



Sister Mercedes Haarth

On October 20, 1898, Sister M. Mercedes, formerly Ann Haarth of St. Francis, Chicago, Illinois, died at the Motherhouse at Joliet in the twenty-third year of her age and the seventh of her religious life. She was a younger sister of Sister Veronica and of Reverend Frederick Haarth. Sister Mercedes was well advanced in her studies when she entered the community, having attended St. Francis Assisi School in Chicago at the time when it was regarded as one of the model Catholic schools of the city. Having passed the time of her novitiate and her examinations in the required studies she began a successful teaching career which however, was soon to be shortened, and would have been still shorter if she had not entreated her superiors to let her continue her work as long as possible, for she was nowhere happier than in the schoolroom surrounded by her loving pupils. Her health began to fail after three years of zealous labors and despite all the available means afforded her to recruit her health and strength she was not spared an early grave. She was much beloved by all who knew her.