

GEORGIA CATHOLIC DEATHS
AND MARRIAGES FROM THE
UNITED STATES CATHOLIC MISCELLANY
JUNE 1822 - JANUARY 1852

The first bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, the Right Rev. John England, D.D., arrived in the United States from Ireland on 30 December 1820 to assume the leadership of the new Catholic Diocese which consisted of the States of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. These three states had a population of just over 1,480,000, of whom only 3600 were estimated to be Catholics of varying degrees of adherence to their faith.

One of Bishop England's major projects designed for the unification and education of his diocese was the establishment of a weekly newspaper which he named the United States Catholic Miscellany, which first appeared on 5 June 1822. Publication was interrupted on two occasions. No paper was issued during the period January-December 1823, or between January and June 1826.

The Diocese of Georgia was separated from the Diocese of Charleston in 1850, the first bishop, the Right Rev. Francis Xavier Gartland, D.D., being consecrated on 10 September 1850. The records reproduced here cover the time when Georgia was part of the Diocese of Charleston. Virtually all of these vital records, if not all, are of Catholics. While many records are of residents of Savannah and Augusta, others are from scattered locations throughout the State. The records of immigrants from Southern Maryland to the Laurel Grove community are of particular interest.

The volumes of the United States Catholic Miscellany have continuous numbering of the pages within each volume so the citations give first the volume number in Roman numerals followed by "USCM" representing the "United States Catholic Miscellany" followed in turn by the page number within the volume, and concluded with the publication date of the particular issue in parenthesis.

The editing of capitalization and punctuation has been kept to a minimum.

The Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C., has assembled a complete file of this diocesan newspaper on microfilm which has been utilized through the operation of the Inter-Library Loan system.

Ralph W. Donnelly,
Editor.
Washington, N. C.