Atlantic City, N. J. Aug. 16th 1888

Very Rev. Father General:

Your telegram anouncing the death of Professor Lyceus reached me here and I am very sorry to hear of his demise. I could not answer sooner on account of my illness which is very severe and looks as if it must terminate in my death. I was struck down last Nov. with pneumonia and ever since have been at death's door. I may recover but it looks doubtful from the way I am getting along. I was about erecting a fine Church in Oil City when prohibited and so the new building hangs fire waiting for my recovery and restoration to health or death.
But God's will be done! Your institution has no better friend or harder worker than the late Professor Lyons. May the good God have mercy on his soul and give him eternal rest and happiness. We are all getting old and it looks as if you and Father Grenier would live to see many younger ones pass away. So may it be. I hope and trust that your lives may be spared for many years to come in the interest of religion, education and a sound morality. As soon as I am able I will offer the holy Mass for the repose of his soul or have it said for that end. Please give my kindest regards to all the Fathers and Brothers and believe me to be yours sincerely and respectfully

[Signature]