Erie, Pa., Nov. 27, 1861

My Rev. Father Superior!

I received your Roman document, and forwarded it to Monsignor Buffalo, as you requested. I received also the circular with the improved view of your "Home." I will present the case, as opportunity serves, to the clergy of the Diocese, with the most earnest of commendations. I doubt, however, whether this time of year will prove favorable to any great amount of pecuniary success from the appeal.

Right I criticise your elevation, I will tell you that when you become old, so as to need the rest which you are so laborably preparing for others, you will find it tedious, especially if you are rheumatic, to go up and
down stairs as much as you have
provided for. Much better it would
seem to me to occupy both a two
story building more space on the
ground; and even not forgetting
a suggestion I have here before

made to you, namely, that it
will be better in case of fire, to
have several detached structures
rather than one continuous pile.
This certainly is worthy of considera-
tion where the ground is as cheap
as in both your, and not as costly
as in a crowded city where builders
are forced heavenward for am-
plitude. The world is taken with
outside show, and naturally would
by people with grand & lofty pile
for the purpose of show. But we
Spiritually minded people ought to regard an old maxim of our frugal ancestors "Build not your house too high," and seek, by keeping nearer the earth, the exaltation by and by which is promised to those who humble themselves. Pardon these suggestions.

I hope some day to renew the pleasure of my former visits to your interesting locality, especially when I can see realized, or nearly so, all that your zeal promises.

I am sorry I have been precluded by other engagements from accepting some of the invitations I have from time to time received. I promise myself an indemnity for this at some future day.

I am particularly pleased that
Community in responding so nobly to the call of patriotism and charity. I had a regiment forming here under command of a Catholic, for which I expected to be called on for a Chaplain—I should have looked to you in the emergency, but I have been mortified to find that a Methodist has been selected.

I beg a commendation to all your Rev. Conferees, and to Sister Elizabeth and all her pious community, and to all old friends. A share in your good prayers.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ J. M. Young

Very Rev. Father Sorin