HAFKENSCHEID Bernard

Was born in Amsterdam on 12th December 1807. After commencing his seminary studies in his native Holland he completed them in the Roman College, being ordained priest in Rome on 17th March 1832; and in the same year he joined the Redemptorists. He took his vows in Vienna on 17th October 1833. After teaching dogmatic theology for one year in St. Trond he began the brilliant career as a mission preacher for which he is most renowned. In 1849 he was appointed by Father Michael Heilig, Belgian provincial, superior of the foundations in America, succeeding St. John Neumann in that office. When the American province was established on 29th June 1850 he became the first provincial, remaining in that office until 1853. On his return to Europe he preached missions in England and Ireland, becoming superior in Limerick in 1854. Returning to his native Holland, he died in Wittem on 2nd September 1865.

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