant of secondary as well as of primary schools and in keeping them abreast of the times in equipment and in standard. But there is another price she is paying to promote knowledge, culture, character and to fulfill the command of Christ "Go and teach." There is a contribution to Catholic education which cannot be counted in dollars, which cannot be weighed on the scales of earth nor paid in the bank notes of time. This contribution comes from our devoted teachers, the Catholic Sisterhood. Justice demands that their self sacrifice should not wait entirely for the headlines of eternity for its proper acknowledgment. Gratitude demands that the grateful tongue should declare its indebtedness and publish its helpfulness to make full payment. Fifty thousand Sisters—fifty thousand trained and devoted women are today in this country alone toiling for Christ and for humanity. For Catholic education, the Catholic laity have made great, generous sacrifices, but the Catholic Sisters have made greater. The laity have given their support and their cooperation; the Sisters have given their life and their life long service. The laity have given freely of their wealth; the Sisters have given what no money can buy, the love of hearts; the courage and self-sacrifice of noble souls. They have left home and friends; they have retired from the world and its pleasures within the four walls of their convent, in order to devote, not a few years, but their entire life to their beloved children. They have heard the invitation of Christ, and like the mothers of Palestine, they have come to Christ's feet, bringing not a dozen children, but their millions of pupils to obtain Christ's blessing, the blessing of a religious, of a Christian education.

Conscious, therefore, dear friends, of the completeness of Catholic education, in that it joins the sweet, strong, safe influence of religion to the study of secular subjects, conscious of the approbation of our Blessed Savior for whatever efforts are made to spread the knowledge of His Gospel, conscious of the supreme sacrifices in generosity and in service on the part of the laity and on the part of our Sisterhood, to accomplish the Christian education of youth,—what reason for rejoicing on this hundred year anniversary of St. Catherine's Academy! Who, but the recording Angel can fittingly portray all the good it has accomplished, all the growth in culture and in faith it has effected, all the influence it has exerted in making its alumnae faithful members of Holy Church, exemplary citizens of our beloved country, acceptable citizens for the Kingdom of Heaven. Some few indeed, even as in the chosen twelve of the Master, may have brought sorrow and confusion to their Alma Mater.

These are the sorrows that mingle with the joy of every Mother. These we pass by, for the joy of the rest. What reason for the alumnae of St. Catherine's to renew today their appreciation and their fidelity to that institution which, second only to their parish Church, has fitted them to live aright their Christian lives! What motives for satisfaction have the laity of this city, you, dear parents and benefactors of St. Catherine's, whose support has helped to build up this Academy, and whose cooperation has made it possible for it to bestow its blessings upon your children! And last, but not least, what abundant reason for offering our warmest congratulations to the devoted teachers, the Sisters of St. Catherine's on this their anniversary celebration. One hundred years of sowing and of reaping, one hundred years of perseverance, one hundred years of success, is theirs. Many indeed who have labored here at St. Catherine's, have been called to receive their hundredfold reward. For all, we can but express our appreciation—our gratitude. Their glorious recompense is not ours to give. It is in the hands of our heavenly Father, whose inspired writer foretold that they who instruct others unto justice shall shine as stars for all eternity.

Your centenary celebration, dear Sisters and friends, closes an epoch now past, but in so doing it does but open up another. Sweet recollections of years now spent have engaged our attention, but our thoughts likewise pierce the future. Many centenaries merely mark a by-gone historical event, but St. Catherine's Academy is a living institution. This celebration far from marking its demise, gives it opportunities and reason for taking a new hold upon its life. Its work must go on. The need of religious instruction, and especially of religious environment and protection during the years of higher education is become as great if not greater than for the period of the primary school. Virgin souls living today and still to be born await the planting of the seeds of knowledge and of faith, lest other seeds of poison and of error take root in their souls and grow a harvest of cockle! Today we rejoice over the past, let us plan and hope for the future. Today we thank Almighty God for having blessed in its hundred year life, St. Catherine's Academy. Let us pray that the continued favor of heaven and the achievements of the future may equal and excel those of the past. Today we open our eyes to the fair fruit and rich harvests of the past, due in largest part to the Sisters who have sacrificed themselves at St. Catherine's. Upon you, dear parents, rests the obligation of fostering and of protecting religious vocations among your children, that when the Sisters who teach today, have spent their energies, others may be at hand to take up their heroic work. That St. Catherine's Academy may continue its noble achievements, that it may ever widen its influences, that it may add year to year, decade to decade, century to century, ever sending forth from its portals alumnae equipped in mind and also prepared in heart to serve their God, and to live lives of usefulness and of honor is the prayer our grateful hearts lay this morning upon the Altar of Sacrifice. Amen.



THE OLD WELL