

February 18, 1902

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Sister Clara Schneider

On February 18, 1902, Sister M. Clara, formerly Victoria Schneider, died of cancer of the stomach at the Motherhouse in Joliet, in the seventy-first year of her age and the thirty-fifth of her religious life. From her entrance into the community she was a strict observer of the vow of poverty. During her long life in the convent she really excelled in this virtue and by her example, no doubt, induced many a younger and perhaps heedless Sister to be more conscientious with regard to her obligations to this vow.

Sister Clara was permitted to take perpetual vows after the expiration of one year of noviceship. This privilege was accorded her because she had been a religious previous to her entering this Congregation. In her youth she had embraced the religious life in a convent in Baden, Germany, where she spent a number of years. Unfortunate family affairs brought her to our shores. Her parents had come to America many years before her and had settled in Galena, Illinois. On hearing that they had forsaken the Catholic faith, Sister Clara sought and obtained permission from her superiors to go to America in order to bring her parents back to their duty, but all her endeavors were in vain. Some time after she was received into the convent at Joliet at the age of thirty-six, through the mediation of Very Rev. Peter Fisher, Vicar General, Pastor of St. Peter's Church, Chicago, whose housekeeper she was.