



Sister Petronella Foley, OSF

Sister Petronella, formerly Bridget Foley of Memphis, Tennessee, was called to her reward. She was a younger sister of Sister Pius Foley who died in the year 1880. Like her sister, Sister Petronella was known as a dutiful religious and possessed the qualities of a good teacher. Having been reared in Memphis, Tennessee, a city then renowned for its superior school system, a solid foundation for her educational structure had been laid when in 1873 she entered St. Francis Academy at Joliet, Illinois. Being very talented and a zealous student, she, in a few years, completed the studies of the academic course and became especially efficient in the science of mathematics. In 1878 she attended the commercial class taught at the convent by Professor H. Russell, of the Russell Commercial College in Joliet, and was one of the graduates of the course. She was for several years successfully engaged in the parochial schools of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and Lima, Ohio, and in 1887 was appointed directress of St. Francis Academy. She held this position a little over a year when her health began to fail and she was obliged to resign. At the time of her death she was in the twenty-eighth year of her age and the thirteenth of her religious life.