St. Michael's Convent Bernharts Reading, Pa.

February 5, 1952

Dear Sisters,

Quite unexpectedly death claimed our dear Sister M. Dionysia early this morning.

Sister M. Dionysia (nee Theresia Lange) born August 29, 1884, Letmathe, Germany; joined our Congregation October 20, 1908; professed May 13, 1910; arrived in U. S. A. October 18, 1911; died February 5, 1952, St. Michael's Convent.

Sister M. Dionysia had been with our Sisters in Wedron since October and seemed to have improved somewhat. Last week she returned to St. Michael's, very happy to be home again "for good", as she remarked. On the trip she caught a cold which developed into a kind of asthma. As this condition did not clear up, we called Doctor Sondheim yesterday morning. He did not find anything serious and told Sister M. Dionysia that there was no cause for any worry. What a shock, therefore, it was for us this morning when Sister M. Radegundis found her dying and Rev. Father Hollander gave her Extreme Unction before meditation. Sister had peacefully passed away without any sign of struggle. Holy Masses were immediately offered for the repose of her soul. We all felt that God had been very good to her to call her so quickly, especially since we knew from her conversation the last afternoon how well prepared she was for the coming of the Bridegroom.

Sister M. Dionysia is one of our pioneer Sisters. She has served the Sacred Heart of Jesus in His little ones almost uninterruptedly for forty years. The last seventeen years she made her way every morning through sunshine and snow and ice to Holy Guardian Angels School until last September when she suffered a nervous collapse. Now God has called her to Himself, to the well-deserved reward near His Sacred Heart. Sister M. Dionysia has been a faithful and charitable Sister, a conscientious teacher, a pleasant member in the Community, always grateful for little services rendered her. We shall keep her in prayerful remembrance, trusting that she will pray for us in return. We shall put her to rest on our convent cemetery on Saturday, February 9.

Faithfully yours in Corde Jesu,

Mother M. Italburg, m. S. G.