

**BIOGRAPHICAL CYCLOPAEDIA OF THE
CATHOLIC HIERARCHY OF THE UNITED
STATES, 1784-1898: A BOOK FOR
REFERENCE IN THE MATTER OF DATES
PLACES AND PERSONS, IN THE RECORDS OF
OUR BISHOPS, ABBOTS AND MONSIGNORI**

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FRANCIS X. REUSS

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OF THE UNITED STATES.

1784-1898.

A BOOK FOR REFERENCE IN THE MATTER OF DATES, PLACES
AND PERSONS, IN THE RECORDS OF OUR BISHOPS,
ABBOTS AND MONKS.

BY

FRANCIS X. REUSS,

Life Member of the American Catholic Historical Society,
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1898.

Dedication.

TO THE

VERY REV. THOMAS COOKE MIDDLETON,

O. S. A., D.D.,

THE HUMBLE AND LEARNED HERMIT OF THE ORDER OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

THE ZEALOUS AND CAREFUL HISTORIAN, AND THE FIRST PRESI-

DENT OF THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF PHILADELPHIA, IS THIS WORK MOST RESPECT-

FULLY DEDICATED, AS A TESTIMONY OF

HIS LEARNING, KINDNESS AND UN-

TIRING ZEAL IN THE WORK

OF THE SOCIETY.

*By the Author,
Frat of St. Thomas of Villanova. 1897.*

PREFACE.

The compilation seeking public favor in this volume is nothing more—nor less—than an American supplement to the "Art of Verifying Dates." It is not a history in the ordinary meaning of the word; it is a manual of fundamental data for the guidance of future historians of the Church in the United States, as well as of corrections of errors into which all our historians have so far fallen.

This work, then, is rather a guide for students than a book for the general public, a modest addition to the literature of deep research, if not of erudition. In this respect it represents a most useful and valuable division of labor, and cannot but bring a great saving of time to the painstaking historian such as we still need to record fully and faithfully the origin and growth of the Church in this country. The shortcomings of the works that we have on this subject are in some instances due to the fact that the entire field of original research is too much for any one person to cultivate; for very often a single volume of this character that is by no means large may represent the work of the best part of a lifetime.

On the other hand, too many of our so-called Church histories are merely books "made to sell." They are full of errors of omission as well as of commission, repeat all the old-time misstatements, and are of no value as reliable works of reference. Many of their assertions are the hearsays and recollections of persons who perhaps "ought to have known," but did not know. There is very little trace of direct research, and none at all of verification, unless the records were very close to hand. Proofs of this carelessness abound in the present volume.

But to a great extent these errors are to be excused; for, on the part of writers of the general history of the Church,

an enormous amount of labor is required to verify even the leading facts on which suspicion may be entertained by those critically disposed. Any attempt, then, of a single writer to produce a correct history from the sources, scattered and hidden as they have been, must inevitably fail, no matter how gifted and industrious the writer may be. The sources must be made known and brought within easy reach; and it is only by concerted effort on the part of many, each enthusiastic in his own chosen department, that the result can be made beneficial to the general historian.

One of these departments is exhaustively exploited here; and in dealing with it I have had but one object in view, that of presenting a carefully investigated compilation of *Persons*, *Places* and *Dates*, all of which have been so closely verified as to furnish a sure guide to writers. This work has occupied the compiler's seeking and searching during all his leisure hours for eight years. In soliciting and directing searches, over four thousand letters were sent to hundreds of priests, monks, nuns, bishops, cardinals and learned laymen, living in various and widely separated parts of the world, from America to India, from France to Australia; and in nearly every case they received careful attention. No possible source of information has been overlooked; and so careful have I been to note the result in each case that I have even specially marked the places where it will be useless to search hereafter.

I take great pleasure in giving public expression of my gratitude to all who have assisted and encouraged me, but especially to those who urged me to persevere until such data as this work contains should be recovered from oblivion and carefully preserved as an integral and fundamental part of American Catholic Church history.

FRANCIS X. REUSS.

Catholic Hierarchy of the United States.

ALEMANY, MT. REV. JOSEPH SADOC, O.P., D.D.,
(First Bp. Monterey, First Abp. San Francisco)

Born July 13, 1814, and baptized on the same day, at Vich, Province of Catalonia, Spain. His parents were Don Antonio Alemany, and Doña Maria Miguelo Cunis,⁽¹⁾ ordained March 27, 1837, being Saturday before Passion Sunday, at Viterbo, Italy, in the Cathedral of San Lorenzo, by Mgr. Gaspar Piannetti, Abp. of Viterbo, and Toscano⁽²⁾. He was consecrated in the Church of San Carlo, at Rome, on June 30, 1850, by Cardinal Fransoni, Abp. of "Nazienzenus", assisted by R'mo Josepho Valergo, Patriarch of Jerusalem, and R'mo Joanna Dominico Stefanelli, Abp. of "Trajanópolis", having been elected on May 31, 1850, Bp. of Monterey,⁽³⁾ California, U. S. A. On July 29, 1853, he was promoted to the title of Abp. and transferred to the See of San Francisco; resigned in November, 1884, accepted December, 1884, and he was made Titular Abp. of "Pelusium".

Died April 14, 1888, at Valencia, Spain.

(1) From Record of the baptism in the Cathedral of Vich, copy furnished by H. E. The Cardinal Abp. of Valencia, also from Bp. of Vich.

(2) Ordination data from the Abp. of Valencia, verified by letters from the Dominican Convents at Toledo (Spain), Viterbo and Florence. The Bp. of Vich, adds, "During the last three months of the year 1836 he resided at Vich, when he was sent to Rome, from whence he went to Viterbo."

The Bp. of Viterbo also sent official copy of the Record of the ordination.

(3) The Consecration data have never been published in any of our histories. Search having been made for it during three years prior to 1897, in all the Dominican Convents in Europe and America. Dr. Shea, in "Church in the U. S., Vol. iv., p. 356, gives the date June 13 (an error). Search was also made at the Propaganda, in the Archives of the "Cereemoniale," at Rome. Fr. Brandi, Cardl Parrochi, Mgr. Reggi, Mgr. Menghini sought in vain. Padre Emanuelo Alemany, O. S. D., of Florence, and Padres Ignacio and Miguel Alemany, O. S. D.