

Heard of H. Witherington's Letter

J. Patrick's Church

— Select April 30th
1880

To Reverend Mother Teresa Deane

Dear Sister Mother:
Write to know if you could
be persuaded to make a homi-
dier or mission in this City of Select.
Having lately consulted with my Re-
verend Minister about the advisability
of giving this current School property
to a good teaching Community - he readily
assented. The population of this place
is about 16,000 - English-Speaking
population 5,000 at least - There are
about one thousand Irish - ~~English~~
families - We have two English
Protestant Congregations - St. Mary's &
St. Patrick's - Besides there is a large
German Church in the hands of the

France, can Father of them there
are 3 - besides their lay brothers -
Rev F. Beaulieu H. Mary's is about as
interested as I am in the proceeding
of such a Community as we have you,
the - As a high-toned well
trained & exemplary priest.
F. Beaulieu has no equal in this Diocese
of Montreal - You have would find
him generous almost to a fault -
He would want the Sisters located
in St. Patrick's & teach his
parochial school when he has
time - which he cannot have for any
longer - For the present his children
would come up here -
We have \$2000, on hand & want
- A Fair could be gotten up in the
Fall which would realize between
3 & 4 thousand - That I provided
it was known that your Community
was coming - or better still

if they were here to arrange it by
their presence - Rock is very
cheap here - we have plenty of green
a good building that would do for
some time. Could be put up for
\$10,000 - By the time it was
finished you would be about
\$40,000 - four thousand dollars
in debt - Perhaps not over 3 -
Money can be had at 6 per cent
interest - And I promise to get my
people to help pay a good portion
of that interest for a few years until
you get well established -

This place is 38 miles from Chicago
Chicago alone would fill the house
the very first year - There are 5 R.R.
roads entering here - Direct connection
with Detroit without going to Chicago -
The town is thoroughly Catholic - of the
millionaire families (Jush) living in the
city - I surely 5 cents in found who absent
themselves from the Sacraments

I know Canada pretty well & always
like it well - but I must say - that
the faith is as firmly rooted here as
anywhere in Canada that I have seen -
In the good Franciscan Fathers - your
Sisters could find good & true
Confessors - & taking the great fact in
consideration that a Community like
yours is wanted in D.C. & that all the
town in Canada must by this time
be all - or almost supplied - I see
no reason why you should not now
do something for the West - Seeing the
Canada is so well stocked with Com-
munes of all kinds -
We have as good priests & people out here as
ever lived - The Current is edifying the
Church - The Sisters enter the Church
'without ever going out on the street -
The distance between St. Patrick &
St. Mary's is 100 miles & 4 blocks
I am not rich - but it is needless to say
that I would be a father & very Sister when
you could send - John Bay Lenient in
Walter H. Power