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Sister Gregory Miller, OSF

On October 23, 1907, Sister M. Gregory, formerly Mary Miller of New Hamburg, Missouri, died at St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet, having on the day previous, undergone an operation for gallstone trouble. She was a full Sister of Sister Anne, and at the time of her death she was in the fifty-sixth year of her age and the thirty-fourth of her religious life. In the early part of her religious career after having spent some years in teaching at Zanesville, Ohio, and at St. Bernard, Nebraska, she was transferred to St. Francis Assisi School in Chicago where she presided as superior and also taught one of the classes in school. In both capacities she spared no efforts that were inducive to the welfare of the mission, so that under her wise direction the Sisters steadily advanced in the art of teaching and discipline.

It was her sole ambition to make the school an ideal one and in a few years she reaped the fruits of her zeal, for St. Francis School was in no respect inferior to the best Catholic parochial school in the city.

In August, 1890, Sister Gregory succeeded the late Sister Xavier Hunk as local superior at the Motherhouse in Joliet and in August, 1893, she was again appointed superior at St. Francis, Chicago. Within the years 1893-1898 she divided her time between superintending the school at St. Francis and lending her assistance to other of our Chicago schools. It was also during time that one of the class rooms at St. Francis was turned into an Art Studio where pupils were given the advantage of learning painting in oil colors and in china painting; artistic needlework was also taught.

Of the many good qualities possessed by Sister Gregory, her hospitality to visiting Sisters will long be remembered and appreciated. No matter at what time of the day Sisters stopped over at "St. Francis Inn," as the house was often jestingly called, they were always cordially welcomed and were served with a substantial meal.

As we have already mentioned in our annals, Sister Gregory held the office of a council member of the Community from the year 1887-1905. Being superior at St. Francis during the years 1895-1898 and later on superior also at St. Boniface, she could consequently not give all of her time to her duties as school inspectress, yet she continued much of the work as visitor until 1900. The last years of her life were spent at St. Boniface mission where she labored from 1898 to the time of her death.