



MOTHER M. CLARISSA DILLHOFF

The year 1933 is a memorable one for the whole Christian world; it is doubly so for the Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg, as it marks the fiftieth mile stone in the religious life of Mother Clarissa, the Mother General of the Congregation. Mother Clarissa was born in Cincinnati, January 26, 1865. She was educated at the Immaculate Conception Academy at Oldenburg, from which institution she was graduated in 1882. At the age of eighteen she entered the novitiate and pronounced her holy vows on August 2, 1886. Oldenburg was destined to be the scene of her educational and administrative labors, for she there spent nearly forty years in various positions of trust. Her straightforwardness of character, her complete unselfishness, her ardent love of prayer, and her heroic conformity to the Divine Will so endeared her to her Sister co-laborers that they chose to call her to the highest office in the Congregation on July 2, 1926.

Fifty years of religious life! What a world of thought is compassed in these words! They tell the story of duties performed, of sacrifices offered, of youthful minds directed to high purposes, of motherly guidance, of joys, and of sorrows.

We, the Seniors of 1933, in presenting this our tribute, to you, dear Mother, fondly hope that some of our number will rally to your standard and will have the privilege to call you Mother in very deed.

We rejoice with you, dear Mother, in this, your Golden Year. May we share your prayerful sentiments, saying with Cardinal Newman:

"So long Thy power hast blessed me,
Sure it still will lead me on."