

A Window Into The Past

THE STORY OF THE SISTERS OF THE HUMILITY OF MARY AND THE MISSING MARE



Mother Anna Tabourat (1831-1903)

Source: Sisters of the Humility of Mary Archives

Stray Mare

On Tuesday, May 24, strayed away from the grounds of the Sisters of Mercy, about one and a half miles from New Bedford, a

SORREL MARE

Five years old, weighs 1,400; heavy mane and tail, small lump on her breast, one fore foot a little white, and both hind feet white, and when she was last seen had a yoke on her neck. Any person returning her or giving information that will lead to her recovery will be suitably rewarded.

MOTHER ANNA,
Superior of Academy

May 25, 1870.

GAZETTE PRINT.

In 1864, eleven Sisters of the Humility of Mary arrived from France and began to live on an abandoned farm in New Bedford, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, now called Villa Maria. By 1870, they had established a school for young orphans in their care. They relied on farming and tending animals for survival. Thus, the loss of a mare put the sisters in a difficult situation. Due to their outreach to the needs around them, the sisters were often referred to as the “Sisters of Mercy” by their neighbors. There is no record indicating that Mother Anna’s mare was ever recovered.

Notice put out by the Sisters of the Humility of Mary seeking the return of their lost mare, 1870

Source: Sisters of the Humility of Mary Archives