

URBANY FAMILY HISTORY

By– Sister Kunigunda (Margaret) Urbany January 27, 1927

Including Rev. John Urbany and Sister M. Dominica (Anna) Urbany

My parents, Nicolaus Urbany, and my mother, nee Mary Nickels were born in Luxemburg Europe. Bothe were good Catholics. They were married in 1844. Their union was blessed with eleven children. Two of these died in infancy. The oldest son, John, who was ordained priest in 1869 died in August 1884 of heart disease caused by inflammatory rheumatism. During his priestly career he was stationed at Festina, Lansing and Carroll, Iowa. The next son must have died by an accident since we never heard of his whereabouts after he had been employed as conductor on a train. One sister and both our parents died in 1866 of the dreaded cholera which was raging in their country that year. I was in my seventh year at the time and Sister Dominica was three years old. Our family was scattered among the relatives who cared for us until we came to America.

We two sisters entered the Convent in 1877. At present I am stationed at Sparta, Wisconsin and Sister Dominica at St. Rose Convent. My oldest sister is at the Old Folks Home Dubuque. My two brothers are living, one in Carroll, and the other in Oconto, Wisconsin. One sister is living in Paris, France.

Father was devoted to his family and duty; he was a Grenzaufieher which is something like a police man. He was taken sick on his way to work and died a few days later.

Note from FSPA Archives: Sister had written 9 pages in German but only two pages were translated to English.

Sister M. Kunigunda Urbany

1885-1926

Margaret Urbany, our Sister m. Kunigunda, was born in Eischen, Luxemburg, April 13, 1858 where her parents then resided. Later they lived at Hobaschied, Luxemburg, until the year 1866. At this time the cholera was raging in Europe and many of the villagers of Hobschied weresweat away, among them the parents and one of the sisters of our Sister. Of their eleven children two had died in infancy. The oldest, John, was ordained to the priesthood. The next in age is supposed to have been carried away through some fatal accident.

At the death of her parents, Margaret was only seven years old. Anna, Our Sister M. Dominica, was three years old, and Sylvester their youngest brother was four weeks old. The younger of the family were scattered among relatives and for by them.

When Margaret was sixteen years of age her Reverend brother provided for her coming to America. She remained with him until her entrance into the convent, December 17, 1877.

As a religious, Sister Kunigunda was chiefly engaged in domestic work, especially sewing. For years she labored in our Indian St. Mary's Boarding School in Odanah, Wisconsin where she won the love and affection of the little American Indians. Her health failing, however, she spent her declining years in the St. Francis Hospital in Sparta, where she died, May 21, 1926.

She is buried in the Catholic cemetery in Sparta, Wisconsin.

May God grant her eternal rest.