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Sister Emma Borlek

Sister M. Emma, Formerly Teresa Borlek of Chicago, departed this life on December 2, 1920, after a short illness of about two weeks. She was in the forty-second year of her age and in the twenty-second of her religious career.

Sister Emma's constitution was not of a robust but rather of a delicate nature. She was obliged to exercise the utmost care in avoiding excitement, quick movements of the body, rapid walking, and even riding in street cars, etc., owing to an inherited tendency to heart trouble as well as to a hemorrhagic condition of the lungs, suffering from one or the other of these immediately after forgetting the necessary precautionary measures. In spite of the attention she was obliged to exercise in her own regard she did not thereby imbibe in selfishness of any kind, but on the contrary was even thoughtful, kind and obliging to all around her.

During all her religious career she was employed in the school room, the duties of which absorbed all her attention and she was always much beloved by her pupils. One of her regrets during her last brief illness was this, that she was no longer able to perform this work of love and charity. Another source of regret was the fact that she, through the instrumentality of her pupils, had only sufficient Holy Childhood money to redeem 10 Chinese children instead of 12, as she wished to have accomplished before Christmas of this year. We hope and pray that the Divine Christ Child accepted her intention for the deed and bestowed on her an everlastingly great reward.

Her sufferings during her last illness were intense and, sad to say, no relief could be given her because of the above mentioned conditions which would not permit an operation for the last ailment that manifested itself at that late hour, namely, gall trouble, but she bore them patiently and with only one complaint, namely, that Our dear Lord was so slow in coming for her, or to use her own words "I did not think that Jesus had such slow horses." She departed this life fortified with the rites of Holy Church.