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Notes

Letter 2475. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Georges des Jardins, born in Alençon (Orne) on January 6, 1625, was ordained a priest in September 1649, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 15, 1651, and took his vows on August 17, 1653. Later, he was Superior in Toul (1655-57) and Narbonne (1659).

2. Brother Jean Proust, born in Parthenay (Deux-Sèvres) on March 12, 1620, entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 25, 1645, and took his vows on October 28, 1647.

Saint Vincent refers to clerical students as "Brothers." The context usually determines whether the one referred to is a coadjutor Brother or a student destined for the priesthood.

3. Saint Vincent subscribed the initials, i.p.d.l.M. (indigne prêtre de la Mission.) [unworthy priest of the Mission], to his signature. It has been traditional in the Congregation of the Mission to append to one's name the Latin of this phrase, indignus sacerdos Congregationis Missionis. or the initials, i.s.C.M. The editors have adopted this traditional practice, substituting the initials of the Latin phrase for the French used by Saint Vincent.

Letter 2476. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, unsigned rough draft.

1. Pierre Daveroult, born in Béthune (Pas-de-Calais) on January 20, 1614, was ordained a priest during Lent of 1638. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 13, 1653, and took his vows on January 13, 1656. Twice he embarked for Madagascar and twice returned to Paris without being able to set foot on the island.

Letter 2476a. - Archives of the Religieuses Hospitalières de Saint-Joseph, 251 Ouest, avenue des Pins, Montreal H2W IR6 (Canada), original autograph letter; photograph in the Archives of the Congregation of the Mission, 95 rue de Sèvres, Paris. The text was published in *Annales C.M.*, vol. 126 (1961), p. 222, and reprinted in *Mission et Charité*, 19-20, no. 95, pp. 119-120. This edition uses the latter text.

1. Pierre Cabel, born in Chézery (Ain), was ordained a priest on March 13, 1642, and entered the Congregation of the Mission in Annecy in January 1643, at twenty-six years of age. He arrived in Paris on February 24, 1644, and was sent to Sedan, where he took his vows on August 9, 1645, and was Superior (1657-63). He was also Superior in Saint-Méen (1670-71), Visitor for the Province of Champagne, and a member of the General Assembly that elected René Alméras as Superior General. Cabel died at Saint-Lazare on September 26, 1688, leaving the reputation of an exemplary priest. His biography, written by one of his contemporaries, was published in vol. II of *Notices sur les prêtres, clercs et frères*

défunts de la Congrégation de la Mission. (10 vols. in two series, Paris: Dumoulin, 1881-1911), pp. 315-37.

2. On the sheet containing the address, an old notation gives the year as 1657; there is no information to contradict the exactitude of this date.

3. Armand-Jean du Plessis, Duc de Richelieu, was born on October 2, 1631. He succeeded his father, François de Vignerod, brother of the Duchesse d'Aiguillon, as General of the Galleys (1653-81). In virtue of that office the hospital for galley slaves came under his jurisdiction. He died on May 10, 1715.

4. Jean Desmarets, Seigneur de Saint-Sorlin, member of the French Academy, and Intendant of the Duc de Richelieu, was born in Paris in 1595. He wrote some very successful tragedies and comedies before devoting himself mainly to works of piety, translations of the Imitation of Christ. and the Spiritual Combat, Avis du Saint-Esprit au Roi, and some articles attacking the Jansenists, Simon Morin, Homer, Virgil, and the pagan authors. His principal work, Les Délices de l'esprit, a poetic apology of Christianity, was printed in 1658. He often consulted Saint Vincent and called him his "good spiritual Father"; Saint-Cyran was frequently the topic of their conversations. Despite the strong influence of the Saint, after his death Desmarets fell into strange ways, not only on the spiritual and religious level but also in the literature he wrote, leading people to think that he had more or less lost his mind. Desmarets died in Paris on October 28, 1676. No further information concerning his sons is available.

5. The Missionaries had been working in Sedan since 1643; the previous year the principality of Sedan had been annexed to the kingdom of France from the Spanish dominions in the Low Countries (Spanish Netherlands). In 1644 the King, by his endowment of twenty-four thousand livres (cf. vol. XIII, no. 92), had tried to procure missions, if not to convert the Calvinists to the Catholic faith, at least to confirm the Catholics in their faith (cf. vol. II, no. 660, p. 435, n. 10, and no. 723, p. 524, n. 1). The Governor, Abraham de Fabert, and a reliable garrison were supposed to win hearts and minds to France, and thereby, according to prevalent thought, to Roman Catholicism. Saint Vincent is recommending that his Missionaries help the Catholics to become better and, by the example of a truly Christian life, dispel the preconceived ideas of the Calvinists.

6. Guillaume Michel, born in Esteville (Seine-Maritime), left his parish in Saint-Valery to enter the Congregation of the Mission on June 19, 1646, at thirty-nine years of age. He withdrew from the Congregation of his own accord before taking vows but later returned. In 1657 he was a member of the Sedan house and was in Fontainebleau in 1666.

7. Jean Sevant, born in Vaucelles, a faubourg of Caen (Calvados), on April 14, 1617, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 9, 1654, at the Paris seminary, took his vows on January

20, 1657, in the presence of M. Berthe, and died in Richelieu on November 5, 1665.

Letter 2477. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Edme Menestrier, born in Rugney (Vosges), on June 18, 1618, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 10, 1640, took his vows in October 1646, and was ordained a priest in 1648. He spent the rest of his Community life at the Agen Seminary, where he was Superior (1651-65, 1672-85) and Procurator (1665-72). Saint Vincent always called him by his first name only.

2. Moïse du Bourg, S.J., was born in 1598 and died in Limoges on March 3, 1662. He was the author of the book entitled: *Le jansénisme foudroyé par le bulle du Pape Innocent X, et l'histoire du jansénisme, contenant sa conception, sa naissance, son accroissement et son agonie.* (Bordeaux: I. Mongiron-Millanges, 1658). As stated in the preface, the idea of the author was that this book was to serve primarily "for zealous Catholic missionaries.. especially in rural areas, during their missions."

3. Barthélemy d'Elbène, Bishop of Agen (1638-63).

4. Claude Admirault, born in Chinon (Indre-et-Loire), entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 20, 1648, at sixteen years of age, took his vows in 1651, was ordained a priest in December 1656, and was placed at the Agen Seminary. He was Superior of the Montauban Seminary (1665-75, 1686-90), and the Agen Seminary (1690-94).

5. René Thieulin, born in Argentan (Orne) on January 29, 1629, entered the Congregation of the Mission on January 18, 1653, was ordained a priest on December 25, 1654, and took his vows in January 1655. He was Superior at the Collège des Bons-Enfants (1674-76, 1685-89) and acting Assistant General (1677-79). At the General Assembly of 1679 he was named Assistant General, remaining in office until the generalate of Nicolas Pierron (1697). Thieulin died in Paris on November 7, 1706.

Letter 2478. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Firmin Get, born in Chépy (Somme) on January 19, 1621, entered the Congregation of the Mission on January 6, 1641, and took his vows in January 1643. In 1648 he was placed in Marseilles, where he was Superior (1654-62), except for a very short time spent in Montpellier (1659-60) to open a seminary, which lasted only a few months. Later he became Superior in Sedan (1663-66, 1673-81) and in Le Mans (1670-73), and Visitor of the Province of Poitou, an office he held until April 4, 1682.

2. These letters are no longer extant. It is evident from innumerable references in the Saint's letters that a great many letters written to him are now missing. Except for what he himself might not have preserved, much of this loss can be attributed to the pillage of Saint-Lazare during the French Revolution.

3. Thomas Berthe, born in Donchery (Ardennes), entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 26, 1640, at the age of eighteen, and took his vows on December 8, 1645. After ordination in 1646, he was assigned to Sedan. Convinced that he had been sent there as Superior, he felt humiliated to see less important work entrusted to him, and he returned to his family. A short time later he came to his senses, and Saint Vincent, who recognized his virtues and appreciated his talents, joyfully took him back. He subsequently served the Community as Superior in Picardy and Champagne and in other important positions: Superior at the Bons-Enfants Seminary (1649-50) and in Rome (1653-55), Secretary of the Congregation (1660), Assistant to the Superior General (1661-67), Superior in Lyons (1668-71), at Saint-Charles Seminary (1673-82, 1687-89), and Richelieu (1682-85). In October 1659 Saint Vincent decided that among his Missionaries none was more suitable to succeed him as head of the Congregation than René Alméras or Thomas Berthe. He proposed the two names in advance, in writing, to the General Assembly that was to choose his successor. (René Alméras was elected.) There were some clashes between Berthe and Edme Jolly, the third Superior General (1673-97), which clouded his last years. Berthe died in 1697. (Cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 247-313.)

4. Throughout this edition the various denominations of French money have been left in French, since no adequate, unchanging value in American dollars can be assigned. In the time of Saint Vincent, one écu equaled three livres; one thousand livres could support two priests and a Brother for one year on the missions (cf. vol. V, no. 1972, p. 485).

5. Bankers in Paris.

6. Jean and Louis Napollon were bankers in Marseilles. As with the Simonnets in Paris, Saint Vincent often used their bank when transferring funds.

7. Jean Le Vacher, born in Écouen (Val-d'Oise) on March 15, 1619, entered the Congregation of the Mission with his brother Philippe on October 5, 1643. He took his vows in 1646 and was ordained a priest in 1647. When Julien Guérin, a Missionary in Tunis, needed help, Saint Vincent decided to send him Jean Le Vacher. On August 23, 1647, as the Founder and his young disciple were leaving Saint-Lazare, they met Nicolò di Bagno, the Nuncio. "Excellency," said the Saint, "you are just in time to give your blessing to this good priest, who is leaving for the Tunis mission." "What! this child!" exclaimed the astonished Nuncio. "Excellency," replied the Saint, "he has the vocation for that."

Le Vacher arrived in Tunis on November 22, 1647. Guérin's death on May 13, 1648, followed two months later by that of the Consul, Martin de Lange, placed on Le Vacher the double burden of Consul and head of the Mission. In 1650 he added Vicar Apostolic to these titles. Since the Holy See would not allow priests to be in charge of the consulate, Saint Vincent sent a layman, Martin Husson, a parliamentary lawyer, who arrived in Tunis in 1653 and

left in April 1657, expelled by the Dey. For two years Jean Le Vacher acted as Consul. He returned to France in 1666, and was sent to Algiers in 1668 as Vicar-General of Carthage and Vicar Apostolic of Algiers and Tunis. His life in Algiers was that of an apostle, and his death that of a martyr. On July 16, 1683, Algiers was being bombarded by Duquesne. After the Turks had used every device to make Le Vacher apostatize, they finally tied him to the mouth of a cannon, which shot his body into the sea. (Cf. Raymond Gleizes, *Jean Le Vacher, vicaire apostolique et consul de France à Tunis et à Alger (1619-83)*. [Paris: Gabalda, 1914].) Frequent mention of the Le Vacher brothers appears in the letters. In this volume, unless stated otherwise, Jean is usually associated with Tunis and Philippe is mentioned in conjunction with Algiers.

8. Jean Barreau was born in Saint-Jean-en-Grève parish, Paris, on September 26, 1612. While still a young man, he left the position of parliamentary lawyer to enter the Cistercian Order. He later asked Saint Vincent to receive him into his Community and began his novitiate on May 14, 1645. In 1646 Saint Vincent sent him, while still a seminarian, to Algiers as French Consul, in keeping with the wish of the Holy See not to have a priest in the office of Consul. There his dedication to the slaves was limitless. The goodness of his heart moved him more than once to commit himself for sums he did not possess or which did not belong to him; for this he was ill-treated by local authorities and reproved by Saint Vincent. When his companion, Jacques Lesage, became gravely ill, Barreau took his vows before him, although he had not yet been released from the simple vow of religion he had taken as a Cistercian. This dispensation was not requested until 1652. Finally, on November 1, 1661, he was able to take his vows validly in the Congregation of the Mission. He was in Paris at the time, summoned by René Almérás, second Superior General, and had only Minor Orders. He was ordained a priest in 1662 or 1663 and spent the remainder of his life at Saint-Lazare as Procurator. In 1672 he was associated with the Procurator General, Nicolas Talec. On May 24, 1675, during a serious illness, he made his will, to which he added a codicil on April 7, 1679. (Cf. Arch. Nat. M 213, no. 8.)

9. A slave in Algiers from Antwerp.

Letter 2479. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Charles Ozenne, born in Nibas (Somme) on April 15, 1613, was ordained a priest in 1637 and entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 10, 1638. After his Internal Seminary (novitiate), he was assigned to Troyes, where he took his vows on August 29, 1642, and became Superior in 1644. Saint Vincent recalled him in 1653 to direct the mission in Poland. "He is a zealous and detached man of God," he wrote to Nicolas Guillot, "with a talent for leadership and for winning hearts within the Company and outside of it." (Cf. vol. IV, no. 1624, p. 573.)

Unfortunately, this excellent Missionary's career was brief: he died in Warsaw on August 14, 1658. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 148-54.)

2. Guillaume Desdames, born in Rouen, entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 19, 1645, at twenty-three years of age, took his vows on March 10, 1648, and was ordained a priest on May 31, 1648. He was stationed in Toul shortly afterward, then sent to Poland where he arrived with Lambert aux Couteaux in November 1651. He worked there with praiseworthy dedication amid numerous difficulties, first as a simple confrere and, after the death of Charles Ozenne (August 14, 1658), as Superior of the Mission. René Alméras recalled him to France in 1669, but he returned to Poland a few years later and assumed the direction of the house in Chelmno. He returned to France for the General Assembly of 1685. Desdames ended his days as Superior of the foundation in Krakow, June 1, 1692. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, p. 166, and Mémoires de la Congrégation de la Mission. [11 vols., Paris, 1863-99], vol. I, pp. 24-33.)

3. Nicolas Duperroy, born in Maulévrier (Seine-Maritime) on January 16, 1625, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 13, 1651, was ordained a priest on April 4, 1654, and took his vows on December 13, 1663. After the capture of Warsaw, he was brutally treated by the Swedes and left for dead, caught the plague twice, and for a long period of time suffered from a painful bone condition. René Alméras appointed him Superior in 1670. His house sent him as delegate to the General Assembly of 1673. Returning to Poland, he continued as Superior until 1674, after which there is no further trace of him.

4. Louise-Marie de Gonzague, Queen of Poland, was the daughter of the Duc de Nevers. Despite her attachment to the Jansenist party, this former Lady of Charity, wife of King Wladyslaw IV, then of his brother, Jan Casimir, held Saint Vincent in the highest esteem. She summoned to Poland the Priests of the Mission, the Daughters of Charity, and the Visitation nuns; gave them housing, took care that nothing was wanting to them, and never failed to protect them. She died in 1667.

5. Lady-in-waiting for the Queen of Poland.

6. In the Congregation of the Mission, those in the years of formation went through the Internal Seminary, which corresponded to the novitiate in Religious Orders. All new applicants were received there to be formed to the practice of the virtues of their state and to be trained for the lifestyle and duties of the Missionaries. Saint Vincent readmitted to the seminary Priests of the Congregation who felt the need to withdraw for a month or two from exterior occupations so as to recapture the first fervor of their vocation.

7. Birthplace of M.Ozenne. It is situated in the Somme region.

8. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2480. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Edme Jolly, born in Doué (Seine-et-Marne) on October 24, 1622, was acquainted in his youth with the Marquis de Fontenay-Mareuil, the French Ambassador in Rome, who took him to that city. He even entrusted Jolly with a delicate mission in the service of the King, which the young man handled most successfully. Before being admitted to Saint-Lazare on November 13, 1646, he had a post in the Apostolic Datary, an office of the Roman Curia in charge of examining the fitness of candidates for Papal benefices and of handling the claims of those with rights to pensions. After his seminary he returned to Rome, reviewed philosophy, theology, and Canon Law, and was ordained a priest on May 1, 1649. In May 1654 he became Director of the Saint-Lazare Seminary, and in 1655 he was appointed Superior of the house in Rome, from where Thomas Berthe had just been recalled by order of the King. Jolly rendered immense service to his Congregation because of the concessions he obtained from the Holy See. After the Saint's death he became Assistant to the Superior General and Assistant of the Motherhouse. The General Assembly of 1673 elected him successor to René Alméras as Superior General. His generalate was one of the most fruitful the Company has ever known. Jolly died in Paris on March 26, 1697. His biography, written by a contemporary, was published with some alterations in vol. III of Notices, pp. 387-512.

2. The death of Élie Laisné de la Marguerie, archpriest of Gignac, left vacant this simple benefice of the diocese of Cahors. Gilbert Cuissot was named to succeed him. In his letter of November 9, 1657, to Edme Jolly, Saint Vincent requests that he obtain this provision from Rome for "Gilbert Cuissot, priest of the Autun diocese, designated a graduate of the said diocese of Cahors." (Cf. vol. VI, no. 2452.)

Cuissot, born in Moulins (Allier), on November 5, 1607, had been a priest for six years when he entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 14, 1637. After serving as Superior of the Luçon house, he was appointed to the same office in La Rose (1640-44), then at the Collège des Bons-Enfants (1644-46), where he took his vows on November 11, 1644. From there he went to the Le Mans Seminary (1646), then to Saint-Lazare (1646-47). He was Director of the Cahors Seminary (1647-62) and Superior of the Richelieu house (1662-66). He declared that, at the time of the election of Saint Vincent's successor, he was hesitant about voting for René Alméras, who was in poor health. The Saint, however, appeared to him and determined his choice. He also said that in 1662, while exorcising a possessed woman, he drew from the demon an acknowledgment of the Founder's holiness and the reward reserved by God for Missionaries faithful to their vocation. Cuissot died in 1684.

3. François Grimal, born in Paris on March 6, 1605, began his Internal Seminary on June 6, 1640, and took his vows on October 9, 1646. He rendered outstanding service to his Congregation as Superior in Crécy (1645-46), Montmirail (1646-49, 1654-55), and

Agen (1650-51); as Second Assistant to Saint Vincent (1652); and in more humble positions in Fontainebleau and elsewhere. The introduction of vows into the Company corresponded to his wishes, and he made every effort to have this measure accepted by those around him. He renewed his vows on October 3, 1665, in the presence of M. Portail.

4. Nicolò di Bagno (Saint Vincent always refers to him as Nicolas Bagni.), Archbishop of Athens, Nuncio in France from June 25, 1643 to 1657, was made a Cardinal with the titular church of Sant'Eusebio, and Bishop of Senigallia on April 9, 1657. He died in Rome on August 23, 1663, at the age of seventy-nine. Saint Vincent, with whom he had a close relationship, was very pleased with his benevolence.

5. Celio Piccolomini, a member of the ancient Sienese family that furnished many Bishops of Siena and Pienza and several Cardinals and Popes, as well as political and military leaders. Titular Bishop of Caesarea, and Nuncio in France (1656-63), he became a Cardinal in 1664 and was Archbishop of Siena from 1671 until his death in 1681.

6. First redaction: "that he was not approached." The change is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2481. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Born in Châtillon-en-Dunois (Eure-et-Loir), Jean Parre entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 16, 1638, at twenty-seven years of age, took his vows in 1643, and died after 1660. He and Brother Mathieu Régnard were two of the most intelligent and active instruments that Divine Providence placed in Saint Vincent's hands. Brother Parre traveled all over Picardy and Champagne assessing and remedying needs. (Cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 223-40.)

2. Town in the Ardennes that had suffered greatly from the war, especially since 1651. Brother Jean Parre made several trips there to organize the distribution of the aid sent from Paris. He also started a Confraternity of Charity there.

3. A meeting of the Ladies of Charity of the Hôtel-Dieu. Through Missionaries like Jean Parre, they were assisting provinces devastated by the Fronde and its aftermath.

Letter 2482. - Abelly, *La vie du Vénérable Serviteur de Dieu Vincent de Paul*. (3 vols., Paris: Florentin Lambert, 1664), bk. III, chap. XXI, p. 311.

Louis Abelly was born in Paris in 1604. From the earliest years of his priesthood he took part in Saint Vincent's apostolic labors. The Saint spoke so highly of him to François Fouquet, Bishop-elect of Bayonne, that the latter appointed him his Vicar-General. Abelly's stay in Bayonne was not long; he accepted a simple village parish near Paris, and shortly afterward (1644) was given charge of Saint-Josse parish in the capital, where he formed an ecclesiastical community. He later became Director of the Sisters of the Cross (1650), chaplain of the General Hospital

(1657), and Bishop of Rodez (1664). In 1666 he resigned his diocese for reasons of health and retired to Saint-Lazare, where he spent the last twenty-five years of his life in recollection and study. We have about thirty of his books on devotion, history, and theology. Abelly is not merely the sponsor of *La vie du Vénérable Serviteur de Dieu Vincent de Paul*, as has been asserted, but is truly its author. His task was greatly facilitated by Brother Ducournau, one of the Saint's secretaries, who collected and classified the documents. Abelly made a donation to the Saint-Lazare house of some property in Pantin, which became the country house of the students. He died on October 4, 1691, and, according to his wish, was buried in the church of Saint-Lazare, under the Saints-Anges chapel. (Cf. Pierre Collet, *La vie de St Vincent de Paul*. [2 vols., Nancy: A. Leseure, 1748], vol. I, pp. 5ff.)

1. Saint Vincent wrote this letter after learning of the death of Dermot Duggan, i.e., after October 30, 1657, and very probably within two months after receiving this news.

Duggan (Saint Vincent spells his name Duiguin.), born in Ireland in 1620, was already a priest when he entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 26, 1645. In November of the following year he was sent back to Ireland, returning to France in 1648. Two years later he left for Scotland, where he spent the rest of his life amid great dangers, animated with the zeal of an apostle and the courage of a martyr. He died on May 17, 1657 on the isle of Uist, where an ancient chapel still bears his name and recalls his memory. (Cf. *Notices*, vol. III, pp. 114-121.)

2. Many confreres died in the spring-summer of 1656; among those in Genoa were Luca Arimondo, Étienne Blatiron, Domenico Boccone, Louis Duport, John McEnery, Antoine Tratebas, François Vincent, and Brother Giovanni Damiani. At the same time Saint Vincent heard of the deaths of the above, he was also receiving news of the death of Mathurin de Belleville, en route to Madagascar, and of Claude Dufour and Nicolas Prévost, shortly after their arrival there.

3. Cf. Jn 15:13. (NAB)

4. This is evident from the many letters in vol. VI in which these deaths are mentioned.

Letter 2483. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Dominique Lhuillier, born in Barizey-au-Plain (Meurthe), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest in Paris on July 11, 1651, at the age of thirty-two. He took his vows there on May 5, 1659, in the presence of M. Alméras. Lhuillier was a Missionary in Crécy (1654-60) and in Toulon, where he died.

2. Marie Séguier, widow of César de Coislin; she later married the Marquis de Laval-Boisdauphin.

3. When the house was first established in Crécy (1641), Pierre Lorthon, the King's secretary, had promised the Congregation of the Mission a revenue of four thousand livres from five large

farms he had obtained from the King and Queen. On further reflection, he preferred to give two thousand livres to the hospital in Crécy and to keep the balance for himself. This resulted in a lawsuit between Lorthon and the Bishop of Meaux, Dominique Séguier, which did not close until 1659 in favor of the Missionaries. Saint Vincent would have preferred to renounce everything rather than bring a benefactor to court. Deprived of the resources on which he was counting, he left only one priest and a Brother in Crécy. The priest said Mass daily in the chapel, heard confessions of those who came to him, and visited the sick of the parish who asked for him.

4. Dominique Séguier (1595-1659), brother of the Chancellor, Pierre Séguier, was named Bishop of Auxerre in 1631 and transferred to Meaux in 1638. He resigned in 1659 and died in Paris the same year.

5. Claude Dufour, born in Allanche (Cantal) in 1618, entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 4, 1644, shortly after his ordination to the priesthood. He was first sent to Montmirail (1644), then put in charge of the seminary in Saintes (1646-48). He was very virtuous but of a rigid and unobliging kind of virtue. In his eyes the life of a Missionary was too soft; he persuaded himself that the life of a Carthusian was more suited to his love for prayer and mortification. Saint Vincent was of an entirely different opinion, so Dufour, always docile, abandoned his plans. To free him from temptations of this kind, the Saint put him on the list of priests to be sent to Madagascar. While awaiting the day of departure, the Saint assigned him first to Sedan, then to Paris, entrusting him with the Internal Seminary there during the absence of M. Alméras, and finally to La Rose as Superior (1654-55). Sea voyages were long in those days; Dufour left Nantes in 1655 and arrived in Madagascar in August of the following year, but died on August 18, 1656, just a few days after his arrival. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 14-23.)

6. Nicolas Prévost, born in La Roche-Guyon (Val-d'Oise), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 20, 1646, at thirty-four years of age. He was sent to Madagascar in 1655 and died there in September 1656, leaving the reputation of being a very zealous and virtuous Missionary.

7. Mathurin de Belleville, born in Brix (Manche), entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 1, 1654, at twenty-seven years of age. He contracted an illness as soon as the ship left the Saint-Martin roadstead, died on January 18, 1656, and was buried at sea off the coast of Sierra Leone (cf. Notices, vol. III, p. 160). On September 7, 1657, Saint Vincent gave a conference to the Daughters of Charity on his virtues (cf. vol. XI, no. 173).

8. Toussaint Bourdaise, born in Blois (Loir-et-Cher) in 1618, entered the Internal Seminary of the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on October 6, 1645, and took his vows there on October 7, 1647. He was ordained a priest in 1651, even though his talent and knowledge had been questioned a number of times (cf. vol. XI,

no. 177). In 1654 he was sent to Madagascar, where he died on June 25, 1657 (cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 180-214).

9. Étienne Blatiron was born in Saint-Julien-Chapteuil (Haute-Loire) on January 6, 1614. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on January 6, 1638, was ordained a priest in 1639, and was placed in Alet (1639-41), Saintes (1641), Richelieu, Rome (1644-45), and Genoa (1645-57). He distinguished himself particularly in the latter post where, as Superior of a new house, he had to organize everything. Saint Vincent considered him one of his most competent Missionaries and "a very great servant of God." (Cf. Abelly, op. cit., bk. III, p. 70.) Blatiron died in Genoa on July 24, 1657, a victim of his dedication to the plague-stricken. His biography was published in vol. II of Notices, pp. 151-203. In the Lyons manuscript there is a report on his virtues addressed to Saint Vincent.

10. Nicolas Duport, born in Soissons (Aisne) on March 22, 1619, was ordained a priest on June 15, 1647, entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 5, 1648, and took his vows on May 6, 1650. He was assigned to Genoa in 1652, where he died of the plague on July 14, 1657. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 82-87, for an account of several Missionaries who died of the plague in Genoa that year.) A brief summary of Duport's virtues is given in Ms. 774 of the municipal library of Lyons (fol. 232-33).

11. John McEnery (Saint Vincent refers to him as Jean Ennery.), born in December 1616 at Castle Mak Ennery, today Castletown (Ireland), entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 23, 1642, and took his vows on October 11, 1645. According to Saint Vincent, he was "a wise, pious, and exemplary man" (cf. Abelly, op. cit., bk. III, p. 48). He taught theology at Saint-Lazare (1652), aided the unfortunate people of Champagne impoverished by the war (1653), and assisted his countrymen who had fled to Troyes (1654). His last assignment was Genoa, where he died of the plague in 1657.

12. François Vincent, born in 1611 in Gandelu, Meaux diocese (Seine-et-Marne), entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 2, 1649, and died of the plague in Genoa on July 13, 1657.

13. Antoine Tratebas, born in Allauch (Bouches-du-Rhône), near Marseilles, in October 1632, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on October 7, 1651, took his vows on October 20, 1653, and died of the plague in Genoa in August 1657. His family gave hospitality to Antoine Portail and other Priests of the Mission in 1649 during the plague that was ravaging the city of Marseilles.

14. Domenico Boccone was born in Tirane, Albenga diocese (Italy), on November 12, 1613, and entered the Congregation of the Mission in Genoa on November 9, 1655. He was ordained a priest on December 25, and died of the plague in Genoa on August 3, 1657. According to Notices, vol. I, p. 485, Boccone (Bacone) was ordained a priest on Christmas 1657 and died on August 3, 1657. Notices. then states, "Therefore, there is an error either in

the date of his ordination or in that of his death." Notices, vol. V (Supplement), gives no information about his ordination.

15. In his Index (vol. XIV) Coste states that this is Brother Jean (Giovanni) Damiani, but gives no biographical data; none can be found in Notices, vols. I or V (Supplement).

16. Cf. Mt 16:25. (NAB)

17. Cf. Jn 15:13. (NAB)

Letter 2484. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original autograph letter.

1. Jacques Tholard was born in Auxerre (Yonne) on June 10, 1615, and entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 20, 1638. He was ordained a priest on December 17, 1639, and died after 1671. He manifested throughout his life, in Annecy (1640-46), Tréguier, where he was Superior (1648-53), Troyes (1658-60), Saint-Lazare, Fontainebleau, and elsewhere, the qualities of an excellent Missionary. During the generalate of René Alméras, he was Visitor of the Provinces of France and Lyons.

2. Bruyères-le-Châtel, in the district of Corbeil (Essonne).

3. Probably Conflans-Sainte-Honorine, in the district of Versailles (Yvelines).

4. Cf. Mt 8:20. (NAB)

5. Cf. Mt 8:34. (NAB)

6. Cf. Lk 15:4. (NAB)

7. Michel Caset, born in Vautortes (Mayenne), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 31, 1649, at twenty-four years of age, took his vows in November 1651, and was ordained a priest in 1653. He was Superior in Toul (1659-60), then in Crécy (1662-70), after having spent some time in Fontainebleau. He later became a diocesan priest and died as Pastor of Crouy-sur-Ourcq (Seine-et-Marne).

8. Antoine Fleury, born in Bully (Rhône) in September 1624, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on August 28, 1657, and took his vows in Saintes on January 18, 1660, in the presence of M. Dehorgny.

Letter 2485. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Saint Louise de Marillac, Foundress, with Saint Vincent, of the Daughters of Charity, was born in Paris on August 12, 1591. Her father was Louis de Marillac, brother of the devout Michel de Marillac, Keeper of the Seals (1616-30), and half-brother of another Louis, Maréchal de France, renowned for his misfortunes and tragic death. Louise married Antoine Le Gras, secretary of Queen Marie de Médicis, on February 5, 1613, and they had one son, Michel. Antoine Le Gras died on December 21, 1625. The devout widow had implicit confidence in her spiritual director, Vincent de Paul, who employed her in his charitable works, eventually making her his collaborator in the creation and organization of the Confraternities of Charity. The life of Saint Louise, whom the Church beatified on May 9, 1920, was written by Gobillon (1676), the Comtesse de Richemont (1883), Comte de

Lambel (n.d.), Monsignor Baunard (1898), and Emmanuel de Broglie (1911). Her letters and other writings were copied and published in part in the work entitled: *Louise de Marillac, veuve Le Gras. Sa vie, ses vertus, son esprit.* (4 vols., Bruges, 1886). Saint Louise was canonized on March 11, 1934, and on February 10, 1960, was named the patroness of all who devote themselves to Christian social work. Therefore, in this English edition of the letters of Saint Vincent, "Saint" has been added to her name in titles of letters and in the footnotes. To the above bibliography should be added some of her more recent biographers: Alice, Lady Lovat, *Life of the Venerable Louise de Marillac (Mademoiselle Le Gras).* (New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1917); Monsignor Jean Calvet, *Louise de Marillac, a Portrait,* translated by G. F. Pullen (1959); Joseph I. Dirvin, *Louise de Marillac.* (1970); the compilation by Sister Anne Regnault, D.C., editor: *Louise de Marillac, ses écrits.* (1961), of which the section containing the letters was translated by Sister Helen Marie Law, D.C.: *Letters of St. Louise de Marillac.* (1972); and the revised edition of Sister Regnault's work entitled: *Sainte Louise de Marillac. Écrits spirituels.* (Tours: Mame, 1983), ed. Sister Élisabeth Charpy, D.C., trans. by Sister Louise Sullivan, D.C., *Spiritual Writings.* (Brooklyn: New City Press, 1991).

2. François Annat, born in Estaing (Aveyron) on February 5, 1590, entered the Society of Jesus on February 16, 1607. For thirteen years he taught philosophy and theology in Toulouse and was Rector of the Collège de Montpellier and the Collège de Toulouse. He became Assistant to the Superior General, Provincial of France, and confessor of King Louis XIV (1654-61). To him we owe many works against Jansenism. Annat died in Paris on June 14, 1670.

3. Annat wrote several books. In 1657 he published: *Défense de la vérité catholique touchant les miracles contre les déguisemens et artifices de la réponse faite par MM.de Port-Royal à un escrit intitulé: "Observations nécessaires sur ce qu'on dit estre arrivé à Port-Royal au sujet de la Sainte-Espine,"* by the Sieur de Sainte-Foy, Doctor of Theology (Paris: F. Lambert, 1657); and *Rabat-joie des Jansénistes ou Observations nécessaires sur ce qu'on dit estre arrivé au Port-Royal au sujet de la Sainte-Espine.* In the same year, in collaboration with his confreres Fathers Jacques Nouet, De Lingendes, and Brisacier, he published *Réponses aux "Lettres provinciales" publiées par le secrétaire de Port-Royal contre les PP.de la Compagnie de Jésus sur le sujet de la morale desdits Pères.* (Liège: J.M. Hovius, 1657).

Letter 2486. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Jean Martin, born in Paris on May 10, 1620, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 9, 1638. He was ordained in Rome on April 25, 1645, and that same year was sent to Genoa to found a new house. Saint Vincent probably had no Missionary more gifted in drawing crowds and converting souls. In 1654

Martin was recalled to France and placed in Sedan as Superior and Pastor; then he was sent to Turin in 1655 for the new establishment founded by the Marchese di Pianezza, Prime Minister of State. There, as in Genoa and Sedan, the zealous Missionary knew how to soften the most hardened hearts. He was given the name "Apostle of Piedmont," and his fellow Missionaries were called "the holy Fathers." In 1665 René Alméras asked him to head the house in Rome. This was a painful sacrifice for Martin, but he resigned himself to it. Subsequently, he was named Superior in Genoa (1670), Turin (1674), Rome (1677), Perugia (1680), and again in Rome in 1681, where he died on February 17, 1694. His obituary, written by one of his contemporaries, is in the Archives of the Mission in Paris. It was published, with some corrections, in vol. I of Notices, pp. 269-372.

2. Saint Vincent often uses the term family. to designate the local community of confreres.

Letter 2487. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. It was Saint Vincent's desire to establish a regular pattern of communication between the confreres and Superiors. To one he wrote, "It will be a consolation for me to receive letters from you every month (cf. Vol. IV, no. 1627, p. 578); Étienne Blatiron and Edme Jolly usually wrote to him every week (cf. Vol. VI, no. 2142, p. 99).

2. Antoine Portail, born in Beaucaire (Gard) on November 22, 1590, came to Paris to study at the Sorbonne. He met Saint Vincent there around 1612 and became devoted to him. From the time of his ordination (1622) to that of his death (1660), he was the Saint's auxiliary. Vincent employed him in the service of the galley slaves, received him as the first member of his new Congregation, initiated him into the ministry of the missions and the work of the ordinands, chose him as First Assistant in 1642, and entrusted to him the direction of the Daughters of Charity. In 1646 Portail left Paris to make visitations in the houses of the Congregation. He began in the west of France, then went south, crossed into Italy, and did not return to Saint-Lazare until September 1649. Except for a fairly long absence in 1655, he hardly ever left the Motherhouse again and died on February 14, 1660, after an illness of nine days. (Cf. Notices, vol. I, pp. 1-94.)

3. René Alméras, nephew of Madame Goussault, was born in Paris on February 5, 1613, and was baptized the same day in Saint-Gervais Church. By coincidence Saint Louise was married in this church that very day. A Councillor in the Great Council at the age of twenty-four, Alméras left everything--family, position, and hopes--despite the opposition of his father (who was to follow him later) to enter the Congregation of the Mission, into which he was received on December 24, 1637. He was ordained a priest at Easter in 1639. Saint Vincent entrusted to him important positions, such as Assistant of the Motherhouse and Seminary

Director. He appointed him to his council and often relied on his prudence to deal with lay persons in delicate matters; he also gave him charge of the retreatants. So much work ruined Alméras' health. The Holy Founder, convinced by personal experience that a change of air could improve one's health, sent him in 1646 to make the visitation of several houses in France and Italy. When he reached Rome, Alméras was notified that he had been appointed Superior of the house, where he remained until 1651. On his return to France he took over the direction of Saint-Charles Seminary. In 1654 he was involved in distributing relief to the poor of Picardy and Champagne. He made visitations of some houses of the Congregation and was again named Assistant of the Motherhouse, in which position he remained until the death of Saint Vincent. He was also Visitor of the Province of Poitou. Alméras was in Richelieu when the Saint, realizing that his own death was near, begged him to return to Paris immediately. Alméras was ill and was brought back on a stretcher but had the consolation of receiving a last blessing from the Saint. Appointed Vicar-General by Saint Vincent, then elected Superior General by the Assembly of 1661, he governed wisely the Congregation of the Mission and the Company of the Daughters of Charity until his death on September 2, 1672.

4. Gerard Brin, born near Cashel (Ireland), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 14, 1639, at the age of twenty-one. He took his vows on November 2, 1642, and was ordained a priest in 1644. Of all the Irishmen whom Saint Vincent received into his Congregation, Brin was perhaps the most accomplished. He was sent from Le Mans in 1646 to the mission in Ireland, which was financed by the Duchesse d'Aiguillon; there, with several other confreres and compatriots, he did boundless good (cf. Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. II, chap. 1, pp. 154-55). Driven back to France by persecution, Brin went as a missionary to Saint Vincent's native region. Some time later he was named Superior in La Rose (1652-54), and subsequently held the same position in Troyes (1657-58), Meaux (1658-60), and Toul (1660-62). He returned to Ireland in 1662 or 1663, resuming his apostolic work with a zeal that age had not slackened. Neither illness, which brought him twice to the brink of the grave, nor a month in prison could stop this heroic Missionary. Brin died in Thurles (Ireland) sometime between October 9, 1683, the date of his will, and February 25, 1684, the date of its admission to probate.

5. Hugues Perraud, born in Arguel (Doubs) on October 3, 1615, entered the Congregation of the Mission on January 5, 1640, took his vows on March 23, 1644, and was ordained a priest in 1646. He was placed in Saintes (1646) and Richelieu (1651) and died in Paris on December 26, 1659.

6. François-Étienne de Caulet, born in Toulouse on May 19, 1610, was endowed in 1627 with Saint-Volusien Abbey in Foix. Attracted by the spirit of Jean-Jacques Olier, he accompanied him on his missions in Auvergne, in the Chartres diocese, and in other

places in the kingdom. He supported him in his parish ministry and, together with him and du Ferrier, founded the Vaugirard Seminary. Saint Vincent, who knew the Abbot of Saint-Volusien, thought he would make a good Bishop. Thanks to him, de Caulet was consecrated Bishop of Pamiers on March 5, 1645. In 1638 he had testified against Saint-Cyran; as Bishop, he continued for a long time to combat Jansenism, forbade in his diocese the reading of books by adherents of the movement, and made every effort to bring back those who had strayed from the truth. However, his association with Nicolas Pavillon, Bishop of Alet, won him over to Jansenism. The Bishop of Pamiers died on August 7, 1680, without having made an act of submission to the Church. (Cf. Jérôme Besoigne, *Vies des quatres évêques engagés dans la cause de Port-Royal, d'Alet, d'Angers, de Beauvais et de Pamiers*. [2 vols., Cologne: n. p., 1756]; Georges Doublet, *Un prélat janséniste, F. de Caulet, réformateur des chapitres de Foix et de Pamiers*. [Paris: A. Picard et fils, 1895].) M.Gazier, an authority on Jansenism, had, among the rare manuscripts in his extensive library, one entitled: *Histoire abrégée de la vie de M.François de Caulet, évêque de Pamiers*, by Father Gabaret.

7. Jean Dehorgny, born in Estrées-Saint-Denis (Oise), entered the Congregation of the Mission in August 1627 and was ordained a priest on April 22, 1628. When Saint Vincent made the move to Saint-Lazare in 1632, Dehorgny took over the direction of the Collège des Bons-Enfants, which he retained until 1635, then took up again (1638-43, 1654-59). He was Assistant to the Superior General (1642-44, 1654-67); Superior of the house in Rome (1644-47, 1651-53); and Director of the Daughters of Charity (1660-67). In 1640, 1641, 1643, 1644, 1659, and 1660, he made the visitation of several houses of the Company, reestablishing good order wherever necessary. His sympathy for Jansenist ideas merited for us two beautiful letters from Saint Vincent, who had the joy of seeing him return to sounder beliefs. Dehorgny died on July 7, 1667. We still have twenty-three of his conferences to the Daughters of Charity and several letters.

8. On March 1, 1624, Jean-François de Gondi, Archbishop of Paris, turned over to Saint Vincent the direction of the Collège des Bons-Enfants so that he might have a place to lodge priests wishing to join him in giving missions in the country. Situated near the Porte Saint-Victor, on the site of the building now standing on the corner of rue des Écoles and rue Cardinal-Lemoine, this collège, over three hundred years old, was one of the oldest of the University of Paris. It was not a teaching center, but simply a hostel in which students were provided with shelter and sleeping quarters.

9. In 1645 Saint Vincent established, within the enclosure of Saint-Lazare, Saint-Charles Seminary (also known as the Petit Saint-Lazare) for youths completing their studies in the humanities; not all the students, however, aspired to Holy

Orders. Before he died, Cardinal Richelieu endowed twelve students; others paid room and board.

10. Philippe Le Vacher, born in Écouen (Val-d'Oise) on March 23, 1622, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 5, 1643, and took his vows on August 5, 1646. He was part of the first group sent to Ireland in 1646. Recalled to France in 1649, he was sent to Marseilles, where he was ordained a priest on April 2, 1650, and sailed for Algiers as Vicar Apostolic and Vicar-General of Carthage. He returned to France in 1657 to collect alms for the slaves. His absence, which was supposed to last only a few months, was prolonged for two years. He set out again in September 1659, reached Barbary, and in 1661 accompanied Brother Jean Dubourdiou to Algiers, where the latter was destined to replace Jean Barreau, French Consul in that city. Le Vacher paid Barreau's debts, settled a number of business matters, and finally left Barbary in 1662, accompanied by seventy slaves whom he had ransomed. He was sent to Fontainebleau, where he led a most exemplary life until August 5, 1679, the day of his death. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 595-606.) In this volume, the Le Vacher brother mentioned in connection with Algiers is usually Philippe, unless stated otherwise.

11. Jean Barreau.

Letter 2488. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, Sister Hains Collection, original signed letter.

1. Benjamin-Joseph Huguier, born in Sézanne (Marne) on March 10, 1613, was an attorney at the Châtelet of Paris before his admission into the Congregation of the Mission on September 15, 1647. He served in Tunis (1649-52), returning to France by way of Marseilles in May 1652, took his vows that same year, and was ordained a priest in February 1655. After ordination, he became chaplain of the galleys in Toulon; however, he felt drawn to Barbary, and on September 19, 1662, was sent to Algiers with the title of Vicar Apostolic. While nursing the plague-stricken there, he contracted the illness and died of it himself in April 1663. (Cf. Mémoires C.M., vol. II, pp. 221-30.)

Letter 2489. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Jacques Rivet, coadjutor Brother, born in Houdan (Yvelines) on September 11, 1620, entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 16, 1641, and took his vows on April 22, 1646. There is mention of him as late as September 23, 1657 (cf. vol. VI, no. 2391).

2. The Nom-de-Jésus [Name of Jesus] hospice. The foundation was made by an anonymous rich merchant of Paris, who one day brought 100,000 livres to Saint Vincent for a good work of the Saint's choice. After discussing his plan with the benefactor, the Saint decided to spend 11,000 livres for the purchase of the house called Nom-de-Jésus, which belonged to Saint-Lazare, and 20,000 livres for enlarging the living space, should it become too small. He also constituted an income of 60,000 livres, to which

20,000 were added from Saint-Lazare, which later retrieved them; he allocated 5400 livres for chapel furnishings, and 3600 livres for room and board for forty poor persons for a year. All this was on condition that the Superior General of the Priests of the Mission, together with the laymen from Paris whom he would employ, would have the spiritual and temporal direction of the hospital, and in this position would have the authority to receive and dismiss the poor. The contract was accepted on October 29, 1653, approved by the Vicars-General on March 15, 1654 (the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal de Retz, was in exile in Rome), and ratified by the Parlement by letters patent in November. (Cf. Arch. Nat., M 53.) The work was already in operation in March 1653. Saint Vincent chose twenty male and twenty female artisans who, because of old age or infirmity, could no longer earn their living; to occupy their time, they were provided with looms and tools. Men and women were housed in separate wings; although they came together in the same chapel for Mass, they were not permitted to see or speak to one another. The Daughters of Charity served them; a Priest of the Mission, in conformity with the terms of the contract, acted as chaplain. Saint Vincent often used to come to visit and instruct them. (Cf. Abelly, op. cit., bk. I, chap. XLV, pp. 211-13.) The Nom-de-Jésus later became the municipal health center (1802-16); its buildings were on the site now occupied by the offices of the Gare de l'Est.

3. Fathers François and Louis Rivet.

François Rivet, born in Houdan (Yvelines) on July 28, 1628, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 12, 1647, took his vows on November 6, 1650, and was ordained a priest on April 1, 1656.

Louis Rivet was born in Houdan (Yvelines) on February 19, 1618. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 13, 1640, took his vows on October 16, 1642, and was ordained a priest on September 19, 1643. In 1646 he was placed in Richelieu, then at the Saintes Seminary which he directed for several years (1648-50, 1656-62, 1665-73).

Letter 2490. - Reg. 1, fol. 66.

1. Madeleine de Lamoignon was born in Paris on September 14, 1608, of Chrétien Lamoignon, a Presiding Judge of the Parlement of Paris, and of Marie des Landes, who initiated her from childhood in the traditions of the Confraternity of Charity. Mother and daughter were both very zealous in their dedication to the poor. They often went to visit them in their homes, dressed their wounds, cleaned their rooms, made their beds, and gave them clothing, linen, food, and money. She supported and took an active part in all the works the Saint founded. Saint Vincent used to say that she forged ahead so fast with her charitable works that nobody could keep up with her. Mademoiselle de Lamoignon died on April 14, 1687, at seventy-nine years of age; her life has been written by Father d'Orléans (Vie de

Mademoiselle de Lamoignon, Bibl. Nat., Ms. fr. 23895) and by Mademoiselle Louise Masson (Madeleine de Lamoignon. [Lyons, 1846]). Abbé Guy-Toussaint-Julien Carron gave her a place in *Vies des Dames françaises qui ont été les plus célèbres dans le XVIIe. siècle par leur piété et leur dévouement pour les pauvres.* (2nd. ed., Louvain: Varlinthout et Vandenzande, 1826).

2. Madeleine de Lamoignon's sister, who died in Paris on August 12, 1658.

Letter 2490a. - Congregation of the Mission, Florence (Italy), original signed letter; photocopy in the Archives of the Mission, Paris. The text was published in *Annales C.M.* (1947-48), p. 310, and reprinted in *Mission et Charité*, 19-20, no. 96, p. 121. This edition uses the latter text.

1. Marguerite Deffita, widow of Jacques Violle, Counselor at the Châtelet in Paris. A very intelligent and active Lady of Charity greatly appreciated by Saint Vincent, she died in Paris in 1678.

Letter 2491. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Jean Barreau.

Letter 2492. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, unsigned rough draft.

1. Antoine Durand was a chosen soul. Born in Beaumont-sur-Oise (Val-d'Oise) in April 1629, he entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 15, 1647, took his vows in 1651, and was ordained a priest in September 1654, a few days after his arrival in Poland. He returned to France in 1655, was assigned to Agde, and became Superior there the following year. The Savoy Province sent him as its delegate to the General Assembly in 1661. In 1662 he was put in charge of the house and parish in Fontainebleau, a very important and delicate position because of the dealings the Pastor was obliged to have with the Court. In his interesting memoirs, published by Abbé Octave Estournet (*Journal de Antoine Durand, prêtre de la Mission, premier curé de Fontainebleau (1661-67).* [Fontainebleau: Libr. cathol., 1900]), he retraces the events in which he was involved during his stay in Fontainebleau. From there Durand went to Agde (1679-81), then to Dijon (1681-83), Sedan (1683-90), Saint-Cyr (1691-92), and the Arras Seminary (1692-95); in all these places he was Superior. Despite his age, he was given the duty of Secretary General, which he performed until 1707. For two years he was also Director of the Daughters of Charity. Besides his memoirs, he wrote three books, still in manuscript form: *Vie de la Soeur Julienne Loret, Fille de la Charité;* *Livre contenant les marques d'un homme juste.* (Bibl. Maz., Ms. 1250); and *Réflexions sur les masques, le bal et les danses, avec quelques pratiques pour les trois jours qui précèdent le carême,* Ms. 1679. The exact date of his death is not known. His biography is in *Notices*, vol. II, pp. 389-424.

2. In this place some words are scratched out: "It would be desirable for everyone to have the same love for learning."

3. First redaction: "and M. Le Breton."

4. François-Étienne de Caulet.

Letter 2493. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

Letter 2494. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Probably Toussaint Bourdaise's letters of February 19, 1657 (cf. vol. VI, nos. 2215 and 2216).

2. Charles de la Porte, Duc de la Meilleraie, born in 1602, owed his rapid advancement as much to the protection of Cardinal Richelieu as to his personal valor. He was appointed Grand Master of Artillery in 1634, Maréchal of France in 1637, Superintendent of Finance in 1648, and Duke and Peer in 1663. It was he who gave Saint Vincent the idea of sending Missionaries to Madagascar. He died in Paris on February 8, 1664.

3. The arguments between the Duc de la Meilleraie and the Company of the Indies went back several years. This Company had received from the King the exclusive right to trade with Madagascar and the nearby islands, and this right was renewed in 1652 for a twenty-year period. But the disagreement among the members and a lack of funds paralyzed its operation. In November 1655 the Duke, on his own initiative, sent four ships to Madagascar. There was a lawsuit, soon followed by an agreement. Sébastien Cazet reconstituted the Society along other lines. (Cf. Bibl. Nat., Ms. fr. 10.209.) The rift seemed mended, but they did not reckon with the Duke's haughty character: he was confident of the backing of the Court, and the two Commandants he himself had established in Fort-Dauphin--MM. du Rivaux and Chamargou--were devoted to him. In November 1656 he ordered the Saint-Jacques to set sail without waiting for the Company's merchandise. From that day on the rift was complete. (Cf. Arthur Malotet, Étienne de Flacourt ou les origines de la colonisation française à Madagascar (1648-61). [Paris: Ernest Leroux, 1898], pp. 268ff.).

4. Henri Cauchon de Maupas du Tour, a member of the Tuesday Conferences, Bishop of Le Puy (1641-61), and of Évreux from 1661 to August 12, 1680, the day of his death. He was a renowned orator and preached the funeral panegyrics for Saint Jane Frances de Chantal and Saint Vincent. He also wrote biographies of Saints Francis de Sales and Jane Frances, and was one of the two Bishops who approved Abelly's life of Saint Vincent.

5. The Order of Mercy, whose members are commonly known as Mercedarians, was founded for the redemption of captives by Saint Peter Nolasco in the thirteenth century.

6. Abbé Louis de Chandénier wanted Saint-Pourçain Priory united to Saint-Lazare.

7. Giacomo Corradi, a very important member of the Roman Curia and one of the Pope's closest collaborators.

8. Nicolò Albergati-Ludovisio, appointed Cardinal in 1645, was Grand Penitentiary (1649-87); he died in 1687.

9. Marcello di Santacroce, born on June 7, 1619, was appointed Cardinal on February 9, 1652, at the urging of the King of Poland. He was made Bishop of Tivoli in October of that same year and died in Rome on December 19, 1674.

10. Léonard Le Boysne, born in La Chapelle-Janson (Ille-et-Vilaine), was received at Saint-Lazare on May 6, 1638. Sent to Luçon, then to Richelieu, he went to Saint-Méen in September 1645 and died there on February 25, 1670. Monsieur Alméras, Superior General, praised him highly in his circular of March 13, 1670: "We have just lost a hidden treasure of grace and holiness.. He excelled in piety, meekness, mortification, regularity, obedience and good example, but especially in humility and charity. I consider myself fortunate to have made my seminary with him.. He was very virtuous and one of the most talented Missionaries in the Company." A biographical sketch of Le Boysne is given in the Lyons manuscript, pp. 234-37.

11. First redaction: "of making the Company known." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

12. An unsuccessful effort to unite the Saint-Sépulcre Priory to the Annecy Seminary. Saint Vincent abandoned these efforts.

13. Achille Le Vazeux, born in Bonneval (Eure-et-Loir) on June 22, 1620, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 24, 1639, took his vows on June 7, 1643, and was ordained a priest on April 3, 1649. Shortly after ordination he was sent to Rome, where he remained until 1653. He was Superior of the Annecy Seminary (1653-58), then was recalled to Paris and sent to the Collège des Bons-Enfants. He left there a few days before the Saint's death and returned to his family. To certain good qualities Le Vazeux added such noticeable failings (including doubts regarding the validity of the vows) that Saint Vincent regarded his withdrawal from the Congregation as a blessing from God. Hasty and obstinate in his decisions, he found it hard to take advice from Superiors and to submit his will to theirs. Saint Vincent had frequent occasion to reproach him.

14. Louis d'Eu, born on April 8, 1624, in Fresnay-sur-Sarthe (Sarthe), entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 20, 1651, left it, and reentered on March 6, 1655, taking his vows in Rome on March 7, 1657. After Saint Vincent's death, he again left the Congregation, for some important business, by order of the Archbishop of Paris, but returned as soon as he was able after the Archbishop died. The Bibliothèque Nationale has acquired one of his manuscript works, *L'homme accompli*. (fr. 9625).

Letter 2495. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original unsigned letter.

1. Hippolyte Féret, born in Pontoise (Val-d'Oise), was a Doctor of Theology and later became Pastor of Saint-Nicolas-du-Chardonnet, Vicar-General of Alet, and then of Paris. Saint Vincent thought so highly of Féret that he proposed him as Coadjutor Bishop of Babylon.

2. François Perrochel, a cousin of Jean-Jacques Olier, was born in Paris on October 18, 1602. Animated by the spirit of Saint Vincent, he was one of the devout, zealous priests who worked under the Saint's direction and gave missions in several places, especially in Auvergne, Joigny, and the faubourg Saint-Germain. He was a member of the Tuesday Conferences and was present at the meetings at which retreats for ordinands were organized. As Bishop-elect of Boulogne, he was invited to give conferences to the ordinands at the Bons-Enfants and was so successful that the Queen wanted to hear him. Moved by his words, she gave the Saint a generous donation to help defray the retreat expenses. Perrochel was consecrated in the church of Saint-Lazare on June 11, 1645. His episcopate was one of the most fruitful and glorious known to the Boulogne diocese. In 1675, worn out by age and infirmity, and unable to govern his diocese properly, the Bishop resigned; he died on April 8, 1682. (Cf. Van Drival, *Histoire des évêques de Boulogne*. [Boulogne-sur-Mer: Berger frères, 1852].)

Letter 2496. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter. The rough draft is also in the Turin Archives.

1. Louis Dupont, born in Nemours (Seine-et-Marne), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 23, 1641, at twenty-two years of age, and took his vows in November 1644. He was Superior in Toul (1652-53), Tréguier (1654-61), Annecy (1662-63), and at Saint-Charles (1664-71).

2. First redaction: "to come here, and once he is here, we shall see."

3. Maître Michel Thépault, sieur de Rumelin, Licentiate in Civil and Canon Law, Rector of Pleumeur-Bodou and of Plougasnou, then Canon of the Tréguier Cathedral, and Penitentiary of the diocese. Thépault was a great benefactor of the Missionaries and founded the Tréguier Seminary. He died on August 30, 1677. (Cf. Discourse of Canon Daniel in *Annales C.M.*, vol. LXIII [1908], pp. 191-201.)

4. Balthazar Grangier de Liverdi.

Letter 2497. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Pierre Laisné, born in Dreux (Eure-et-Loir) on November 9, 1623, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 24, 1641, and took his vows on October 4, 1643. He received all the Sacred Orders in December 1648, with a dispensation *extra tempora*. In 1657 he was a member of the Saint-Méen house.

An *extra tempora* was an indult from the Holy See granting religious Institutes the privilege of having Sacred Orders conferred outside the times prescribed by church law.

2. Louis Serre, born in Épinal (Vosges), was ordained a priest in September 1643. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 23, 1644, at the age of twenty-six, and took his vows in July 1646. His first assignment was Crécy, where he was Superior (1646-48). From there he was sent to Saint-Méen, where he spent

nearly all his life as a Missionary, including his years as Superior (1655-65, 1671-75, and 1676-81).

3. The original, damaged by mites, is missing a few words; these have been supplied here between brackets.

4. Julien Dolivet, born in Cardroc (Ille-et-Vilaine), was ordained a priest on March 30, 1652, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Richelieu on January 2, 1653, and took his vows in Agde in March 1656 in the presence of M. Berthe. He was Superior in Sedan (1668-73) and in Narbonne (1673-82).

Letter 2498. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. An altar to which apostolic authority attaches the privilege whereby a plenary indulgence may be applied to the soul of a deceased person for whom Mass is celebrated on that altar.

2. Luke Plunket, born on October 18, 1630, in Girly, Meath diocese (Ireland), entered the Congregation of the Mission in Richelieu on September 24, 1653, and took his vows there in the presence of M. de Beaumont. In 1659 he was in Saint-Méen.

3. Jacques Deslions, born in Arras (Artois), entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on December 28, 1654, at the age of twenty-three, and took his vows there in 1656 in the presence of M. Berthe. On December 28, 1657 (cf. vol. VII, no. 2498), Saint Vincent asked Edme Jolly to apply for a dispensation extra tempora. for Deslions, and he was ordained in 1658.

4. For the consolation of his parents in their old age.

5. A servant in the Rome house.

6. Today, Villenauxe-la-Grande, principal town in the canton of Aube, near Nogent-sur-Seine.

7. Senigallia, to which he was appointed on April 9, 1657.

8. The Bull uniting Saint-Pourçain Priory to the Congregation of the Mission bears the date of December 13.

9. Francesco Maria Brancaccio, Bishop of Viterbo, Porto, and Capaccio, was created Cardinal in 1634, and died on January 9, 1675. He is also the author of a collection of Latin essays.

10. Abbot Hilarion, born Bartolommeo Rancati in Milan on September 2, 1594, was the son of Baltasarre Rancati and Margherita di Bagno. He entered the Cistercians in Milan on March 10, 1608, and taught in Salamanca (1614-18), then in Milan. In May 1619 he was sent to the Convent of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme in Rome. Among the offices he held in the Curia was that of Consultor for Propaganda Fide, in which he provided many services for religious Orders and Founders. Saint Vincent considered him a friend and protector (cf. *Annales C.M.* (1951), p. 374).

11. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2499. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

2. A merchant in Lyons.

3. Étienne du Puget, Bishop of Marseilles (1644-68).

4. Jacques de la Fosse, born in Paris on November 25, 1621, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 8, 1640, took his vows on April 7, 1643, and was ordained a priest in September 1648. Immediately after his ordination, Saint Vincent entrusted to him the humanities at Saint-Charles Seminary. He "often reenacted there Christian tragedies," wrote Collet (op. cit., vol. I, p. 326), "whose spirit and sublimity drew the applause of connoisseurs in Paris." In 1656 he went to Marseilles, where he served in turn as Missionary and seminary professor. Two years later he was sent to Troyes. He died in Sedan on April 30, 1674. De la Fosse was as generous as he was capricious, becoming easily enthused and just as easily discouraged. Several times he almost left the Company; only Saint Vincent's paternal encouragement kept him from doing so. His writings, all in Latin, made a name for him among the Latinists of the seventeenth century. Collet says he was "an orator, philosopher, and theologian all in one, and such a great poet that Santeuil considered him his rival and sometimes his master" (ibid., vol. I, p. 277). Dom Calmet added: "In general, there is great passion and many noble, generous thoughts in de la Fosse's poetry, but his penchant for mythology, even in his sacred verses, sometimes renders them obscure because of his unusual expressions and frequent allusions to fable." (Cf. Augustin Calmet, *Bibliothèque lorraine*. [Nancy: A. Leseure, 1751], p. 376.) His works are found in the *Bibliothèque Nationale* (Ms. L. 10.331, 11.365), in the *Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal* (Ms. 1137, 1138), and in the *Bibliothèque Mazarine* (Ms. 3910-19, 4312, imp. 10.877). See also [Édouard Rosset, C.M.] *Notices bibliographiques sur les écrivains de la Congrégation de la Mission*. (Angoulême: J.-B. Baillarger, 1878).

5. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2500. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Madame de Herse, née Charlotte de Ligny, was the daughter of Jean de Ligny, Seigneur de Ranticey, Master of Requests. She was also the widow of Michel Vialart, Seigneur de la Forest de Herse, Counselor to the King in his Parlement Court, President of Requests of the palace, then Ambassador to Switzerland, who died in Solothurn (Switzerland) on October 26, 1634. Madame de Herse was the mother of Félix Vialart, Bishop of Châlons, as well as a relative of Jean-Jacques Olier; Francis de Sales, a good friend of hers, was her son's godfather. A Lady of Charity, she was one of Saint Vincent's chief auxiliaries and a great benefactress of the poor of Paris, Picardy, and Champagne. Works for the ordinands and for abandoned children received her support, and she established the Daughters of Charity in Chars (Val-d'Oise). During the wars that ravaged the capital, the Queen Mother, Anne of Austria, entrusted to her and some other Ladies the distribution of her personal alms. Madame de Herse died in 1662.

2. The woman in charge of the coach station.

Letter 2501. - Abelly, op. cit., 2nd ed., bk. II, chap. XXIII, p. 250.

1. Cf. Mt 8:21-22. (NAB)
2. Cf. Lk 14:26. (NAB)
3. Cf. Mk 6:4. (NAB)
4. Cf. Lk 4:28-30. (NAB)

Letter 2502. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. René Alméras the elder was born in Paris on November 12, 1575. After the death of his first wife, Marguerite Fayet, he married Marie Leclerc, the future mother of his six children. He was Secretary to the King, became Treasurer of France in Paris on January 19, 1608, Secretary to Marie de Médicis, Comptroller (1622-56), Postmaster General (1629-32), and Secretary for the execution of the orders of Marie de Médicis, filling all these positions in a worthy manner. After he had given his son to the Congregation of the Mission, he himself entered it on March 2, 1657, at the age of eighty-one, and died at Saint-Lazare on January 4, 1658. (Cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 453-61.)
2. Cf. Rom 11:33. (NAB)

3. Philippe Le Vacher spent about two years in France (1657-59) collecting money for the Algiers mission.

Letter 2503. - Reg. 2, p. 238.

Letter 2504. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 29. According to Collet, these same words are in another letter, dated January 12, 1658, which we no longer have.

1. René Alméras the elder.

Letter 2505. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

On October 28, 1989, Xavier Charmoy, an appraiser and seller of rare books and autographs, sold at public auction in Nîmes, France, thirty-four letters written by Saint Vincent: thirty-two to Firmin Get, one to Philippe Le Vacher (December 6, 1658), and one to Dominique Lhuillier (November 13, 1658). These were all part of what was called the Hains Family Collection. Two letters remained in France; the rest went to foreign buyers. The Archives of the Mission, Paris, has copies of all these letters.

1. François Hémet, born in Campremy, in the Beauvais diocese (Oise), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on January 27, 1650.

2. Philippe Le Vacher.

3. Firmin Get's brother, Nicolas, was born in Chépy (Somme) in May 1635, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 5, 1655, and took his vows on October 6, 1657, in the presence of M. Berthe. He left for Poland in September 1660, before his ordination to the priesthood.

Letter 2506. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 38.

1. The date Collet seems to favor. Moreover, this letter seems to fit near no. 2509.

2. See the Saint's letter to the Duc de la Meilleraye, no. 2509. More detailed information is given in no. 2494.

Letter 2507. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. M.de Musy was a very gifted priest on whom Saint Vincent had placed great hopes. He was sent to Turin in 1656; there he allowed boredom to get the better of him and left the Company the following year. His name does not appear in the personnel catalogue.

Letter 2508. - Reg. 2, p. 18.

Letter 2509. - Reg. 1, fol. 35.

1. Both Guillaume de Lamoignon and Sébastien Cezet were members of the Company of the Indies. No further information is available on Cezet.

Lamoignon, Marquis de Bâville and Counselor in the Parlement of Paris, was a devout man of outstanding character. In 1644 he became Master of Requests and in 1658 Chief Judge of the Parlement of Paris. When announcing his appointment as Chief Judge, Louis XIV said of him: "Had I known a better man, a worthier subject, I would have chosen him." Lamoignon was a friend and patron of literary men, especially of Boileau, who addressed to him his sixth epistle and wrote the Lutrin. at his request; he was also a close friend of Saint Vincent and gave hospitality to the Missionaries who fell ill while caring for the poor in Étampes. His mother and sister were very active in the Saint's works. Lamoignon died on December 10, 1677. (Cf. Vie de M.le premier président de Lamoignon. [Paris, 1781].)

2. Former name for the archipelago made up of Réunion (Île de Bourbon) and Mauritius (Île de France). Today it also includes Rodrigues.

Letter 2510. - Les Grands Écrivains de la France, Bossuet, Correspondance, C. Urbain and E. Lévesque, eds. (15 vols., Paris: Hachette, 1909-25), vol. I, p. 11, L. 6.

1. Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet, Bishop, preacher, and author, was born in Dijon on September 27, 1627, into a family whose ancestors, both paternal and maternal, occupied judicial posts in France for over half a century. He pursued a classical education at the Collège de Navarre, where he came under the influence of Vincent de Paul, whose guidance prepared him for the priesthood, which he received on March 18, 1652. He was a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter of Metz and for seven years was engaged in preaching, discussions with the Protestants, and study of the Bible and the Fathers of the Church. In 1659 he went to Paris on Chapter business and was persuaded by Saint Vincent and the Queen Mother, Anne of Austria, to remain there as a preacher. In 1670 he was consecrated Bishop of Condom but had to resign later that year when he was named tutor and guardian of the Dauphin. He wrote a number of works for the latter, of which he considered the most important his "philosophy of history": Discours sur l'histoire universelle. After the Dauphin's marriage in 1681,

Bossuet was named Bishop of Meaux but continued to have great influence at Court, especially on Louis XIV's religio-political policy with regard to the Protestants (revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685). It was he who inspired the promulgation of the Gallican Principles in 1682, which he also wrote at the behest of the Assembly of the Clergy of France. Bossuet was involved in the disputes both with the Jansenists and the Quietists of Fénelon. He died on April 12, 1704.

2. Omer de Champin, Doctor of Theology, member of the Tuesday Conferences, was appointed Dean of Saint-Thomas de Louvre on November 4, 1666.

3. The meetings known as the Tuesday Conferences began on June 13, 1633, as an outgrowth of the retreats for ordinands. They were to serve the clerical and spiritual development of priests selected for their proven holiness and learning. By the rules devised at the initial organizational meetings (cf. vol. XIII, no. 35), the members committed themselves to meet every Tuesday at Saint-Lazare or the Bons-Enfants "to honor the life of Christ the Eternal Priest"; to celebrate daily Mass and confess once a week to a regular confessor; to make a spiritual retreat annually; to spend some time each day in mental prayer and the Divine Office; to read the New Testament; to make an examination of conscience; to attend the funerals of members; and to offer three Masses for the souls of the deceased.

They met at three o'clock in the afternoon from All Saints' to Easter and at three-thirty from Easter to All Saints', beginning with the Veni Creator, followed by discussion on the topic proposed at the previous meeting. In his letters and conferences, Saint Vincent mentions some of these topics proper to priests, such as the Beatitudes, the sanctification of Lent, modesty, humility, the spirit of poverty in the use of ecclesiastical goods, and censures. Members also gave reports on the works undertaken: confession for the sick at the Hôtel-Dieu, exhortations for prisoners, missions, etc.

The Superior of the Congregation of the Mission or his delegate directed the Conferences at Saint-Lazare, which were attended by more than 250 priests during Saint Vincent's lifetime. Of these priests, twenty-two became bishops. Similar conferences, modeled on those of Saint-Lazare, were organized in dioceses throughout France and Italy.

4. Pierre Bédacier, a monk of Cluny, was Suffragan and Administrator of the Metz diocese from 1649 until his death on October 19, 1660. Auguste may refer to the second-century diocese of Augusta Treverorum, present day Trier.

5. The mission of Metz was one of the most famous organized by Saint Vincent, both for the quality and number of the missionaries who participated in it and for its excellent results. Bossuet did the preparatory work; Louis de Chandénier (Abbé de Tournus) directed it, aided by such collaborators as Omer de Champin, Nicolas Gédoyne, Claude de Chandénier (Abbé de

Moutiers-Saint-Jean) and some fifteen other outstanding priests. From March 6 to May 22 the inhabitants of that ancient town in Lorraine flocked around the pulpit to hear the preachers.

Letter 2511. - Recueil des procès-verbaux des Conseils tenus par Saint Vincent de Paul et Mademoiselle Le Gras, Ms, p. 307.

1. Saint-Fargeau, a commune some thirty miles southwest of Joigny (Yonne). The Daughters of Charity went there in 1657, at the request of the Duchesse de Montpensier.

2. Some of the recommendations given here are almost identical to those in a letter of January 1658 from Saint Louise to Brother Ducournau, for a reply to be given to the Sisters in Saint-Fargeau (cf. Spiritual Writings, L. 561, p. 583). It seems reasonable, therefore, to assign this date to Saint Vincent's letter.

3. This first part of the letter is almost identical to that of Saint Louise mentioned in note 2.

4. Anne-Marie-Louise d'Orléans, Duchesse de Montpensier, was the daughter of Gaston d'Orléans, Louis XIII's brother. Born in Paris on May 29, 1627, she played an active part during the troubles of the Fronde. The Duchess wrote memoirs, composed two novels, and sketched portraits. She died in Paris on April 5, 1693.

In the period preceding the French Revolution, Mademoiselle. was the stylized title given to the eldest daughter of the King's younger brother. With the death of Louis XIII (1643), the Duchesse de Montpensier became known officially as La Grande Mademoiselle.

Letter 2512. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, 140 rue du Bac, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Nicole Haran, born in 1627, entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity on July 28, 1649. In October 1650 she was sent to Montmirail and in 1653 to Nantes, where she encountered many difficulties over the years. In May 1655 the Administrators of the hospital proposed her as Sister Servant; she was still in Nantes at the death of Saint Louise (1660). In 1673 she was named Superioress General for three years, after which she served the foundlings in the faubourg Saint-Antoine in Paris, where she died on June 5, 1679.

2. Cf. Mt 12:7. (NAB)

3. The original text has "Monsieur."

Letter 2513. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. This happened after a visit in the city. Saint Vincent was returning to Saint-Lazare in his little carriage, accompanied by one of his confreres; suddenly, the braces broke, the carriage turned over, and the Saint hit his head very hard on the pavement. A few days later his temperature rose, and he became so ill, stated Abelly (op. cit., bk. I, chap. L, p. 246), that the Saint thought he was dying. Abelly mistakenly placed this accident at the end of 1658. Saint Vincent mentioned the episode for the first time on January 11 (cf. no. 2507).

2. Cf. Appendix 1 in this volume.

3. Nicolas Guillot, born in Auxerre (Yonne) on January 6, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 12, 1648, took his vows on June 11, 1651, and was ordained a priest on December 24, 1651. While still a subdeacon, he was sent with the first group of Missionaries to Poland. There he devoted himself to the works of his vocation, but after the death of Lambert aux Couteaux he became discouraged and returned to France in May 1654. Saint Vincent gently reproved him for his fault, inspired him with regret, and persuaded him to go back in July. This was not for long, however: the misfortunes of Poland, which was invaded by the Swedes, obliged four of the seven Missionaries, including Guillot, to leave the country in November 1655. The Saint made him Superior of the Montmirail house, then in 1658 called him to Saint-Lazare to occupy the chair of philosophy. René Alméras later appointed him Superior in Amiens (1662-67); he filled the same duty in Le Mans (1667-70).

4. Cf. Lk 10:2; Mt 9:37-38. (NAB)

5. Jan Casimir and Louise-Marie de Gonzague.

Few Princes experienced as many vicissitudes of fortune as did Jan Casimir. Born in 1609, he went to France in his youth and was thrown into prison by Richelieu. He became a Jesuit, received the Cardinal's hat, and ascended the throne of Poland on the untimely death of his brother, Wladyslaw IV. Obtaining a dispensation from his vows, he married his brother's widow, Louise-Marie, and ruled Poland under the title of Jan Casimir V. His reign was unfortunate: Poland, attacked in turn by the Cossacks, Sweden, Brandenburg, Russia, and Transylvania, and torn asunder by internal dissensions, was forced to surrender a large part of its territory to its enemies. Jan Casimir lost his wife in 1667; he abdicated and withdrew to Flanders. From there he went to Saint-Germain-des-Prés Abbey and afterward to Saint-Martin Abbey in Nevers, dying in that city in 1672.

Letter 2514. - Niagara University Library, Niagara University, NY (USA). The original of this letter was part of the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles, which was sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505). In 1996 Stephen C. Plumeri purchased it from Bernard Quaritch Ltd., a London antiquarian bookseller, and presented it to Niagara University.

1. Étienne du Puget.

2. Countless difficulties delayed the establishment of the diocesan seminary, which did not open until fifteen years later. In 1658 the Priests of the Mission were directing only a kind of collège (cf. no. 2582).

3. Philippe Le Vacher.

4. Saint Vincent used the term "Turks" both for the inhabitants of the Ottoman Empire and for the members of the Muslim religion. The context of the letter usually dictates to which group he is referring.

Letter 2515. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, photograph of original signed letter.

1. The name of the recipient and his whereabouts were given by Pémartin (Jean-Baptiste Pémartin, *Lettres de Saint-Vincent de Paul*. [4 vols., Paris: Pillet et Dumoulin, 1880], vol. IV, p. 12, L. 1590). He probably knew these details from the address, which was not photographed. Marcoussis is a locality of Essonne in the district of Rambouillet.

2. District of Corbeil (Essonne).

3. Philippe Huitmille, born in Arras, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on October 25, 1645, at the age of twenty-nine. He took his vows in Amiens on February 9, 1664, in the presence of M. Guillot.

4. Pierre Hurpy was born in Beaussault (Seine-Maritime), entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 10, 1656, and took his vows on November 12, 1658, in the presence of M. Delespiney. He died in Saint-Méen in July 1679; *Notices*, vols. I and V (Supplement), lists him as Dehurpy.

Letter 2516. - Reg. 2, p. 112.

1. Above the "20" someone else has written "10," probably because the number on the original is hard to decipher.

Letter 2517. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. January 25.

2. Jean Bécu, born in Braches (Somme) on April 24, 1592, and ordained a priest in September 1616, came to join the first companions of Saint Vincent in September 1626. Two of his brothers, Benoît and Hubert, followed him into the Congregation, the latter as a coadjutor Brother; two of his sisters, Marie and Madeleine, became Daughters of Charity. Bécu was Superior of the house in Toul (1642-46) and spent the rest of his life in Paris. He died on January 19, 1664, having been Vice-Visitor, then Visitor of the Province of France. (Cf. *Notices*, vol. I, pp. 125-33.)

Letter 2518. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. January 25.

2. Charles Admirault, born in Chinon (Indre-et-Loire) on September 20, 1622, entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 1, 1640, took his vows on December 2, 1642, and was ordained a priest in December 1646. For several years he was assigned to the Bons-Enfants Seminary, where he died in August 1661, after a long illness. (Cf. *Notices*, vol. I, p. 462, which lists him as Amiraut; in vol. V (Supplement), p. 17, he is Admirault.)

3. The Saint had written to him on January 11 (cf. no. 2507).

Letter 2519. - Reg. 2, p. 167.

1. Denis Laudin was born in Provins (Seine-et-Marne) on January 15, 1622. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 21, 1647, took his vows in September 1649, and was ordained a priest on December 25, 1649. After ordination he asked and obtained permission to remake a little of his Internal Seminary. He was next sent to Montauban, then to Richelieu as Procurator (1651-57). He was Superior in Le Mans (1657-68), Troyes (1668-75), Angers (1675-79), and Fontainebleau (1679-90) and Visitor of the Province of Champagne (1682-86). In 1690 he was changed to Saint-Cyr, becoming Superior there the following year. Serious illness and poor eyesight prompted his return to Saint-Lazare, where he was given the direction of the coadjutor Brothers and where he died on April 12, 1693. (Cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 365-88.)

Letter 2520. - Urbain and Lévesque, op. cit., vol. I, p. 421.

1. Metz.

2. Nicolas Demonchy, born in Eu (Seine-Maritime) on March 21, 1626, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 19, 1646, and took his vows on March 6, 1649. He was ordained a priest on March 4, 1651, and was Superior in Toul (1653-55, 1657-58, 1669-74), Metz (1661-69), Tréguier (1680-84), and La Rose (1689-92).

3. There were many Jewish people living in Metz. (Cf. Cahen, "Les Juifs de Metz," in Mémoires de la Société d'archéologie lorraine. [3rd. series, vol. III, Nancy, 1875].)

4. Father Antoine Guespier, of the Tours convent. He was a Master of Theology but not a Doctor of the Sorbonne.

5. François de Moussy, Sieur de la Contour, the King's lieutenant in Metz.

6. The Kings of France stayed in this mansion whenever they came to Metz.

Letter 2521. - Reg. 2, p. 116.

1. Most likely Achille Le Vazeux, Superior in Annecy.

Letter 2522. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, Lettres choisies du Bienheureux Vincent de Paul, Ms, letter 107.

1. Guillaume Delville, born in Tilloy-lez-Bapaume, today Ligny-Tilloy (Pas-de-Calais), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on January 19, 1641, at thirty-three years of age. He was Superior in Crécy (1644) and Montmirail (1644-46, 1650-51). He then retired to Arras, where, with Saint Vincent's permission, he continued his missionary work until his death in 1658.

2. Date given by Pémartin (op. cit., vol. IV, p. 18, L. 1597), who probably had at his disposal a source other than ours.

Letter 2523. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Pierre de Bausset.

2. Antoine de Bausset.

3. Concerning Bishop Étienne du Puget's proposal to entrust a seminary in Marseilles to the Congregation of the Mission.

4. René Duchesne, born in Saint-Juire-Champgillon (Vendée) in August 1607, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother in Richelieu on February 16, 1654, and took his vows on November 1, 1658.

5. Louis Sicquard, born in Nalliers (Vendée) on May 3, 1624, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on October 18, 1645, and took his vows in November 1648.

6. The work in question here is a highly esteemed book of meditations, first published in Mainz (1606) and then in Douay under the title *Enchiridion piarum meditationum in omnes dominicas, sanctorum festa, Christi passionem et caetera ..*, Douai, G. Patté, 1624. It was translated into French by the Jesuits and in 1644 by Antoine Portail, who added several meditations. Its author, Jean Busée (Johannes Busaeus [De Buys]) was born in Nijmegen (Netherlands), on April 4, 1547. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1563, studied in Rome, and for twenty-two years taught theology in Mainz, where he died on May 30, 1611. Initially he produced polemic works against Protestantism but after 1595 turned to editing and writing ascetical works.

Letter 2524. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

Letter 2525. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. George II Rákóczi, Prince of Transylvania, had formed an alliance with Charles X Gustavus of Sweden against Poland. The retreat of the Swedes and a defeat suffered near the Vistula brought him to terms with King Jan Casimir who imposed his own conditions on him.

2. Riga remained in the hands of the Swedes until 1710.

3. The long letter of Toussaint Bourdaise, dated February 19, 1657 (cf. vol. VI, nos. 2215 and 2216).

4. Laurent Ozenne, born in Nibas (Somme) on December 6, 1637, entered the Congregation of the Mission at the Paris Seminary on September 26, 1656, and took his vows on December 3, 1658, in the presence of M. Delespiney.

Jacques Ozenne, born in Saint-Blimont, Amiens diocese (Somme), in 1635, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother at the Paris Seminary on January 20, 1658, and took his vows there on March 1, 1660, in the presence of M. Langlois.

5. This letter is no longer extant.

Letter 2526. - Urbain and Lévesque, eds., op. cit., vol. I, no. 7, p. 14.

1. Pierre Bédacier.

2. This letter was published by Urbain and Levesque, vol. I, no. 8, p. 17.

3. The Huguenot religion: the Reformed Church in France, a Protestant sect which espoused the spiritual and political tenets of John Calvin.

4. Philbert Estienne, Sieur d'Augny.

Letter 2527. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Locality in the district of Valognes (Manche). The Company had been established there since 1655. The two Sisters who were there on February 1, 1658, were sick.

Letter 2528. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Bertrand Ducournau, born in Arnou (Landes) in 1614, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on July 28, 1644, and took his vows on October 9, 1646. He had fine penmanship and common sense, and, from the various positions he had occupied in the world, including that of professional secretary, had learned to be shrewd, frank, and reliable in business affairs. Saint Vincent made him his secretary in 1645. By his devotion, tact, and love of work, this good Brother rendered inestimable services to Saint Vincent and his Congregation. It can be said that, through his preparation of materials and his personal notes, he contributed more than Abelly himself to the first biography of Saint Vincent. Brother Ducournau remained as secretary to the Superiors General René Alméras and Edme Jolly, and was Archivist of Saint-Lazare. He died in Paris on January 3, 1677. Brother Pierre Chollier, his assistant in the secretariat, wrote his biography, which is in Notices, vol. I, pp. 377ff.

3. A parish in Paris.

Letter 2529. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 86. This same letter is reproduced with some variations in the biographical sketch of Jean Martin (cf. Notices, vol. I, p. 290).

1. Filippo Emmanuele Filiberto Giacinte di Simiane, Marchese di Pianezza, had distinguished himself by his bravery in the wars of Monferrato and Genoa, earning the title of Colonel-General of the Infantry. A clever diplomat, he attracted the attention of the Madame Royale, Christine of France, the Duchess-Regent, who made him Prime Minister. She had implicit trust in him, as did Charles Emmanuel II when he came of age. The sole aspiration of the Marchese, however, was to live in a religious house, far from the Court and its activities. After the death of Pope Alexander VII, who had persuaded him to defer the execution of his plan, the Prime Minister ceded all his possessions to his son, the Marchese di Livorno, and retired to San Pancrazio Monastery. Deeply grieved by this, Charles Emmanuel tried repeatedly to make him yield, but to no avail. He then suggested that the Marchese come to Turin and live in a religious house of his choice, leaving it only when called to Court to give his advice on some important affair. The Marchese accepted this proposal, choosing the house of the Priests of the Mission, which he himself had founded. He

died there in July 1677, at sixty-nine years of age. Whenever Saint Vincent speaks to the men in Turin of their "founder," he is referring to the Marchese.

Letter 2530. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original autograph letter.

1. Jean Barreau.

2. Rappiot.

3. One of the young Malagasy boys whom M.de Flacourt had taken to France in 1655 and entrusted to Saint Vincent.

4. Port of Morbihan, which lost its importance after the foundation of Lorient.

5. Girolamo Giudice (Jérôme Lejuge), born in Diano, Albenga diocese (Italy), on September 30, 1611, was ordained a priest on December 22, 1635, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 25, 1650, and took his vows on September 30, 1652. The terrible epidemic of 1657 that killed almost all the men in the Genoa house brought him to death's door (cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 82-87). His self-sacrifice was admirable, but his character was difficult. He died on October 16, 1665.

6. A royal court established in the sixteenth century to relieve the pressure of appeals to the Parlements. In certain cases it also served as a court of first instance.

7. Louis de Rochechouart de Chandénier, Abbé de Tournus, was as remarkable for his virtue as for his noble birth. (Cf. Abelly, op. cit., bk. I, chap. XLIX, p. 240.) One of the most assiduous members of the Tuesday Conferences, he took great pleasure in giving missions, especially to the poor. He declined several dioceses out of humility but accepted more modest but no less exacting functions, such as that of Visitor of the Carmelite nuns of France. To conform himself to the laws of the Church, he resigned all his benefices except Tournus. He died in Chambéry on May 6, 1660, after having been received on the previous evening into the Congregation of the Mission. Several conferences on his virtues were held at Saint-Lazare; the remarks made there are recorded in Notices, vol. II, pp. 511-39.

Letter 2531. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jean Le Vacher.

2. Pierre de Bausset, Provost of Marseilles.

3. Antoine de Bausset, the nephew of Pierre de Bausset.

4. Philippe Le Vacher.

5. Jean-Baptiste de Montolieu commanded five royal galleys in Marseilles. He happened to be in Paris just then, as was Philippe Le Vacher.

6. Some historians, rightly or wrongly, claim that Chevalier Paul was the son of a laundress at the Château d'If (a national prison on an islet in the Mediterranean near Marseilles). He became a Knight of Malta, led his desert convoys like all the Knights of

the Order, and then joined the French navy, where his bravery soon obtained for him the rank of Captain in 1640, Commodore on December 30, 1649, and Lieutenant General in 1654. He died around 1667.

7. Jules Cardinal Mazarin (Giulio Mazarini) was born in Pescina in the Abruzzi (Italy) in 1602, studied in Spain as a youth, and served in the papal army and the papal diplomatic corps. He met Richelieu in 1630 and represented the Pope in negotiating the peace of Cherasco with France in 1631. Mazarin had hardly begun preparing for the priesthood--he received tonsure in 1632 but never became a priest--when he was assigned to other important diplomatic posts: Vice-Legate of Avignon (1634), then Nuncio in France (1635-36), in which positions he demonstrated the ability and flexibility of the most subtle statesman. He became a French citizen in 1639, and Richelieu obtained a Cardinal's hat for him in 1641. Before Richelieu's death (1642), he recommended Mazarin to Louis XIII. He became the principal minister of Queen Anne of Austria during the regency of Louis XIV (1643-61) and, until his own death in 1661, was the absolute master of France.

Letter 2532. - Reg. 2, p. 238.

1. Charles-Auguste de Sales, born in Thoren (Haute-Savoie) on January 1, 1606, was the nephew of Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva. Provost of the Saint-Pierre Chapter in Geneva, Vicar-General and Officialis for his uncle, he was elected Dean of the collegiate church of Notre-Dame in Annecy in 1635. In 1643 he was named Coadjutor to Dom Juste Guérin and was consecrated on May 14, 1645, with the Titular See of Hebron. On November 3, 1645, he succeeded Bishop Guérin in the Geneva diocese, which he governed until his death on February 8, 1660.

2. In the organizational structure of the Church, a number of dioceses, known as suffragan Sees, are united to form an ecclesiastical province whose principal diocese is called a metropolitan See. It is governed by an Archbishop, and its judicial structure functions as a court of appeals for the suffragan dioceses of the ecclesiastical province.

Letter 2533. - Reg. 1, fol. 65v, copy made from the handwritten rough draft.

1. In all probability, this letter is related to the dispute mentioned in no. 2532.

Letter 2534. - Reg. 1, fol. 66, copy made from the handwritten rough draft.

1. As with the preceding letter, this letter most probably is related to the dispute mentioned in no. 2532.

Letter 2535. - Reg. 2, p. 113.

Letter 2536. - Urbain and Lévesque, op. cit., vol. I, no. 9, p. 21.

1. Pierre Bédacier.

2. The fall from the carriage, which Saint Vincent first mentioned in his letter of January 18 to Charles Ozenne (cf. no. 2513).

3. In his letter of February 1 (cf. no. 2526).

4. Louis de Chandénier, Abbé de Tournus.

Letter 2537. - The original signed letter belonged formerly to Captain Pérodon, Château de Saint-Germain-la-Poterie (Oise). Its present location is unknown.

1. Charles Le Blanc, born in Roye (Somme) on July 15, 1625, entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 20, 1649, took his vows on November 21, 1653, and was ordained a priest the following month. In 1658 he set sail for Madagascar but had to return to Paris, after a violent storm snapped the masts and rudder and imperiled the lives of the passengers, forcing the ship to drop anchor at Lisbon. It is difficult to determine in some letters whether "M. Le Blanc" is this Frenchman (Charles) or one of the three Irish confreres named White.

2. Marand-Ignace Arnoul, born in Cayeux-sur-Mer (Somme), entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 22, 1654, at twenty-six years of age, and took his vows on November 23, 1656, in the presence of M. Delespincy.

3. Pasquier de Fontaines, born in Bailleul-Sire-Berthoult (Pas-de-Calais) on September 9, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 22, 1653, as a clerical student and took his vows on April 25, 1656, in the presence of M. Delespincy. He volunteered for Madagascar and was sent there twice, but both times conditions at sea prevented passage, and he had to return to France. Both vols. I and V (Supplement) of Notices. refer to him as Desfontaines. .

4. Christophe Delaunay, born in Haute-Chapelle (Orne), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on October 4, 1653, at nineteen years of age, and took his vows in Luçon on January 6, 1656. In vol. VI, no. 2171, we see with what courage and spirit of faith he acted when the ship that was to take him to Madagascar was wrecked. Saint Vincent spoke of him with deep admiration (cf. vol. XI, no. 160).

5. Word left out of the original.

6. Parlement. refers to the French judicial system. At the time of Saint Vincent, France had eight Parlements, each with its own legal jurisdiction, chief of which was the Parlement of Paris. They registered or gave sanction to the King's edicts, ordinances, and declarations, and supervised their implementation.

7. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2538. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. A clerical student for whom there is no biographical information because he left the Company (cf. no. 2721).

2. The secretary added to this: "Care of M. Delaforcade, merchant, rue Mercière, Lyons."

Letter 2539. - Reg. 2, p. 166.

Letter 2540. - Reg. 1, fol. 39v, copy made from the rough draft.

1. Martin Husson, born in 1623, was a lawyer in the Paris Parlement and had been Intendant in the de Gondi household since 1650. Saint Vincent had great respect for him, as is evident from the Saint's letters, especially vol. IV, nos. 1614 and 1638. Husson accepted the offer the Saint made him of the position of French Consul in Tunis and took up residence there in July 1653. While in Tunis he was an invaluable help and a faithful friend to Jean Le Vacher. Ignominiously expelled by the Dey in April 1657, he returned to France and became Intendant for the Duchesse d'Aiguillon. When he died in December 1695, he left a reputation as a learned, pious, virtuous man and a celebrated author.

2. Jean Barreau.

3. Henri-Auguste de Loménie, Comte de Brienne et de Montbron, Seigneur de la Ville-aux-Clercs, and Secretary of State. He died on November 5, 1666, at the age of seventy-one.

Saint Vincent and the government had been wrestling with this problem as is evident from vol. VI, Appendix 1: Ordinance of Louis XIV concerning the rights of Martin Husson, French Consul in Tunis, July 14, 1656; and Appendix 4: Letter of Louis XIV to the Consuls of Marseilles, July 5, 1657.

Letter 2541. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Albert Tholibowski, Bishop of Poznan (1654-63).

Letter 2542. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Armand-Jean du Plessis, Duc de Richelieu, General of the Galleys of France.

2. Marie de Vignerod de Pontcourlay, Duchesse d'Aiguillon, was born in 1604, in the Château de Glenay near Bressuire, of René de Vignerod and Françoise de Richelieu, eldest sister of the great Cardinal. She married the nephew of the Duc de Luynes, Antoine de Beauvoir de Grimoard de Roure, chevalier, Seigneur de Combalet, whom she had never seen and did not love. During the two years this union lasted, the couple lived together only six months. The Marquis de Combalet, kept away from home by the war, died at the siege of Montpellier on September 3, 1622. His wife, widowed at the age of eighteen, left the Court and entered the Carmelite convent in Paris. After a year of novitiate, she received the habit from the hands of Father de Bérulle and took her first vows. Richelieu, who loved her dearly, did his utmost to bring her back to the Court. At his request the Pope forbade her to remain in the cloister, Marie de Médicis chose her as lady of the bed chamber on January 1, 1625, and the King elevated her estate of Aiguillon to a duchy-peerage on January 1, 1638.

The Cardinal gave her a small mansion on rue de Vaugirard, one of the dependencies of the Petit Luxembourg Palace, where he lived. The Duchess made noble use of her immense wealth and great influence. She frequented and protected men of letters and took charge of all works of charity. She established the Priests of the Mission in Notre-Dame de La Rose and in Marseilles,

entrusting them in the last-named place with the direction of a hospital she had built for sick galley slaves. The Richelieu and Rome houses subsisted on her generosity. She had the consulates of Algiers and Tunis given to the Congregation of the Mission. She contributed to the foundation of the General Hospital and of the Society of the Foreign Missions, took under her protection the Daughters of the Cross and the Daughters of Providence, and was a great benefactress of Carmel. She was President of the Confraternity of Charity at Saint-Sulpice, and replaced Madame de Lamoignon as President of the Ladies of Charity of the Hôtel-Dieu. The Duchesse d'Aiguillon must be placed, along with Saint Louise de Marillac, Madame de Gondi, and Madame Goussault, in the first rank of Saint Vincent's collaborators. No one perhaps gave him more; few were as attached to him. She watched over his health with maternal solicitude; the carriage and horses the Saint used in his old age came from her stables. Saint Vincent's death grieved her deeply. She had a silver-gilt reliquary made in the shape of a heart, surmounted by a flame, to enclose his heart. The Duchess died on April 17, 1675, at the age of seventy-one and was buried in the Carmelite habit. Bishops Bresacier and Fléchier preached her funeral oration. (Cf. Comte de Bonne-Avenant, *La duchesse d'Aiguillon*. [2nd ed., Paris: Didier, 1882].) Le Long mentions in his *Bibliothèque historique de la France*. (Fontette ed., 5 vols., Paris: Hérisant, 1768-78), vol. III, no. 30.854, a manuscript collection of her letters, which has since been lost. Any further mention in the text of "the Duchess" refers to her, unless a footnote indicates otherwise.

3. A letter of Gui Patin, dated February 26, 1658, to his friend Spon in Lyons, gives some interesting details on this flood (cf. Armand Brette, ed., *La France au milieu du XVIIe. siècle*, 1648-61, d'après la correspondance de Gui Patin. [Paris, 1901], p. 240): "The floods have caused great damage here. The river is so swollen that everyone is afraid of drowning; it is as wide as ever but is flowing about twenty times more swiftly than it did in this same month of February in 1651. We see wood, straw, mattresses, and beds floating down the river, signs of the powerful destruction it has wrought wherever it has passed on its way to Paris. The little Bibara River of Bièvre, popularly called the Gentilly River or the Gobelins River, caused great damage in the faubourg Saint-Marceau, where it drowned many persons and washed houses away. The Grève is so flooded that it can be reached only by boat; all the surrounding streets are inundated." The Pont Marie, connecting the Île Saint-Louis with the Quai des Ormes, collapsed on March 1, with twenty-two houses on it. This catastrophe caused the death of fifty-seven persons.

Letter 2543. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

Letter 2544. - Urbain and Lévesque, op. cit., vol. I, no. 10, p. 24.

1. In his letter of February 1 (cf. no. 2526).

2. Mathieu Régnard was born in Brienne-le-Château, now Brienne-Napoléon (Aube) on July 26, 1592. He entered the Congregation of the Mission in October 1631, took his vows on October 28, 1644, and died on October 5, 1669. He was the principal distributor of Saint Vincent's alms in Lorraine and during the troubles of the Fronde. His daring, composure, and savoir-faire made him invaluable to the Saint. Régnard made fifty-three trips to Lorraine, carrying sums of money varying between twenty thousand and fifty thousand livres. Bands of thieves, who had been alerted to his passage and knew what he was carrying, watched him closely, but he always arrived safely at his destination with his treasure. His company was considered a safeguard: the Comtesse de Montgomery, reluctant to journey from Metz to Verdun, decided to do so only after having procured Brother Mathieu as a traveling companion. Queen Anne of Austria used to enjoy listening to him tell of his adventures. Régnard's biography is in Notices, vol. II, pp. 29-33.

3. Father Antoine Guespier.

4. Pierre Bédacier.

Letter 2545. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

Letter 2546. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. To protect their coral fishing grounds, merchants from Marseilles established around 1650 a fort on the North African coast, near El Kalá. This fort, known as the Bastion of France, became an important commercial center and was sacked repeatedly by the Turks during the seventeenth century. In 1692 the Sultan Achmet recognized it officially as a French possession, along with the other African concessions, when the French promised an annual payment of seventeen thousand francs. Later, the demands of the Dey, who wanted an increase in this tax and who had insulted the French Consul in Algiers in 1827, were among the causes of the incursion of a French expeditionary force in 1830 to depose the Dey. The Bastion was abandoned in 1827; its ruins can be seen at Mers-el-Kerraz.

2. Cf. Mt 25:43-48; 6:1-4 (NAB) for Friday after Ash Wednesday.

3. Étienne du Puget.

Letter 2547. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 41.

Letter 2548. - Archives of the Diocese of Cahors, Alain de Solminihac Collection, file 22, no. 42, copy made from the original.

1. Alain de Solminihac was born in the Château de Belet in Périgord on November 25, 1593. He was only twenty-two when one of his uncles resigned in his favor Chancelade Abbey (Dordogne), which depended on the Order of Canons Regular of Saint Augustine. He replaced the old buildings and had discipline restored. On January 21, 1630, Cardinal de la Rochefoucauld sent him full

powers to make visitations of the houses belonging to the Canons of Saint Augustine in the dioceses of Périgueux, Limoges, Saintes, Angoulême, and Maillezais. Solminihac was sought after in many places to establish the reform. Appointed to the Cahors diocese on June 17, 1636, he devoted himself body and soul to the Church of which he was the shepherd. He procured for his people the benefit of missions, visited the parishes of his diocese regularly, created a seminary for the formation of his clergy, and entrusted its direction to the sons of Saint Vincent. By the time he died on December 21, 1659, the Cahors diocese was completely renewed. Since God had manifested his sanctity by several miracles, his cause was introduced in Rome at the request of the clergy of France. (Cf. Léonard Chastenot, *La vie de Mgr Alain de Solminihac*. [new ed., Saint-Brieuc: Prud'homme, 1817]; Abel de Valon, *Histoire d'Alain de Solminihac, évêque de Cahors*. [Cahors: Delsaud, 1900].) He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 4, 1981.

2. Locality in the district of Montauban (Tarn-et-Garonne).

Letter 2549. - Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §7, p. 48.

1. In Haute-Marne.

2. Today Heiltz-le-Maurupt (Marne).

Letter 2550. - Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 87. The same extract of this letter, with some variations, is in the biographical sketch of Jean Martin (cf. *Notices*, vol. I, p. 292).

Letter 2551. - Reg. 2, p. 191.

Letter 2553. - Original signed letter, formerly the property of the Daughters of Charity, 22 rue Vincent-Leblanc, Marseilles; its present location is unknown.

1. Armand-Jean du Plessis, Duc de Richelieu.

2. Documents relative to this foundation are included in vol. XIII: no. 90--Foundation of the Marseilles house by the Duchesse d'Aiguillon (July 25, 1643); no. 91--Appointment of the Superior General of the Mission as Chaplain General of the Galleys (January 16, 1644); no. 96--Rules for the Priests of the Mission in Marseilles entrusted with the galley slaves; and no. 102--Resolutions concerning the establishment in Marseilles (July 9, 1650).

3. Jean Barreau.

4. The rest of this letter is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2554. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Victor Duperroy, born in Maulévrier (Seine-Maritime), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest in June or July 1656. Shortly after his admission he was sent to Montmirail because he was suffering from headaches. Allowing boredom to get the best of him, he came back to Paris only to return to his family.

Letter 2555. - Autograph rough draft, formerly the property of the Daughters of Charity, Moissac. Its present location is unknown.

1. The reference to Antoine Guesprier in the first sentence and to the meeting outside Paris of the Chandenier brothers and Abbé de Blampignon, a member of the Tuesday Conferences, seems to indicate that this letter dates from the time of the famous mission given in Metz.

2. Nicolas Saint-Jean, chaplain to the Queen Mother, Anne of Austria.

3. Father Guesprier.

4. His unmarried sister, Marie de Chandenier, who died in Paris in 1701, at eighty-seven years of age. She left her estate to Guillaume de Lamoignon, Chief Justice of the Parlement.

5. Claude-Charles de Rochechouart de Chandenier, Abbé de Moutiers-Saint-Jean. Like his brother Louis, he was remarkable for his virtue, especially his humility. After the death of his uncle, François Cardinal de la Rochefoucauld (1645), he and his brother went to live at Saint-Sulpice Seminary, which they left in 1653 to stay at Saint-Lazare. Claude-Charles died on May 17, 1710. François Watel, Superior General at the time, announced his death to his priests and recommended the deceased to their prayers. A long, beautiful epitaph placed on Claude de Chandenier's tomb is found in Collet, *La vie de St Vincent de Paul*. (2 vols., Nancy: A. Leseure, 1748), vol. I, pp. 584-88.

6. The Sisters of Saint Thomas Aquinas, or Dominican nuns, lived on rue Neuve-Saint-Augustin, Paris. M.de Blampignon was their director.

Letter 2556. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas de La Brière, born in Saint-Deniscourt (Oise), entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 15, 1648, at twenty-two years of age, and was ordained a priest on May 22, 1655. He took his vows on August 15, 1650, and renewed them on January 25, 1656.

2. Hedwig of Holstein-Gottorp.

Letter 2557. - Reg. 1, fol. 31v.

1. Pierre Pinon, born in Tours on June 19, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 30, 1655, and took his vows in Genoa on October 14, 1657, in the presence of M.Simon.

Letter 2558. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 88.

1. A locality in Piedmont, Cuneo province (Italy).

2. This sentence from Abelly is the introduction to the following paragraph, which he quoted from a letter written by Jean Martin.

Letter 2559. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Year added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

Letter 2560. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §6, p. 43.

1. Abelly gives the year; the contents of the letter allow us to pinpoint the months.

2. Mauron, in the district of Ploërmel (Morbihan).

3. Sunday of the liturgical year immediately preceding Ash Wednesday.

Letter 2561. - Urbain and Lévesque, op. cit., vol. I, p. 29, n. 5.

1. The Mission in Metz was preached during these months.

2. Pierre Bédacier.

Letter 2562. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Payment extorted by the Turks; an insult or affront.

2. Nicolas Senaux, born in Auffay (Seine-Maritime) on May 9, 1619, entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 22, 1639, was ordained a priest on February 20, 1644, took his vows on March 23 of the same year, and died in Troyes on March 28, 1658. Saint Vincent praised his regularity, resignation, and spirit of indifference in a letter of April 12, 1658 (no. 2570), and in a conference on the following June 28 (cf. vol. XII, no. 184).

Letter 2563. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

Letter 2564. - Lettres et Conférences de S. Vincent de Paul, supplément, p. 529, letter 3136.

1. Members of the Tuesday Conferences who were preaching the mission in Metz.

2. The priests of the Tuesday Conferences in Paris.

3. The Queen's chaplain.

4. Claude de Chandénier.

Letter 2565. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. The announcement of the death of Nicolas Senaux confirms the date given in Register 2, p. 113. The copyist, whose text we have used for the remainder of the letter, erroneously wrote "1659."

2. Louis Robineau, coadjutor Brother, born in Neuvy-en-Dunois (Eure-et-Loir), entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 8, 1642, at twenty-one years of age, and took his vows on November 1, 1650. He was Saint Vincent's secretary for thirteen years; the notes he wrote for the Saint's biographer are still in the Archives. (Cf. André Dodin, *Monsieur Vincent raconté par son secrétaire*. [Paris: O.E.I.L., 1991].)

3. Text of Reg. 2: "You tell me that some of the Benedictine nuns in Cognac are possessed by the evil spirit."

4. The copyist of Reg. 2 added at this point: "I hope they will always do well and that your good example will be a great help to them. Usually, subjects are what their Superiors are."

5. Louis Bréant, born in Beu, near Houdan (Chartres diocese), entered the Congregation of the Mission on February 12, 1654, at twenty-five years of age, and took his vows on November 13, 1656,

in the presence of M.Berthe. He is listed as a priest in Notices, vols. I and V (Supplement), with no ordination date given. He was Superior in Saintes (1662-64), Tréguier (1664-70), Saint-Brieuc (1670-80), and Saint-Méen (1681-89).

6. Jean de Fricourt, born in Nibas (Somme) on March 7, 1635, entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 20, 1656, and took his vows in Saintes on October 20, 1658, in the presence of M.Louis Rivet. He was still there in September 1660. Notices, vols. I and V (Supplement), lists him as Defricourt.

Letter 2566. - Reg. 1, fol. 52, copy made from the unsigned rough draft.

1. Breviarium Romanum, 1647, 4 vols. with engraved illustrations. (Cf. Auguste Bernard, Histoire de l'Imprimerie Royale du Louvre. [Paris, 1867, p. 127].)

Letter 2567. - The first part of this letter is taken from the Lyons manuscript, which gives neither the date nor the name of the recipient; the second part is from Reg. 2, p. 137. The contents show clearly that the fragment taken from the Lyons manuscript is part of a letter addressed to François Dupuich around April 10, 1658, which is the known date for the second part. It is quite probable that both parts belong to the same letter.

1. François Dupuich was born in Arras on July 3, 1616. After his ordination to the priesthood in September 1640, he entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on April 19, 1641, and took his vows in Troyes in November 1643, in the presence of M.Dehorgny. He was Superior in several houses: Troyes, Marseilles, Warsaw, Metz, Saint-Charles, and twice in Richelieu. In 1679 he was sent to Poland on a very delicate mission, of which he acquitted himself with competence and success. Dupuich had the title of Visitor in both Champagne and Poland; on January 2, 1683, he was asked to substitute for Thomas Berthe as Assistant General when the latter was detained outside Paris. Dupuich was still alive in 1697.

Letter 2568. - Reg. 2, p. 168.

1. Gabriel Laudin, born in Provins (Seine-et-Marne), entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 10, 1654, at the age of twenty-five, and took his vows on May 14, 1656. He was Superior in Amiens (1667-70) and was Procurator General (1677-79).

Letter 2569. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 197.

Letter 2570. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2550.

2. Marchese di Pianezza.

3. The secretary added to this: "Care of M.Delaforcade, merchant, rue Mercière, Lyons."

Letter 2571. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Louise Goulas, wife of Pierre Sublet, Seigneur de Romilly. She was a Lady of Charity very devoted to the work of the foundlings.

2. Michel Sublet, Chevalier de Romilly.

3. Jean Le Vacher.

4. Louis de Clermont, who was also a slave in Tunis. Coste originally had Fournier. here but corrected it (vol. XIII, p. 850) to read Tonnerre.

5. Antoine de Bausset.

Letter 2572. - Original signed letter, formerly the property of Comte Allard du Chollet, 114 bis. Boulevard Malesherbes, Paris; its present location is unknown.

1. Jean-Jacques Planchamp, born in Mionnay (Ain) on December 8, 1627, was ordained a priest in 1651. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on April 29, 1655, and took his vows in Turin on May 12, 1657, in the presence of M. Martin. Planchamp left the Company in 1659.

2. Good Friday.

3. Cf. Mk 14:30-31. (NAB)

Letter 2573. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2558.

2. François Richard, born in Metz on February 3, 1622, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 24, 1641, took his vows in 1643, and was ordained a priest in Rome on March 31, 1646 (cf. Notices, vol. I, p. 464).

Letter 2574. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jean Le Vacher.

2. A galley slave in Toulon.

Letter 2575. - British Museum, Foreign Private Letters, Egerton 27, fol. 164, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. We know these reasons from an old notebook from the Marseilles house, preserved today in the Arch. Nat., S 6707: "Since most of these young men had no other vocation to the religious life than the will of their parents, who wanted to relieve their households of them and provide for them from the revenues of a religious Order as from a benefice, these young men, having no idea what it meant to be monks, followed their own feelings and inclinations and were dissolute rogues, seeking only to gratify their senses. As a consequence, since they showed no improvement nor hope of reform after a year's tryout, the Prior [of the Saint-Victor Monastery] and their parents had to be asked to withdraw them from our house. This they did, although regretfully and after having implored the Superior of that house to bear with them for a few more years." Once the Saint-Victor novices left, there were no longer any other students in the Marseilles house.

2. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

3. Antoine Parisy, born in Mesnil-Réaume (Seine-Maritime) on December 7, 1632, entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 18, 1651, took his vows in 1653, and was ordained a priest in 1657. In 1659 he was sent from Marseilles to Montpellier, returning to Marseilles in 1660. He was Superior there (1672-75), then in Metz (1676-85) and Saint-Méen (1689-1701).

Letter 2576. - Reg. 2, p. 124.

1. Cf. Mk 10:42-44. (NAB)

Letter 2577. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. These last words, from "if you are in agreement," are in the Saint's handwriting.

2. Gaspard Stelle, born in the Sisteron diocese (Alpes-de-Haute-Provence) on April 5, 1624, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on January 16, 1657, and took his vows in Genoa on January 7, 1659, in the presence of M. Simon. Both vol. I and vol. V (Supplement) of Notices, list him as Estelle. .

3. Jacques Beaure, born in Saint-Léonard-de-Noblat (Haute-Vienne) on March 22, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission for the second time on September 2, 1656.

4. Donat Crowley (Saint Vincent spells his name Cruoly.), born in Cork (Ireland) on July 24, 1623, entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 9, 1643, took his vows in November 1645, and was ordained a priest in 1650. He was among the group of Missionaries sent to Picardy in 1651 for the relief of the people reduced to destitution by the war. Later, he was named Director of Students and theology professor at Saint-Lazare (1653-54) and was sent after that to Le Mans as Superior. In 1657 he returned to Saint-Lazare to teach moral theology. Crowley also became Superior in Richelieu (1660-61), at Saint-Charles (1662-64), Montauban (1664-65), Agen (1665-66), and Saint-Brieuc (1667-70). Sent to Le Mans in 1676, he was Superior there (1687-90), after which there is no trace of him.

Letter 2578. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Vicar-General of Bayonne.

2. François de Vendôme, Duc de Beaufort, was born in Paris in 1616 to César, Duc de Vendôme, the illegitimate son of King Henry IV and Gabrielle d'Estrées. In his youth he distinguished himself in the war against the Spaniards and became a great favorite of Anne of Austria, the French Queen. His intrigues earned him four years in prison at the Château of Vincennes. He had barely been set free when he joined the Frondeurs and became a popular idol. De Beaufort fought the Algerians at sea in 1665 and died in 1669 at the siege of Candia (Heraklion), a seaport of Crete.

Letter 2579. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Duperroy.
2. Andrzej Trzebicki.

Letter 2580. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.
2. It was Sister Avoie Vigneron who accompanied Sister Anne Hardemont to the hospital of Ussel; perhaps she is the one Saint Louise had in mind here.

Avoie Vigneron entered the Daughters of Charity around 1646-47. She was in Paris in August 1655 and was sent to Ussel in May 1658. There she encountered many difficulties; she made her sufferings known to Saint Louise (cf. vol. VII, no. 2767) and to Saint Vincent (cf. vol. VIII, no. 3241). In 1672 she was Sister Servant in Corbeil. Her two sisters, Geneviève and Marie, were also Daughters of Charity.

3. Anne Hardemont. There was question of sending her to the hospital in Ussel, which the Duchesse de Ventadour wanted to entrust to the Daughters of Charity.

We get to know Sister Anne Hardemont from the many letters she preserved. In 1640 she was missioned to Saint-Paul parish; in 1647 she was chosen to establish the mission in Montreuil-sur-Mer, and in 1650 the one in Hennebont (Morbihan). In 1651 she was stationed in Nantes, and the following year in Châlons-sur-Marne. Because of illness she returned to Nantes, where she remained until 1653, at which time she went to Sainte-Menehould, then to Sedan in 1654, and La Roche-Guyon in 1655. She was present in Paris on August 8, 1655, and signed the Act of Establishment of the Company of the Daughters of Charity (cf. vol. XIII, no. 150). In 1656 she was at the Petites-Maisons in Paris and in Ussel in 1658. Because of her leadership ability, she was named Sister Servant in all these places, despite what Saint Vincent wrote to Saint Louise (cf. no. 1405) that she was "somewhat to be feared"; this was undoubtedly the cause of her many changes. (Cf. vol. IV, no. 1342, and Spiritual Writings, L. 110, pp. 120-21.)

4. The Duchesse de Ventadour, née Marie de la Guiche de Saint-Gérard. On February 8, 1645, she married Charles de Levis, Duc de Ventadour, widower of Suzanne de Thémynes de Montluc, who had bequeathed forty thousand livres to Saint Vincent for the foundation of a mission in Cauna (Landes). After her husband died (May 19, 1649), she sought consolation in works of charity, becoming one of Saint Louise's principal auxiliaries and best friends. On the eve of Saint Louise's death, the Duchess came to be with her, caring for her with all the devotedness of a Daughter of Charity. She spent part of the night with her and, after a short rest, stayed by her bedside until the end, holding the blessed candle herself. (Cf. Abbé Nicolas Gobillon, *La vie de Mademoiselle Le Gras, fondatrice et première supérieure de la Compagnie des Filles de la Charité*. [Paris: A. Pralard, 1676], pp. 178, 181.) In 1683 the Duchess was elected President of the

Ladies of Charity. She died at the age of seventy-eight at her château, Sainte-Marie-du-Mont (Normandy), during the night of July 22-23, 1701. Thanks to her generosity, this locality had an establishment of Daughters of Charity as early as 1655.

5. Bertrand Ducournau.

Letter 2581. - Reg. 2, p. 116.

1. The letter is addressed to "A priest of the Company who seemed anxious to direct the others." This priest is undoubtedly Benjamin Huguier because the contents do not apply to Firmin Get, the Superior; or to Jacques de la Fosse, who had just been assigned to Troyes; or Antoine Parisy, the only other priest living with them in Marseilles. Apparently the Saint was trying to distract him from his temptation by sending him on a voyage to Algiers.

2. Cf. Jn 15:16. (NAB)

3. Cf. Mt 20:26-28. (NAB)

Letter 2582. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. A merchant.

2. The "short compilation" Saint Vincent mentions here was published in L.D.C. Gueriteau, Opuscles Biographiques. Vie de Jean Coqueret, Vie du Docteur André Duval, Vie de Robert Gueriteau, ed. J. Depoin (Pontoise: Société historique du Vexin, 1901), pp. 12-21.

Jean Coqueret, Doctor of the Collège de Navarre, was head of the Collège des Grassins and Superior of the Discalced Carmelites of France. He was a friend of Saint Francis de Sales, André Duval, and of Saint Vincent with whom he had given a mission in Villepreux in 1618. Born in Pontoise (Val-d'Oise) in 1592, he died in Marseilles on October 7, 1655. Saint Vincent consulted him before introducing vows into the Company and invited him to the conferences on Jansenism given at Saint-Lazare.

Letter 2583. - Reg. 2, p. 240.

1. In 1645 the Bishop of Saint-Malo gave the Priests of the Mission permanent direction of the seminary he had just established in Saint-Méen Abbey, near Boursel (Côtes-du-Nord). He guaranteed them a tenth of the yearly annuity of five hundred livres and added to the establishment the revenue of the abbey, on condition--among other things--that there be five Missionaries: three for the seminary and two for the missions; that for two or three years they would teach gratis twelve young seminarians; and that they would give a pension to the monks of the abbey until the last one died (cf. vol. III, no. 829, n. 11). The Benedictines of Saint-Maur had looked askance on the transformation of Saint-Méen Abbey into a seminary and instituted legal proceedings that became heated and protracted (cf. vol. III, no. 832, n. 8).

Saint Vincent is referring here to the latest stumbling block. The reason alleged was that in his petition Edme Jolly had "not mentioned the monastic offices." He was obliged to appear before the Cardinal Datary with the Procurator General of Saint-Maur, where arguments were heard on both sides. The report was read to the Pope, who, on April 3, despite the opposition, ordered the Bulls to be sent. The text is published in *Acta apostolica in gratiam Congregationis Missionis*. (Paris: Georges Chamerot, 1876), pp. 18-23, Arch. Nat. S 6711, and in vol. XIII, no. 117. This letter informs us that fresh difficulties had arisen.

Letter 2584. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, *Regulae seu Constitutiones communes Congregationis Missionis*. (Paris, 1658), original in Latin. This letter forms the preface of the document. Coste printed both the Latin text and a French translation; Saint Vincent used the latter for the French edition of the Rules prepared that year for the coadjutor Brothers. The editors have translated the French text here, noting any significant differences from the Latin.

1. The Latin has: "in Christ."

2. Latin text: "in the Lord."

3. The little book of Common Rules. that Saint Vincent presented to his Missionaries in 1658 was a second edition. The first, completed in 1655, contained so many printing errors that he ordered it to be destroyed (cf. vol. V, no. 1851). He went over the text with Antoine Portail and sought the advice of theologians and renowned canonists, many of whom were in prominent positions in Rome itself (cf. vol. V, no. 2053; vol. VI, nos. 2289, 2299, 2315, 2365, 2402, and 2446). Finally, on May 17, 1658, after giving one of his most beautiful conferences (cf. vol. XII, no. 180), he had the joy of distributing personally to his Missionaries the first copies. The corrections to the 1655 edition, approved by the Archbishop of Paris, were of minor importance. Saint Vincent was able to write to Cardinal de Retz on July 15, 1659: "We did not alter the essentials of the Rules nor anything of consequence" (cf. vol. VIII, no. 2907). The 1655 version has survived in manuscript form in what is known as the CODEX SARZANA, preserved in the Archives of the Congregation of the Mission, Curia Generalitia, Rome, and published in *Vincentiana*. (4-5), 1991, pp. 303-406.

4. Latin text: "Christ our Savior."

5. Latin text: "that doubtless might have arisen."

6. Latin text: "dangers."

7. Latin text: "emanating from the Divine Spirit."

8. Latin text: "from the Spirit of Jesus Christ and the actions of His life."

9. Latin text: "of Christ Himself."

10. Latin text: "must share the sentiments and maxims of the same Christ."

11. Latin text: "As well as this, Brothers, we therefore ask and entreat you in the Lord Jesus to do your utmost to observe these same Rules exactly."

Letter 2585. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 197.

Letter 2586. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §5, p. 40.

1. Emerand Bajoue, born in Céaux (Vienne), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on December 1, 1640, at thirty-one years of age, and took his vows on April 24, 1657, in the presence of Antoine Portail. He was Superior in La Rose (1649-52) and Notre-Dame de Lorm (1652-54). Bajoue died on February 28, 1671.

2. A small commune in the canton of Ay (Marne).

Letter 2587. - The original signed letter was made available to Coste by Abbé Colombel, Pastor of Saint-Jean-Baptiste-de-Grenelle parish in the Paris diocese. Its present location is unknown.

1. Edmund Barry, born in the Cloyne diocese (Ireland) on June 24, 1613, was ordained a priest in Cahors in 1639 and admitted into the Congregation of the Mission on July 21, 1641. He took his vows at Saint-Lazare a few days before his departure for Ireland in 1646, returning to France in 1652, after Limerick had been captured by Cromwell's army. He was then placed in Richelieu (1652-53) and Montauban (1653-80). While in Montauban, he directed the seminary and was Superior there (1657-64, 1675-80). Barry was also a Doctor of Theology and was still alive on May 31, 1680, as two legal documents show. He died later that year.

2. Pierre de Bertier, Doctor of the Sorbonne, former Canon and Archdeacon of Toulouse, Coadjutor of Bishop Anne de Murviel and then his successor (1652). In 1636 he was consecrated Bishop in partibus of Utica. He had to tolerate a great deal from the elderly Bishop of Montauban and several times was on the point of resigning. Some time before the Prelate's death, he wrote to Mazarin: "His health is so good and his humor so bad that I cannot hope for his succession nor even his favor. Therefore, Excellency, not only am I unemployed in my ministry and deprived of sufficient revenues for my position, I am, in addition, constantly persecuted and believed guilty for no reason." (Cf. Arch. Nat., KK 1217, p. 207.) De Bertier was Bishop of Montauban until 1674.

Letter 2588. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. César de Bourbon, Duc de Vendôme, the illegitimate son of Henry IV and Gabrielle d'Estrées, was born at the Château de Coucy. He married Françoise de Lorraine, daughter of the Duc de Mercoeur, and died in Paris on October 22, 1665. The Duke was involved in the troubles during the regency of Louis XIII, fought against Richelieu's political policies, and under him was jailed and exiled. He accepted the politics of Mazarin, who appointed

him Minister of Navigation in 1650 and lavished many favors on him. His eldest son married Laura Mancini, the Cardinal's niece. Letter 2589. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §5, p. 40.

1. Principal town of a canton in Marne.

Letter 2590. - Bossuet, op. cit., vol. I, letter 11, p. 26.

1. Louis de Chandénier, Abbé de Tournus.

2. Bossuet had participated actively in the mission; he preached at the church of the citadel and taught catechism there twice a week; he also preached some sermons at the Cathedral.

3. The Tuesday Conferences.

Letter 2591. - Reg. 2, p. 140. Despite some differences of expression, it would appear that the passage from the letter given by Abelly (cf. op. cit., bk. III, chap. XIII, sect. 1, p. 214) is an excerpt from this one.

1. A detail--the illness of Julien Dolivet--allows us to give an approximate date to this letter; no. 2605, of June 14, 1658, informs us that he is well on the way to recovery.

2. Cf. Lk 12:24. (NAB)

3. Cf. Mt 6:33. (NAB)

4. There was a convent of Franciscan Friars in Agde.

Letter 2592. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

Letter 2593. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Cardinal Mazarin.

2. Étienne du Puget was Bishop of Marseilles until his death on January 11, 1668.

3. In a note preserved in the Archives of the Mission, Sister Radegonde Lenfantin claimed that Guillaume Delville had left the Congregation before his death (1658). This was not the case; proofs of his continued membership are seen in this letter and the following one and in the conference Saint Vincent held on May 24 at Saint-Lazare concerning his virtues. We have knowledge of this conference only from its inclusion on one of the two lists in the Archives of the Mission of conferences given at Saint-Lazare: one, compiled by René Alméras, the Assistant Superior of the house, covers 1656-60; the second, written by Jean Gicquel, the Sub-assistant Superior, includes the last ten years of Saint Vincent's life. (Cf. vol. XII, Appendix 2.)

Letter 2594. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Françoise Douelle was the youngest of the three Sisters sent to Poland in September 1652 (the others were Marguerite Moreau, the Sister Servant, and Madeleine Drugeon). After overcoming some difficulties, she adapted herself so well that she became known by her Polish name Duelska. (cf. La Compagnie des Filles de la

Charité aux Origines. Documents, ed. by Sister Élisabeth Charpy [Tours: Mame, 1989]).

Letter 2595. - Archives of the Brothers of St. John of God, St-Barthélemy (France), original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting. This letter is also found in Reg. 2, p. 187, and p. 52, but the latter is less complete and has many variations.

1. Pierre de Beaumont, born in Puiseaux (Loiret) on February 24, 1617, entered the Congregation of the Mission on February 23, 1641, took his vows on October 4, 1643, and was ordained a priest in March 1644. He was imprisoned as a result of the lawsuit over the establishment of the Saint-Méen house. De Beaumont became Director of the Internal Seminary in Richelieu, and was twice Superior of that house (1656-60, 1661-62).

2. In his note Coste conjectures that this may be François-Ignace Lièbe; however, the biographical sketch in vol. IV, no. 1613, n. 2, states that Lièbe had left the Company in 1657.

3. The words in brackets were taken from p. 52 of the register. On page 187, the copyist was content with writing "capable, etc." Letter 2596. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §5, p. 39.

1. A locality in the district of Reims (Marne).

Letter 2597. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, photograph of the original signed letter.

1. François Verthamon, Master of Requests.

2. Jean Barreau.

Letter 2598. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. The Brief Ex commissa nobis. of September 22, 1655 (cf. vol. XIII, no. 113).

Letter 2599. - Avignon manuscript.

1. Cf. Lk 13:24. (NAB)

Letter 2600. - Reg. 2, p. 118.

1. Jacques Chiroye was born in Auppegard (Seine-Maritime) on March 14, 1614, and entered the Congregation of the Mission on June 25, 1638. He served as Superior in Luçon (1640-50, 1654-60, 1662-66) and Crécy (1660-62). He did not take his vows until March 9, 1660. Chiroye died on May 3, 1680.

2. Nicolas Pignay, priest of the Rouen diocese and Doctor of the Sorbonne. In his will, dated August 10, 1671 (Arch. Nat., M 213, n. 8), he is mentioned as "Headmaster of the Collège de Justice..living at the Bons-Enfants."

3. The amount of land required by a bushel (boisselée). of seed. Letter 2601. - Abelly, op. cit., second edition, second part, p. 77.

Letter 2602. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505). Henri Simard (Saint Vincent de Paul et ses oeuvres à Marseille. [Lyons: E. Vitte, 1894], p. 151), who owned the

letter after M.Hains, states that it is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. One outgrowth of the Thirty Years' War (1618-48) was the ongoing friction between France and Spain, which continued to abet the French Frondeurs, notably Condé. England allied itself with France to break the Spanish hold on the Low Countries (Belgium and the Netherlands). The French-English allies, led by Maréchal Turenne, defeated the Spanish army of Don John of Austria and Condé at the battle of the Dunes (June 14, 1658); subsequently, the besieged city of Dunkirk, the last Spanish outpost in the Low Countries, surrendered (June 25). Among the agreements of the Treaty of the Pyrenees, signed November 7, 1659, England acquired Dunkirk, which in 1662 she sold to France; France reembraced Condé and reinstated him as a Maréchal of France; and Louis XIV became engaged to Maria Teresa, eldest daughter of Philip IV, King of Spain.

2. Jean Barreau.

3. Probably Brother Jean-Armand Dubourdieu. According to the author of his biography (cf. Notices, vol. IV, p. 22), Saint Vincent intended to offer Dubourdieu the consulate of Algiers in 1658.

Jean-Armand Dubourdieu, born in Garos (Pyrénées-Atlantiques), entered the Congregation of the Mission in La Rose on November 8, 1644, at eighteen years of age, and took his vows on December 13, 1647. In 1658 Saint Vincent chose him for the position of Consul in Algiers, but circumstances delayed his departure until 1661. He set sail with Brother Louis Sicquard, who had been given him as chancellor, and Philippe Le Vacher, who was going to settle the affairs of Jean Barreau. The new Consul carried out his office with intelligent zeal. His correspondence testifies to his concern for the interests of religion and of France and how touched he was by the sad plight of the slaves, whose well-being was the object of his constant care. He returned to France in 1673 and died at Saint-Lazare on April 15, 1677. Edme Jolly announced his death and eulogized him in a circular letter to all the houses of the Company. Brother Dubourdieu's biography is published in vol. IV of Notices, pp. 21-24.

4. Philippe Le Vacher.

5. Jules Cardinal Mazarin.

Letter 2603. - Reg. 2, p. 55.

1. Saint-Étienne-la-Cigogne, a small commune of Deux-Sèvres.

Letter 2604. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date written on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Three officers were chosen on that day: Mathurine Guérin, Françoise-Paule Noret, and Jeanne Gressier.

Mathurine Guérin was born in Montcontour (Brittany), on April 16, 1631. Despite the opposition of her parents, she entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity on September 12, 1648. After her formation period, she was sent to Saint-Jean-de-Grèves parish

and then to Liancourt. Recalled to the Motherhouse in 1652, she became Seminary Directress and Saint Louise's secretary. In 1655 she was made Treasurer but was sent to the hospital in La Fère (Aisne) in 1659. Saint Vincent recalled her in May 1660 for the Belle-Isle Hospital. She served a first six-year term as Superioress General in 1667 and again (1676-82, 1685-91, 1694-97) and died at the Motherhouse on October 18, 1704. A long sketch of her life and virtues is written in *Circulaires des supérieurs généraux et des soeurs supérieures aux Filles de la Charité et Remarques ou Notices sur les Soeurs défuntés de la Communauté*. (Paris: Adrien Le Clère, 1845), pp. 556-68.

Françoise-Paule Noret, born in Liancourt, entered the Daughters of Charity at the end of 1640 or the beginning of 1641. She spent the greater part of her life at the Motherhouse. In 1645 she went to Saint-Denis; during July-August 1646 she accompanied Saint Louise on her trip to Nantes. She signed the Act of Establishment of the Company of the Daughters of Charity on August 8, 1655. She was named Assistant of the Company in 1658.

Jeanne Gressier, born in Senlis (Oise), entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity around 1654. Although very young, she was named Procuratrix in 1655 and remained at the Motherhouse. She assisted Saint Louise on her deathbed (March 15, 1660) and wrote the details of her last moments. It was she to whom Saint Vincent confided the governance of the Company, while awaiting the naming of a new Superioress General in August 1660.

Letter 2605. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jean Barreau.

Letter 2606. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Marie-Marthe Trumeau had been sent to Angers in March 1640; she returned to Paris in June 1647 after becoming dangerously ill in Angers. In 1648 she served the poor in Saint-Paul parish. In 1653 she was named Sister Servant in Nantes, where she remained for two years (cf. no. 1672). She was sent to La Fère on July 31, 1656, and from there to the establishment in Cahors in September 1658.

3. Françoise Manceau, a native of Laumesfeld (Moselle), entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity around 1643 and was in Chars in 1650. In June 1658 she was sent to Calais, where she died in September, a victim of her devotion.

4. Clémence Ferré, a native of Champignière, near Nancy (Meurthe-et-Moselle), went to Angers in January 1640 and remained there until April 1644. She was then sent to Liancourt, and in 1657 to Chars.

Letter 2607. - Reg. 2, p. 192.

Letter 2608. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jacques de Montrouge, Bishop of Saint-Flour (1647-61).

Letter 2609. - Reg. 2, p. 142.

1. The next-to-last sentence in this letter indicates that it was written on the same day as the preceding one.

2. Cf. Acts 4:32. (NAB)

Letter 2610. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. Marguerite Chétif, born in Paris, was baptized at Saint-Sulpice on September 8, 1621, and entered the company of the Daughters of Charity on May 1, 1649. She was first sent to Chars and in May 1651 went to Serqueux. Chosen for the mission in Poland, the war between that country and Sweden prevented her departure. She took perpetual vows in Paris on April 4, 1655. When the Company was officially erected on August 8, 1655, she signed the Act of Establishment. In 1656 she went to Arras as Sister Servant and was there when Saint Louise died. Saint Vincent appointed Sister Marguerite Superioress General (1660-67); in 1667 she became Seminary Directress, and in 1670 Sister Servant in Angers. In 1674 she was named Treasurer General under Sister Nicole Haran; upon completion of her term of office (1677), she went as Sister Servant to the Nom-de-Jésus [Name of Jesus] hospice. She died at the Motherhouse on January 9, 1694. Two conferences given after her death are preserved in *Circulaires des supérieurs généraux et des soeurs supérieures*, pp. 470-78.

2. Marie de Maupeou, wife of François Fouquet, Vicomte de Vaux, Master of Requests, and then Councillor of State. Among her eight children were Nicolas, the celebrated Superintendent of Finance; François, Bishop of Narbonne; Louis, Bishop of Agde; and several daughters who entered the Visitation Order, one of whom, Marie-Thérèse, became Superior of the Visitation in Toulouse. Marie de Maupeou was a woman of exceptional piety and immense charity, of whom Saint Vincent said that "if through some mischance the Gospels were lost, their spirit and maxims would be found in the conduct and sentiments of Madame Fouquet." "She makes devotion so attractive," he added, "that she encourages everyone to be devout." (Cf. *Année sainte des religieuses de la Visitation Sainte-Marie*. [12 vols., Annecy: Ch. Burdet, 1867-71], vol. I, p. 627.) When she heard that her son, Nicolas, had fallen into disgrace, she exclaimed: "I thank You, O my God. I asked You for the salvation of my son, and this is the way to obtain it." She died in 1681, at the age of ninety-one, mourned by everyone, but especially by the poor, who called her their mother. In the catalogue of the Ladies of Charity, she is listed under the title of Madame Fouquet, the President's wife.

3. This hospice, composed of cottages for the patients, housed nearly four hundred elderly and infirm persons of both sexes, afflicted with skin disorders, dementia, or social diseases. It was located near the intersection of rue de Sèvres and Boulevard Raspail, mainly on the site of Boucicaut Square, next to the present-day Bon Marché department store. Saint Vincent himself had preached a mission there before the establishment of the Congregation of the Mission (cf. Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, p. 20). He later sent members of the Tuesday Conferences there, where they did considerable good (ibid., bk. II, chap. III, sect. III, p. 257).

4. Radegonde Lenfantin was sent to Arras on August 30, 1656. Born around 1637, she entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity in 1653. In September 1660, after the departure of Sister Marguerite Chétif, who had been named Superioress General, she went through a period of discouragement and left Arras. She returned, however, and would die as a Daughter of Charity (cf. Coste, vol. VIII, no. 3288, n. 1). In 1705 and 1713, she testified at the beatification process of Saint Vincent (cf. La Compagnie des Filles de la Charité aux Origines. Documents (1617-60). [Tours: Mame, 1989], ed. Élisabeth Charpy, D.C., Doc. 663, n. 2).

5. The hospitals in Calais were filled to overflowing with soldiers who were wounded at the battle of the Dunes or were victims of a serious epidemic.

6. Françoise Manceau, Marguerite Ménage, Marie Poulet, and Claude Muset. The disease they were coming to combat struck all four, and the first two died of it. The Queen had a memorial erected to the two victims.

Marguerite Ménage entered the Daughters of Charity at the end of 1650. Three of her sisters, Françoise, Madeleine, and Catherine, were also members of the Company.

Marie Poulet entered the Daughters of Charity around 1649. She went to Châlons-sur-Marne in October 1653, returning to Paris the following year. In 1657 she was in Chars and was chosen in June 1658 to nurse the wounded soldiers in Calais.

Claude Muset, born in 1637, entered the Daughters of Charity late in 1655 and was chosen in 1658 for the mission in Calais. On August 3 she wrote a beautiful letter to Saint Louise, telling her of the deaths of Sisters Françoise Manceau and Marguerite Ménage, her own illness, and that of Sister Marie Poulet (cf. Documents D.C., Doc. 723, pp. 828-29). In 1705 and 1713, she testified at the process of canonization for Saint Vincent.

Letter 2611. - Reg. 1, fol. 55.

1. Niece of Mademoiselle du Fresne and a novice in Notre-Dame-de-Sézanne Abbey.

2. Cf. Mt 6:24. (NAB)

3. Cf. Rom 8:13. (NAB)

4. Cf. Lk 13:24. (NAB)

5. Cf. Jn 6:38. (NAB)

6. Cf. Rom 8:13. (NAB)
7. Cf. Lk 24:26. (NAB)
8. Cf. Mt 16:24. (NAB)
9. Cf. Jb 7:1. (DR-B)
10. Cf. 1 Pt 5:8. (NAB)
11. Cf. 1 Cor 10:13. (NAB)
12. Cf. Mt 11:30. NAB

Letter 2612. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The upper left-hand corner is missing.

1. Probably one of the two localities in Indre-et-Loire that bear this name.

2. François Gorlidot and François Rivet.

Gorlidot, born in Charly (Aisne) on January 10, 1623, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 3, 1647, took his vows on September 30, 1649, and was ordained a priest in 1650.

3. Eustache-Michel de Grainville, born in the Paris diocese on May 18, 1633, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Richelieu on November 10, 1657, and took his vows in the presence of M.de Beaumont on December 11, 1659.

4. Philibert de Beaumanoir de Lavardin. Although Saint Vincent did not recommend him for the episcopacy, he took up residence in Le Mans even before receiving his Bulls. He was not a model Bishop; in fact, after his death, a rumor spread that, on his own admission, he never had the intention of ordaining anyone. Several persons believed this and had themselves reordained. The rumor, however, was false. (Cf. Collet, op. cit., vol. I, p. 473.)

Letter 2613. - Reg. 1, fol. 18v.

1. Nicolas Sevin.

2. Alain de Solminihac.

3. Catherine Caulet, Baronne de Mirepoix. As will be seen in no. 2802, she asked to be admitted to the Ladies of Charity of the Hôtel-Dieu in March 1659. Perhaps she is seeking Saint Vincent's advice about that here.

Letter 2614. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

Letter 2615. - Innocent Le Masson, La vie de messire Jean d'Aranthon d'Alex. (2nd. ed., Clermont-Ferrand: Tribaud-Landriot, 1834), p. 46.

1. Saint Vincent's relationship with Jean d'Aranthon d'Alex dated back to the time when the latter was studying in Paris. One day, after the Saint had heard him speak at a priests' meeting, he introduced himself to d'Aranthon and asked him to come to Saint-Lazare from time to time, which he did. Shortly after ordination to the priesthood on December 17, 1644, he was appointed Canon of Geneva and Pastor in Ceury. The services he rendered the diocese and the Court of Savoy, his great learning, and his indefatigable zeal in combating heresy made him a likely candidate to succeed

Charles-Auguste de Sales, who died on February 8, 1660. Some time before, Saint Vincent had foretold that he would be appointed to this position and had recently repeated his prediction to the Prelate's nephew, the Prior of La Pérouse. Jean d'Aranthon enjoyed one of the longest and more fruitful episcopates ever known to the Geneva diocese. He died on July 4, 1695, at seventy-six years of age. The Priests of the Mission, directors of the Annecy seminary--who had nothing but praise for his benevolence--inherited his library, his chapel in the country, a precious chalice, and all of his paintings.

2. The information about d'Aranthon's nephew coming to study in Paris enables us to assign this date for the letter.

3. The Prior of La Pérouse came to Paris in 1658 to prepare for the priesthood under the direction of the Priests of Saint-Sulpice. He later became a Doctor of the Sorbonne and Dean of the Sainte-Chapelle in Chambéry.

Letter 2616. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2577.

2. Yves Laurence, born in La Roche-Derrien (Côtes-du-Nord) on March 1, 1632, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a deacon on June 28, 1656, and took his vows in Turin on July 25, 1658, in the presence of M. Martin. He was Superior in Marseilles (1686-92) and Vicar Apostolic for the Regencies of Algiers and Tunis (1693-1705). Laurence died in Algiers on March 11, 1705. (Cf. Notices, vol. IV, pp. 39-46.)

3. Fathers Pasquier de Fontaines, Marand-Ignace Arnoul, Charles Le Blanc, and Pierre Daveroult. Brother Christophe Delaunay was also with them.

Letter 2617. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

Letter 2618. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 89.

Letter 2619. - Reg. 2, p. 78.

1. Louis de Bassompierre, Bishop of Saintes (1649-70).

2. These nuns had just come to Saintes, where they undertook the education of young women and girls of the nobility and upper middle class.

3. The Visitation nuns.

4. Saint Francis de Sales was born in Thorens, near Annecy, on August 21, 1567, and died in Lyons on December 28, 1622. Saint Vincent was honored with his friendship. "Many times I have had the honor of enjoying the close friendship of Francis de Sales," he said at the beatification process of his illustrious friend on April 17, 1628. He always spoke of the Bishop of Geneva with great admiration, considering him worthy of the honors reserved to the saints. According to Coqueret, a Doctor of the Sorbonne, Saint Francis de Sales, on his part, used to say that "he did not

know a more worthy or more saintly priest than M. Vincent." (Postulatory letter from the Bishop of Tulle, March 21, 1706.) When it came to appointing a Superior for the Visitation convent in Paris, he chose Vincent de Paul.

5. For some eighteen months, beginning in October 1646, Saint Vincent did not fulfill the functions of Director of the Visitation nuns. Jean-François-Paul de Gondi, Cardinal de Retz, at the insistence of Marguerite de Gondi, Marquise de Maignelay, obliged him to resume them. Whenever Saint Vincent counseled members of his Community against assuming the direction of nuns, he referred to the Rules of the Congregation of the Mission and the obligation forced on him by Cardinal de Retz.

6. Collet (op. cit., vol. II, p. 39) mentions two letters, one dated July 6, the other July 7, in which Saint Vincent spoke of the adventures of the Missionaries who had embarked for Madagascar. One of these is probably this letter to Louis Rivet, of which we only have a fragment.

Letter 2620. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. A very old note written on the back of the original mistakenly dates the letter 1657. The details of the departure for Madagascar--the same as in no. 1617--leave no doubt about the year.

2. Abraham de Fabert.

Letter 2621. - Reg. 2, p. 43.

1. Charles d'Angennes, Seigneur de Fargis, was a member of a family distinguished in military and diplomatic circles. By his marriage to Madeleine de Silly, Madame de Gondi's sister, he became Comte de la Rochepot; he was also Ambassador in Spain (1620-26). The Queen Mother, dissatisfied with the politics and influence of Richelieu, wanted to oust the powerful minister. Madame de Fargis, her lady-in-waiting, who belonged to the opposition, was involved in the intrigues. In 1631 she was condemned to death but fled abroad, dying in Louvain in 1639. Her husband was imprisoned in the Bastille for the same reason on February 14, 1633. On June 2, 1640, his twenty-seven-year-old son was killed in the siege of Arras. For many years, his daughter, Henriette, was Abbess at Port-Royal, where she died on June 3, 1691. On December 21, 1647, M. de Fargis entered the Congregation of the Mission. His conduct in the seminary was so exemplary that Saint Vincent stated that "he never saw him commit a single venial sin." He died on December 20, 1648. (Cf. Notices, vol. I, pp. 425-30.)

2. René Alméras the elder.

Letter 2622. - Reg. 1, fol. 44v.

1. Orbais-l'Abbaye (Marne) was thus named because of a Benedictine abbey situated there.

2. Achille de Harlay de Sancy, born in Paris in 1581, entered the Oratory in 1620 and in 1631 was named Bishop of Saint-Malo, where he died on September 20, 1646.

3. Cf. vol. XIII, no. 117, Bull by which Saint-Méen Abbey is united to the seminary established in that place.

4. Philippe-Emmanuel de Gondi entered the Oratorian Fathers after becoming a widower (June 23, 1625) and spent the rest of his life in the practice of Christian and religious virtues. He died in Joigny on June 29, 1662. The Congregation of the Mission, the Oratory, and Carmel honor him as one of their greatest benefactors.

5. There were several places with this name in the Soissons diocese.

6. Daughter of Charles de Bourbon, Comte de Soissons. In 1624 she had married Thomas-François, Prince de Carignan, who became Grand Master of France. In an earlier letter (cf. vol. VI, no. 2237, dated March 31, 1657) Saint Vincent claimed that she would never forgive him for refusing her entrance to the Visitation monastery to visit one of the nuns.

7. Madame de la Bécherelle had funded a mission for Beuvarde on July 3, 1643; it was supposed to be given every five years (cf. vol. II, no. 733, n. 8).

8. Simon Le Gras, born in Paris in 1598, was appointed Bishop of Soissons in 1623 and died at the Château de Sept-Mons, near Soissons, in 1656.

Letter 2623. - Property of the Congregation of the Mission, Beirut (Lebanon), original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Louis Sicquard.

2. Alexandre Véronne, coadjutor Brother, born in Avignon on May 15, 1610, entered the Congregation of the Mission on July 22, 1630. He was infirmarian at Saint-Lazare and was so dedicated and capable that he won the esteem of all, especially Saint Vincent. His death on November 18, 1686, was announced to the whole Company in a circular from Edme Jolly, Superior General (1673-97). Brother Chollier wrote his life, which was published in *Miroir du frère coadjuteur de la Congrégation de la Mission*. (Paris, 1875), pp. 145ff. This work also served as the basis for his biography in *Notices*, vol. III, pp. 528-48.

Letter 2624. - Reg. 2, p. 240.

Letter 2625. - Recueil des procès-verbaux des conseils tenus par Saint Vincent, p. 306.

1. No. 115 of the collection of selected letters preserved at the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity gives us the name of the recipient and the date of this letter. This manuscript adds to the text a fragment from no. 2595.

Letter 2626. - Reg. 2, p. 118.

Letter 2627. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Sultan Mehemet IV.

2. Jean Barreau.

3. M.de la Haye-Vantelay.

4. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2628. - Reg. 2, p. 241.

1. Stefano Durazzo, Legate in Ferraro, then in Bologna, was created a Cardinal in 1633 and was Archbishop of Genoa (1635-64). He died in Rome on July 22, 1667. Cardinal Durazzo was always most gracious and very devoted to Saint Vincent and his priests. Letter 2629. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2618. Only a few of the letters that Saint Vincent received during this period are still extant.

2. A town in Piedmont.

3. Girolamo di Martinis (Jérôme de Martinis), born in Fontana Buona, Genoa diocese, on May 15, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Rome on August 6, 1650, and was ordained a priest in September 1651. He took his vows in October 1652 and renewed them on October 22, 1655. He was Superior in Naples (1673-76).

4. Cf. Mt 25:21. (NAB)

Letter 2630. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jean Le Vacher.

2. Philippe Le Vacher.

3. This is obviously a misprint and should read Villain. François Villain was born in Paris on April 10, 1605, and possibly baptized on the same day (cf. Notices, vols. I and V [Supplement]). He entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 24, 1649, three months after ordination, and took his vows on August 11, 1653. Villain died at the Troyes Seminary on July 19, 1658. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, p. 165.)

Letter 2631. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Statement giving a subject permission to be ordained by a Bishop other than his own Ordinary. Exempt religious cannot be ordained by any Bishop without dimissorial letters from their own Major Superior.

2. Raymond Demortier, born in Marquay (Dordogne) on November 15, 1634, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 18, 1655, and took his vows on May 20, 1657, in the presence of M.Bertier. He was one of the witnesses at the process of inquiry with regard to the virtues of Saint Vincent.

3. The words "good priest" are in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2632. - Reg. 2, p. 21.

Letter 2633. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Jean Barreau.

2. This Marseilles merchant absconded from Algiers and returned to France to avoid paying a debt of twelve thousand écus, which resulted in another jail term for the Consul.

3. The people of Marseilles had been against their Consuls from the time when the King reserved to himself the right to choose these public servants. They revolted on July 13, 1658, after hearing that one of them had stated that he was accountable for his actions only to the King and the Governor of the province and would assert his authority by force, if need be. Fifteen persons died that day, and many were wounded. On July 19, a riot broke out again, more violent than ever, leaving in its wake a greater number of victims. (Cf. Augustin Fabre, *Histoire de Marseille*. [Marseille: M.Olive, 1829], pp. 269ff.)

Letter 2634. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. In 1656 Claude de Blampignon had resigned Bussière-Badil Priory in favor of Gilbert Cuissot, who resigned it in his turn in favor of Denis Laudin. The Bulls substituting Laudin for Cuissot, for which Saint Vincent was waiting, were signed in Rome on June 4, 1658. (Cf. Arch. Nat., S 6703.)

2. Charles Le Blanc.

3. Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

4. Yves Geoffroy, born in Quimper-Corentin (Finistère) in July 1624, was admitted to Saint-Lazare as a priest on August 1, 1657.

5. The Bull of Union of Saint-Pourçain Priory to Saint-Lazare.

6. The Collège des Bons-Enfants. Saint-Lazare was outside the city of Paris.

7. Indirect taxes on consumer goods such as meat, fish, wood, and especially wine.

8. Some time ago we had already decided and ordained, among other things, that those who ask that ecclesiastical benefices be united to other benefices must declare their true annual income according to common estimation, as well as the income from the benefice to which they ask that another benefice be united; otherwise the union would be invalid.

9. The entire postscript is in Saint Vincent's handwriting.

Letter 2635. - Reg. 2, p. 114.

Letter 2636. - Reg. 2, p. 169.

Letter 2637. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Jean-Jacques Mugnier, born in Esvière, Geneva diocese, on November 30, 1608, was ordained a priest on December 18, 1632, entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 15, 1642, and took his vows on March 16, 1645. He was Superior of Agde (1654-56).

2. Philbert Chardon, born in Annecy in November 1629, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 3, 1647, took his vows in October 1649, and was ordained a priest during Lent of 1654. That same year he left the Company but was readmitted in Rome; from there he was sent to Genoa (cf. no. 1771).

Letter 2638. - Reg. 1, fol. 36.

Letter 2639. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

Letter 2640. - Reg. 2, p. 241.

Letter 2641. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. At the request of the Duchesse de Ventadour, Saint Louise had sent Sisters Anne Hardemont and Avoie Vigneron to Ussel in May 1658 for the purpose of founding a hospital. They were overwhelmed by the difficulties of starting a work and allowed themselves to yield to discouragement.

2. Cf. no. 2610, n. 6.

3. Henriette Gesseaume, a highly intelligent, resourceful, but very independent Daughter of Charity. She was one of the first members of the Company, which she entered in 1634 at the age of twenty-six. Her early years in Community were spent in and around Paris: Saint-Germain-en-Laye (1638), Fontenay-aux-Roses (1643), and Saint-Germain parish (1644). A skilled pharmacist, she was of great assistance at the Nantes Hospital (1646-55). Assigned once again to Paris, she served the poor in Saint-Séverin parish. As mentioned here, she left to nurse the wounded soldiers in Calais. Upon her return, she served the galley slaves. Two of her nieces, Françoise Gesseaume and Perrette Chefdeville, also became Daughters of Charity. Her brother Claude and a nephew, Nicolas Chefdeville, were coadjutor Brothers in the Congregation of the Mission.

Of those being sent to Calais, Saint Vincent mentions only Sister Henriette here and in his conference of August 4, 1658 (cf. vol. X, no. 100). We know from Saint Louise's Spiritual Writings. (L. 595, p. 615) and from Documents. (Doc. 725, p. 831) that Sister Marie Cuny, a Sister Françoise, and a Sister Jeanne accompanied Sister Henriette. In a letter of September 10 (cf. Documents. Doc. 729, p. 837), Sister Henriette wrote that Sister Marie was ill. She was brought back to Paris on a stretcher at the end of the month; Sister Françoise accompanied her. Sister Élisabeth Charpy, D.C., editor of *Écrits spirituels*. (cf. Spiritual Writings, L. 590, p. 608), tells us that Sisters Marie Poulet, Claude Muset, Henriette Gesseaume, and a Sister Françoise returned to Paris at the end of October.

Letter 2642. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. The Bastion of France.

2. Philippe Le Vacher, who was still in Europe.

3. Following the troubles of July 13 and 19, the Duc de Mercoeur, Governor of Provence, agreed to negotiate with the rebels. The agreement was based on the following conditions: a full and

complete amnesty to be granted to the rebels; a promise to withdraw the royal troops and send the ships away, provided that the Consuls and the Assessor be reinstated in their positions; and the citizens lay down their arms (Fabre, op. cit., pp. 279ff.).

Letter 2643. - Reg. 2, p. 40.

1. Jacques Pesnelle, born in Rouen (Seine-Maritime) on June 5, 1624, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 4, 1646, was ordained a priest in Rome on November 30, 1648, and took his vows there. He was Superior in Genoa (1657-66, 1674-77), and Turin (1667-72, 1677-83). A very gifted man, highly esteemed by Saint Vincent, Pesnelle died in 1683.

2. Cf. Lk 3:8. (NAB)

Letter 2644. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Jean Gicquel, born in Miniac (Ille-et-Vilaine) on December 24, 1617, was ordained a priest during Lent of 1642, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 5, 1647, and took his vows on May 6, 1651. He was Superior of the Le Mans Seminary (1651-54) and at Saint-Lazare (1655-60) (cf. vol. V, nos. 1908 and 1912; vol. VI, no. 2157), and was Director of the Company of the Daughters of Charity (1668-72). Gicquel wrote an interesting diary of Saint Vincent's final days (cf. vol. XIII, no. 57), which is preserved in the Archives of the Mission, Paris. He died in 1672.

2. As noted earlier (cf. no. 2494, n. 4), Abbé Louis de Chandénier had offered Saint-Pourçain Priory to Saint-Lazare. The Bishop of Clermont-Ferrand, Louis d'Estaing, demanded that as the price of his approval Saint Vincent engage the Congregation of the Mission to preach a "continual and perpetual mission" in his diocese; Saint Vincent proposed that a mission be given every five years at Saint-Pourçain. Jean Gicquel was sent to Clermont to make the official proclamation (fulmination) of the Papal decree of union. As will be seen in this volume, Saint Vincent feared that the formalities of this were not fulfilled. Finally, on March 2, 1660, the Officialis of Clermont proclaimed publicly the Bull of Union, and on March 6 Gicquel took possession of the priory in the name of the Congregation of the Mission (cf. vol. VIII, no. 2934).

3. A locality near Saint-Malo (Ille-et-Vilaine). A problem similar to that of Saint-Pourçain existed with regard to Saint-Méen (cf. no. 2583).

Letter 2645. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2646. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. Anne Hardemont. One of these is no. 2641 (August 10); the other is not extant.

2. Cf. 1 Cor 10:13. (NAB)
3. Cf. Mt 5:5. (NAB)
4. Cf. Lk 11:10. (NAB)
5. Saint Louise.
6. The Duchesse de Ventadour.
7. Françoise Manceau, Marguerite Ménage, Marie Poulet, and Claude Muset.

Letter 2647. - Reg. 2, p. 121.

1. Captured on the high seas by the Spanish during their voyage to Madagascar, they were taken to Santiago de Compostela.

2. Charles Le Blanc.

3. Nicholas French, Bishop of Ferns (Ireland), who was exiled in Spain at the time; he died in Louvain on August 23, 1678.

4. Jean Dolce, Bishop of Bayonne (1643-81).

5. Jean de Fonteneil, born in Bordeaux around 1605, was a friend and admirer of Saint Vincent. His outstanding qualities earned him the highest positions in the diocese. He was appointed Canon of Saint-Seurin in July 1623, special archiepiscopal Vicar-General on November 1, 1639, Vicar in perpetuity of the parish church of Sainte-Colombe, then of Saint-Siméon in Bordeaux, Grand Archdeacon, Chancellor of the University of Bordeaux in 1650, and Vicar-General of the diocese on September 10, 1655. Like his friend Saint Vincent, he was convinced of the great good that could result from seminaries, missions, retreats, and weekly meetings of priests to discuss questions of theology, discipline, or piety. For this purpose, he founded the Congregation of the Missionaries of the Clergy, who directed the seminary for ordinands in Bordeaux and the seminaries in Aire and Sarlat. They were given the chapels of Notre-Dame-de-Montuzet and the parishes of Saint-Louis-du-Marais and Saint-Simon-Cardonnat (Gironde). This Congregation was short-lived, surviving its founder by only three years. He died in Bordeaux on March 2, 1679. In 1682 the Prêtres du Clergé. (the title under which they were then known) transferred their works to the Priests of the Mission of Saint-Lazare. (Cf. Louis Bertrand, Histoire des Séminaires de Bordeaux et de Bazas. [3 vols., Bordeaux: Féret, 1894], vol. I, pp. 207ff.)

Letter 2648. - Reg. 2, p. 114.

1. Louis Voureq.

Letter 2649. - Reg. 2, p. 208.

1. Stefano Cardinal Durazzo.

2. Probably Girolamo Giudice (Jérôme Lejuge).

Letter 2650. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The Bulls Saint Vincent desired were received the following October, but he was clearly very concerned about this question.

Letter 2651. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

Letter 2652. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. None of these is extant.

2. François de Fleury, chaplain to the Queen of Poland. Born in the Langres diocese (Haute-Marne), he secured for himself a canonry in the Verdun diocese. He approved the book *De la fréquente communion*. and was presented by the Jansenists to Queen Louise-Marie de Gonzague on her departure for Poland to act as her chaplain. His relationship with Saint Vincent and the Missionaries sent to that country was always excellent--even cordial--as is evident from the letters of the Saint, who esteemed him highly. De Fleury died in France early in November 1658. Part of his correspondence with Mother Marie-Angélique Arnauld is extant.

Letter 2653. - Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. III, chap. III, p. 14.

1. The information on the loss of Orsigny allows us to assign this date. Saint Vincent accepted this farm in the commune of Saclay (Essonne) from Jacques Norais, notary and Secretary of the King, by a contract dated December 22, 1644. According to the Saint (*cf.* vol. IV, no. 1467), the farms that supplied Saint-Lazare provided less than one-sixth of the needs of the Motherhouse.

2. The loss of the Orsigny farm, as is clear from no. 2752, which Abelly noted after this letter and which he gives as pertaining to the same business. Saint Vincent was absent from Saint-Lazare when he heard this painful news from Brother Louis Robineau, his second secretary, on September 3. He had just dined and was on his way to church. "God be praised!" he exclaimed several times, and he remained kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament for a longer time than usual. The Saint lost his lawsuit by three or four votes because, among the twenty or twenty-one judges who were to vote on this affair, several could not forgive him his opposition to Jansenism (*cf.* Robineau manuscript, p. 97, and published in Dodin, *op. cit.*, p. 89).

3. *Cf.* Rom 8:28. (NAB)

4. Saint Vincent was not mistaken: shortly after this, a Counselor of the Grand'Chambre left him an estate that was worth as much as the Orsigny farm (*cf.* no. 2752).

Letter 2654. - Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. III, chap. XI, p. 176. The date and recipient of this letter are known from Collet, *op. cit.*, vol. II, p. 56.

1. Vicomte de Soudé and Auditor of Accounts. He had been executor of the will of Commander de Sillery and Administrator of the Quinze-Vingts Hospital.

2. This refers to the loss of the lawsuit concerning the Orsigny farm.

Letter 2655. - Reg. 2, p. 241.

1. Commander of the Spirito Santo Hospital in Rome; he was the brother of Cardinal Bernadino Spada.

Letter 2656. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

2. Mark Cogley (Saint Vincent spells his name Marc Coglée.), who went there to replace Achille Le Vazeux. Born in Carrick-on-Suir, Lismore diocese (Ireland), on April 25, 1614, Cogley was ordained a priest on May 30, 1643, and entered the Congregation of the Mission the following July 24. In a period of stress and discouragement, he had the good fortune to meet Gerard Brin, a fellow countryman, who induced him to remain in the Congregation. After giving him time to make up his mind definitely by spending some time in the novitiate, Saint Vincent sent him to Sedan (1646), where he took his vows on December 13, 1649; the following year he was named Pastor of the parish and Superior of the house. Replaced in 1654 by Jean Martin, he resumed these same functions in 1655 and kept them for another year. For a few months in 1659 he was Superior of the Annecy Seminary; from there he returned to Saint-Lazare.

Letter 2657. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

2. The clause "we will do so, God willing" is in the Saint's handwriting.

3. Cf. Mt 25:21. (NAB)

4. Town in the province of Cuneo, in Piedmont.

Letter 2658. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Jeanne-Baptiste the younger entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity at the end of 1648. Her first mission was apparently the Saint-Jean-de-Grèves parish (cf. vol. IV, nos. 1369-70), after which she was sent to Montmirail in October 1650. She signed the Act of Establishment of the Daughters of Charity on August 8, 1655 (cf. vol. XIII, no. 150). In 1658 she went to the hospice of the Nom-de-Jésus, from which she abruptly left the Company, as this letter indicates.

Letter 2659. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. The imprisonment of M.de la Haye-Vantelay, French Ambassador to Constantinople, was caused by a coded letter addressed to him by Grémonville, an Admiral in the service of the Venetians, that fell into the hands of the Turks. When the Ambassador and his son refused to reveal the contents of the letter, the Grand Vizer treated both of them roughly, then had them thrown into prison.

2. Christophe de Bermond, Consul in Alexandria.

3. Tripoli and Aleppo shared the same Consul, François Picquet. In 1675 the administration of the diocese of Babylon was confided to him; he later succeeded to the See of Baghdad (cf. vol. VIII, no. 3020).

4. Small locality in the district of Saumur.

Letter 2660. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. He had died in Warsaw on August 14.

2. Director of the Daughters of Charity in Poland.

3. Albert Tholibowski, appointed Bishop of Pozna in 1654. He remained in office in this diocese until the day of his death, July 22, 1663.

4. By means of union.

5. Both these documents form part of the archival material of Krakow.

Letter 2660a. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter, written in Latin. The text was published in *Annales C.M.* (1940), p. 73. Although Coste referred to the letter, he forgot to include it in vol. VII; the present editors have inserted it in its correct chronological place.

1. The two versions of this letter were included with no. 2660, which was sent to Guillaume Desdames.

2. For reasons indicated in the preceding letter, Saint Vincent sent Desdames a copy of this presentation, identical except for the phrase upon the voluntary resignation..possessor, which he replaced with through the death of the late Charles Ozenne, during his lifetime.

Letter 2661. - Reg. 1, fol. 69v, copy made from the original in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2662. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Because of the reference in both letters to Saint-Roch parish in Paris and to the Sisters there, this letter must be placed near no. 2667, whose date is certain.

2. Small locality in the canton of Longjumeau (Essonne). The parents of Gabrielle Le Clerc, Saint Louise's daughter-in-law, lived there.

3. M. Delahodde.

Letter 2663. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter. Saint Vincent wrote his response to the previous letter at the bottom of that letter.

1. There was some friction between Gabrielle Le Clerc and her cousins (cf. no. 2662).

2. The Sisters working in the parish often experienced difficulties.

Letter 2664. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

Letter 2665. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

Letter 2666. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Giacomo Corradi.

2. Small locality near Sarlat (Dordogne).

3. Nicolas Sevin.

Letter 2667. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Jeanne Potier, Madame de Marillac, and her husband, Michel de Marillac, a Counselor in the Parlement. They resided at the family estate in Ollainville, some eight miles south of Champlan (Essonne). Michel de Marillac was the Lord of Ollainville.

Letter 2668. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Pasquier de Fontaines and Marand-Ignace Arnoul.

Letter 2669. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Nicolas Fouquet, born in Paris on January 27, 1615, became Attorney General of the Parlement of Paris in 1650 and Superintendent of Finances in 1653. Accused of embezzlement and arrested in Nantes on September 5, 1663, he was judged, condemned to life imprisonment, and incarcerated in the Château de Pignerol where he died in March 1680. He became reconciled with God in his last years and even composed some books of devotion. (Cf. Jules Lair, *Nicolas Fouquet, procureur général, surintendant des finances, ministre d'État de Louis XIV.* [2 vols., Paris: Plon et Nourrit, 1890].)

2. Cf. no. 2523, n. 6.

3. A slave in Tunis.

Letter 2670. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Proceedings were under way to unite the Sant'Antonio Abbey in Piedmont to the Congregation of the Mission, which had a seminary there.

2. Cf. Jn 6:68. (NAB)

3. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2671. - Reg. 2, p. 247.

1. This was a proposal to establish the Congregation of the Mission in that city. Since France and Spain did not sign a peace treaty until 1659 (Treaty of the Pyrenees), it appears that Saint Vincent was showing some hesitancy about embarking on that project during the unsettled times before the peace.

2. The Latinized version of the name of James Dowley (Duley), future Bishop of Limerick.

Letter 2672. - Reg. 2, p. 120.

Letter 2673. - Reg. 2, p. 169.

Letter 2674. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2675. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The latter were for the coadjutor Brothers in the house.

2. Antoine Maillard, born in Veney (Meurthe), entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 21, 1644, at twenty-six years of age. He took his vows in 1646 and renewed them on January 25, 1656. Maillard was Procurator of Saint-Lazare for a long time and Procurator General (1679-86).

3. Mark Cogley, predecessor of Pierre Cabel in the Sedan parish.

Letter 2676. - Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 57, note.

1. Since Guillaume de Lamoignon was appointed Presiding Judge on October 2, 1658, "October 1658" has been assigned as the date for this note.

Letter 2677. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Brother Ducournau added "October 1658" on the back of the original. The contents allow us to pinpoint the day of the month because of the reference to the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi (October 4).

2. Françoise Fanchon, born in Conche-les-Pots (Picardy), on June 25, 1625, entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity on August 9, 1644. She remained at the Motherhouse, where she worked in turn as gardener and cook, taking her vows for the first time in 1649. Françoise did not know how to write and made a simple cross on the Act of Establishment of the Company in 1655. She later became Sister Servant in Saint-Médard parish. She died unexpectedly on May 12, 1689. Her companions stated that her charity and compassion extended to everyone.

3. Marie de Creil, the daughter-in-law of Michel de Marillac, Saint Louise's uncle and Keeper of the Seals, entered Carmel in 1622, after the death of her husband, René de Marillac. There she was reunited with three of her daughters.

Letter 2677a. - Cathedral of Lucca (Italy), original autograph letter; Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy.

1. He had died on August 14, 1658.

2. Some words that follow have been crossed out and made illegible; the word "Mission," which apparently was not deleted, is also here, but it makes no sense in isolation. Saint Vincent must have forgotten to delete it along with the others.

Letter 2678. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Jean Monvoisin, born in Arras on October 16, 1616, was ordained a priest in December 1640 and entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on July 13, 1641.

2. A village in Aisne.

3. Guillaume Cornuel, born in Bar-sur-Aube (Aube), entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 29, 1644, at twenty-three years of age. He took his vows in 1646, was ordained a priest in

December of that same year, and died in the Troyes diocese in 1666. Monvoisin was Superior in Montmirail (1649-50 and 1658-59), at the Collège des Bons-Enfants (1652-54), and Troyes (1665-66). Pierre de Vienne, Seigneur de Torvilliers, his first cousin, mourned his death with several lyric poems in Latin, published in Troyes, to which Jacques de la Fosse, C.M., made a suitable response with several odes. (Cf. Abbé Jean-Baptiste-Joseph Boulliot, *Biographie ardennaise*. [2 vols., Paris: n. p., 1830], vol. I, p. 420; *Bibl. Maz.*, Ms. 3912.)

4. Charles de Bourbon.

Letter 2679. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. An assembly of priests modeled after the Tuesday Conferences of Paris.

Letter 2680. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

2. This international brouhaha was detailed in no. 2659, n. 1.

3. Cf. Mt 9:37-38. (NAB)

Letter 2681. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. This is the only reference in Coste's fourteen volumes to Brother Emmanuel. No further information can be gleaned from Notices.

2. In this context an irregularity is a perpetual impediment established by ecclesiastical law forbidding primarily the reception of Orders and secondarily the exercise of Orders already received. Brother Emmanuel would be irregular by defect, since epilepsy was classified at one time as an irregularity, although there were good theologians who thought otherwise.

3. Philippe-Emmanuel de Gondi.

4. Collet (op. cit., vol. II, p. 28) quotes this sentence, which he says is an excerpt from a letter of October 25, 1658, but he gave the wrong date; it should be October 15.

5. René Simon, born in Laval (Mayenne) on September 21, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 5, 1650. He was a professor at Saint-Charles Seminary, then a Missionary in Poland, where he was ordained a priest in 1654. He returned to France the next year, took his vows on January 25, 1656, and was sent to Genoa. Simon became Superior of the Annecy Seminary in 1663 and of the Turin house (1665-67). He was named Secretary General in 1668 and, after participating in the General Assembly of that year, was appointed Superior in Rome and Visitor of the Province of Italy. In 1677 he was recalled to France; the following year he was made Superior of the Cahors house, where he died in 1682 or shortly thereafter. Simon was very useful to the Congregation, especially because of the favors he obtained for it from the Holy See. His biography is published in Notices, vol. II, pp. 447-51.

Letter 2682. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, rough draft and seventeenth-century copy. Both letters agree.

1. First redaction: "on the same ship on which God has placed you. Not that, if you decide to renew your vows, you will not be doing even better. Even if you do not, you will still be a member of the body of the Company, and I hope you will work in it to sanctify yourself and many others. I ask Our Lord to grant you this grace, and I am .."

Letter 2683. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The last phrase is in the Saint's handwriting. The secretary had written "and I give you full permission for this now."

2. To be admitted to Holy Orders a person must have a source of support, a title, such as incardination into a diocese, with an income from a benefice, or, as in this case, the guarantee of support which comes with membership in the Congregation of the Mission, under the title of common table. As indicated here, Saint Vincent would extend that support to a confrere's needy relatives.

Letter 2684. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

Letter 2685. - Unsigned rough draft. This document was made known to Coste by M. La Caille, residing at the time at 50 Boulevard Malesherbes, Paris.

1. Louis de Chandénier.

2. The Saint then added these words which, after reflection, he crossed out: "And when we are there, we shall see if we can leave two or three priests to go to preach the mission wherever Your Excellency sends them, helped by the reduction on the tithes with which the Priory has been burdened recently, beyond what it can bear, if you agree, Excellency."

3. Nicolas Gedoy, Abbé de Saint-Mesmin, became chaplain of the Duc d'Orléans and Superior of the Ursulines of Saint-Cloud. The missions he gave in Paris and in the provinces were very effective. Toward the end of his life he retired to the General Hospital of Paris, where he died on June 10, 1692, at sixty-four years of age.

4. Armand de Bourbon, Prince de Conti, brother of the Grand Condé, was born in Paris on October 11, 1629, and became the head of the Conti house, a cadet branch of the house of Bourbon-Condé. His father, who had earmarked him for the ecclesiastical state, had conferred on him a large number of abbeys, including Saint-Denis, Cluny, Lérins, and Molesme, but the military attracted him more than the Church. His passion for the Duchesse de Longueville drew him into the intrigues of the Fronde. After having him locked up in the prison of Vincennes, Cardinal Mazarin gave him his niece, Anna Martinozzi, in marriage. The Prince became Governor of Guyenne (1654), General of the armies in Catalonia, where he captured several cities. He was also Grand Master of the King's house and Governor of Languedoc (1660). Before his death

on February 21, 1666, his virtuous wife was able to bring him back to God and even to instill great piety in him. Two hours of his day were devoted to prayer. A friend of Saint Vincent, he offered his services to him more than once and was present at his funeral rites.

Letter 2686. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. The copy has the Arabic number 18, but the date of the letter indicates that this had to be a misreading. Coste's corrections suggest either 8. or 10.

2. François Brisjonc, born in Tréfumel (Côtes-du-Nord) on April 13, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 7, 1654, in Richelieu, where he had been ordained on June 7, 1653. He took his vows there in the presence of M.Thieulin. Brisjonc left the Company of his own free will in 1659 but was readmitted on May 17, 1664.

3. Pierre de Bausset, Provost of Marseilles. His nephew, Antoine de Bausset, was assistant Seneschal of Marseilles.

Letter 2687. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Antoine de Valbelle, Seigneur de Montfuron.

Letter 2688. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Concerning the union of the Priory of Saint-Pourçain to Saint-Lazare.

2. Jean Garat, a monk of Chancelade and Vicar-General of the Bishop of Cahors. The monks of Sainte-Geneviève continued to put pressure on the Court of Rome to obtain the union to their Order of all the houses dependent on Chancelade Abbey.

3. Pierre François, born in Les Riceys (Aube) on November 11, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 20, 1654, and took his vows in Rome on November 26, 1656, in the presence of M.Jolly. The Lyons manuscript gives a summary of the conference on his virtues, held in Rome after his death.

4. Henri de Maupas du Tour. He was under a cloud in Rome because of his biography of Francis de Sales.

5. The Officialis, or judicial vicar, is appointed by the Bishop and is given the ordinary power to judge, which is distinct from that of the Vicar-General. The Officialis constitutes one tribunal with the Bishop, but he cannot judge cases which the Bishop reserves to himself (cf. Code of Canon Law, Latin-English edition [Ann Arbor, Michigan: Braun-Brumfield, 1983], Canon 1420, p. 511). The duties of Officialis at the time of Saint Vincent did not differ markedly from what the present Code stipulates.

6. Louis d'Estaing (1651-64).

7. These first two paragraphs of the postscript are in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2689. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original rough draft.

1. Brother Ducournau wrote the name of the recipient on the back of the original.

2. Claude de Chandenier.

3. The twenty-year-old King, Louis XIV, accompanied by the Queen Mother, Anne of Austria, and Cardinal Mazarin, arrived in Lyons on November 24. There he had planned to meet members of the royal family of Savoy, who were supposed to introduce him to Marguerite de Savoie, his first cousin. There was some discussion of arranging a marriage between the two.

4. Jean de Maupeou.

5. First redaction: "the truth."

6. The Bull of union of the Priory of Saint-Pourçain to the Congregation of the Mission.

Letter 2690. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Louis de Chandenier.

Letter 2691. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Antoine Fleury.

2. Cf. Lk 13:24. (NAB)

3. Christophe Delaunay.

Letter 2692. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Jean-François de Gondi (1622-54).

2. François-Ignace Liège, born in Arras (Artois) on April 26, 1623, entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 12, 1641, took his vows in Richelieu on April 7, 1644, and was ordained a priest in June 1647. He was Superior at the Collège des Bons-Enfants (1650-51) and Notre-Dame de Lorm (1654-56). He was then placed in Richelieu; from there he left the Company in 1657.

Letter 2693. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2694. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. On Saint-Lazare Priory.

2. Jean-François-Paul de Gondi was the son of Philippe-Emmanuel de Gondi, General of the Galleys, and Françoise-Marguerite de Silly. On June 13, 1643, he was named Coadjutor to his uncle, Jean-François de Gondi, Archbishop of Paris, and was consecrated on January 31, 1644. Although he played an active role in the Fronde, the Queen--no doubt to win him over--obtained the Cardinal's hat for him on February 19, 1652; he was known subsequently as Cardinal de Retz. Discontented with his influence and plots, Mazarin had him imprisoned at Vincennes. Becoming Archbishop upon the death of his uncle (1654), and consequently

more dangerous to the Prime Minister, Retz was transferred to the Château de Nantes, from which he escaped to Spain and then to Italy. In Rome the Priests of the Mission gave him hospitality, on the orders of Pope Innocent X. Because of this, Mazarin very nearly let all the force of his anger fall upon Saint Vincent and his Congregation. After the accession of Pope Alexander VII (1655), who was less benevolent to him than his predecessor, Cardinal de Retz left Rome on a long journey to Franche-Comté, Germany, Belgium, and Holland. He returned to France in 1662, after Mazarin had died, renounced the archbishopric of Paris, and received in exchange Saint-Denis Abbey. Age and trials had made him wiser; during the last four years of his life, some persons even considered him pious. In this peaceful, studious, simple-mannered man, concerned with paying off his numerous creditors, no one would have recognized the ambitious, flighty, and restless Prelate who had stirred up Paris and made the powerful Mazarin tremble. Cardinal de Retz died on August 24, 1679.

3. He was still hiding from the agents of Mazarin. Only after the latter's death (1661) did Cardinal de Retz return to France.

4. Giulio Sachetti was born in Florence, became Nuncio to Spain, and in 1626 was created Cardinal; he died in Rome on June 28, 1663.

5. James Dowley (Duley), future Bishop of Limerick.

6. Balthazar Moscoso y Sandoval, Cardinal of Toledo (1646-65).

7. Stefano Durazzo.

8. Cf. Mt 8:20. (NAB)

9. The Saint says "two years ago," but Dermot Duggan [Duiguin] did not die until May 17, 1657.

10. Francis White (Saint Vincent refers to him as François Le Blanc.), born in Limerick (Ireland) in 1620, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 14, 1645, took his vows on October 15, 1647, and was ordained a priest in 1651. He first went to Genoa, but his stay there was very short. Sent to Scotland, he evangelized the Highlands with unflagging zeal. The exercise of his ministry there was forbidden; he was accused of saying Mass and in 1655 was imprisoned for five or six months in Aberdeen. On his release, he was warned that he would most certainly be hanged if he did not stop ignoring the laws. He left the district but continued his apostolate. Except for two sojourns in France (1658-62, 1665-68), White continued to work in Scotland until his death on February 7, 1679. He left the reputation of being a saint and an apostle. His portrait was long preserved and venerated in what was known as the "Father White Room" in Invergarry Castle. He is praised in several official reports addressed to Propaganda Fide. (Cf. "Hibernia Vincentiana, or the Relations of St. Vincent de Paul with Ireland," Irish Ecclesiastical Record, 4th series, 14 [October 1903], pp. 289-316, published in French in Notices, vol. III, pp. 172-78, as "Les relations de Saint Vincent de Paul avec l'Irlande," and reprinted in Annales C.M. (1907), vol. 72, pp. 354-62.)

11. Carlo Barberini was the grandnephew of Pope Urban VIII (Matteo Barberini). Born on June 1, 1630, he was created a Cardinal on June 23, 1653, and died on October 11, 1704.

12. Saint Thomas of Villanova was an Augustinian writer, educator, and Archbishop of Valencia (Spain) [1545-55]. Canonized on November 1, 1658, his feast day is September 22.

13. Peter Butler (in Notices, vol. I, p. 482, and vol. V [Supplement], p. 102, he is listed as Pierre Buthleer.), born in Drom, Cashel diocese (Ireland), in April 1632, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Richelieu on August 22, 1654, and took his vows in the same house on August 15, 1656. This same letter and others speak of Saint Vincent's persistent attempts in 1658-59 to obtain dimissorial letters for his ordination. The title for ordination in the Congregation of the Mission and the authority of the Superior General were at variance with the attempts of Propaganda Fide to have all Irish clerical students ordained on the continent take an oath to return as missionaries to Ireland.

Letter 2695. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. François Hennebert, born in Hesdin (Pas-de-Calais) on November 18, 1634, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on January 25, 1656, and took his vows on February 27, 1658, in the presence of M.Delespiney. Although he is listed as a priest in Notices, no ordination date is given.

2. Augustin Carpentier, born in Bapaume (Pas-de-Calais) on October 18, 1637, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on October 19, 1655, to study for the priesthood and took his vows on October 23, 1657, in the presence of M.Delespiney. He, too, is listed as a priest in Notices, but no ordination date is given.

3. Étienne Bienvenu, born in Mehun-sur-Vèvre (Cher) on March 29, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on November 19, 1650, and took his vows on November 23, 1652.

4. Christophe Delaunay.

5. François Herbron, born in Alençon (Orne) in November 1617, was ordained a priest on September 22, 1646, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 20, 1653, and took his vows on January 6, 1656. When the ship on which he was to sail for Madagascar sank, he was reassigned to Le Mans.

Letter 2696. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Cf. Mt 11:12. (NAB)

Letter 2697. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Vendeuvre-sur-Barse, in the district of Bar-sur-Aube (Aube).

2. Philippe Coquebert.

Letter 2698. - Reg. 2, p. 61.

1. Canon of Saint-Dié (Vosges) and Director of the Shrine of the Trois-Épis. He was a very zealous priest, but of a "restless,

agitated, interfering, and inconstant" disposition (cf. J. Beuchot, *Notre-Dame des Trois-Épis dans la Haute Alsace*. [Rixheim: A. Sutter, 1891], p. 48). The Shrine of the Trois-Épis in Ammerschwihr, near Colmar, which is said to date from the fifteenth century, owes its name to a lovely legend: a consecrated host, thrown away by an unworthy profaner, fell on three ears of wheat growing from the same stem; some bees gathered there immediately and built an elegant wax monstrance around it. After the destruction of the chapel by the Swedes in 1636, pilgrims no longer went there. Canon Dulys reestablished the shrine, which he entrusted in 1652 to the Canons Regular of Saint Peter Fourier. He dismissed them in 1655 and replaced them with the monks of the Benedictine Abbey of Pairis, who by 1657 no longer satisfied him. That was when he turned to Saint Vincent. The suggestions of the latter did not satisfy the Canon, and on July 31, 1659, he began negotiations with the Canons Regular of Saint Anthony of Egypt (Antonines). That very day two Antonines of Isenheim came to be installed in the Priory.

2. This letter certainly postdates the one to Georges des Jardins (no. 2406 of October 6, 1657), in which Saint Vincent alludes to the work of the Shrine of the Trois-Épis and the dearth of German-speaking confreres. In vol. VIII, no. 2894, to M. Favier, dated July 5, 1659, the Saint remarks that Canon Dulys has begun to look elsewhere. This allows us to conjecture that the present letter was written some months before July 31, 1659, when the Antonines assumed the duty of confessors at the shrine.

3. Johann Conrad Roggenbach.

Letter 2699. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. First redaction: "Nothing, however, can be done unless you send us your power of attorney." The Saint corrected this with his own hand.

2. The last two sentences, from "Have many prayers offered," are in the Saint's handwriting.

3. Principal town of a canton in Tarn-et-Garonne.

Letter 2700. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Noël Duval, whom the Superior in Le Mans often consulted on legal matters.

2. The secretary had then written, "provided he assume the expenses for it." The Saint erased these words or had them erased.

3. Mathieu Régnard.

Letter 2701. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter in the secretary's handwriting.

1. First redaction: "there is reason." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

2. First redaction: "for I am determined, with the help of God's grace, to contribute whatever I can to this for your consolation."

Letter 2702. - Reg. 2, p. 217.

Letter 2703. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Mt 8:20. (NAB)

2. Cf. Mt 5:3. (NAB)

3. Giacomo Corradi.

4. The main obstacle to the union of the Coudres Priory stemmed from the opposition of the religious of Bourgueil.

5. Bussière-Badil, another priory in the process of being united to the Congregation of the Mission.

6. Jacques de Souvré, who had been received into the Order of Saint-Jean de Jérusalem at the age of five, was appointed Grand Prior of France in 1667. He died on May 22, 1670, in his seventieth year of age.

7. In Aubervilliers.

8. The last sentence of this paragraph is in the Saint's handwriting.

9. James Dowley (Duley), future Bishop of Limerick (Ireland).

10. Saint Vincent had added in his own handwriting: "and remain there permanently." He scratched out these words after noticing that what followed was a repetition of this.

11. This is probably Jacques Legouz (Legouts in Notices, vol. I and vol. V [Supplement]). Born in Dollon (Sarthe) on April 6, 1633, he entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 2, 1654, and took his vows on September 17, 1656, in the presence of M.Berthe. His brother René had entered the Congregation of the Mission just one month before this letter was written.

12. This name does not appear in the personnel catalogue of the Mission.

13. Claude Dufestel, born in Moyenville (Somme) in June 1637, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris as a coadjutor Brother on September 4, 1657, and took his vows in Rome on September 8, 1659, in the presence of M.Jolly.

Letter 2704. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, signed rough draft.

1. Philip Dalton, born in Cooleeney, Cashel diocese (Ireland), entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on May 16, 1656, and took his vows in Troyes on November 11, 1658, in the presence of M.Dupuich.

2. In Relations, the first account for 1654 states: "When five regiments of Irish Catholics were defeated in the war of Bordeaux, the remnant of three hundred persons, including women, children, the elderly, and the crippled, sought refuge in the town of Troyes as in an asylum..A good Irish priest has been sent there. Paris and Troyes have joined forces for this holy task..The naked have been clothed; young women and widows have been placed in Saint-Nicolas Hospice, where they will be taught spinning and sewing; little orphans are being cared for; all receive instruction and are confirmed in the Catholic faith for

which they had left their native land." (Cf. also, the second account of 1654 and that of 1655.)

The Ladies of Charity came up with the idea of using publicity to come to the aid of the provinces devastated by war. With the most interesting and touching passages from the letters of charitable persons working with the poor in those regions, they compiled accounts, which were printed and distributed throughout Paris and the large towns. This publication lasted from September 1650 to December 1655. The Bibliothèque Nationale (R 8370) possesses a collection, 130 pages long, entitled: Recueil des relations contenant ce qui s'est fait pour l'assistance des pauvres, entre autres ceux de Paris et des environs, et des provinces de Picardie et de Champagne, pendant les années 1650, 1651, 1652, 1653, et 1654. (Paris: Charles Savreux, 1655). These reports were used extensively by Abbé Maynard in Saint Vincent de Paul, sa vie, son temps, ses oeuvres, son influence, vol. IV, pp. 164ff., and by Alphonse Feillet, who published the text in 1856 in Revue de Paris, and used it in La misère au temps de la Fronde et Saint Vincent de Paul. (Paris: Perrin, 1862). Feillet's work is extensively documented and highly recommended as a source of information on the pitiful state of France during the wars of the Fronde and the charitable activities of the Saint during this period.

Letter 2705. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Barthélemy d'Elbène.

Letter 2706. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, Life of Edme Jolly, Ms, p. 142 (cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 387-512; this letter is on pp. 462-63).

1. In no. 2741 to Edme Jolly, dated December 6, 1654, Saint Vincent mentions a letter from this date.

2. Le Mercier. (Cf. no. 2703, n. 12.)

Letter 2707. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Christophe Didolet, born in Aiguebelle (Savoy) on February 3, 1639, entered the Congregation of the Mission at the Paris Seminary on July 27, 1657, and took his vows on December 27, 1661, in the presence of M. Berthe.

Letter 2708. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft.

1. The Priests of the Mission had just been given the direction of the Meaux Seminary, which they left three years later. (Cf. Abbé O. Estournet, L'hôpital Jean Rose et le grand séminaire de Meaux. [Lagny: Colin, 1905].)

2. The Superior of the seminary was also Principal of the collège and Administrator of the hospital.

3. Antoine Caignet, Doctor of Theology, later Canon, Chancellor, Theologian, and Vicar-General of Meaux. He was a renowned preacher and the author of two works: L'Année Pastorale. (7 vols., Paris: Jean de la Caille, 1659) and Le Dominical des

Pasteurs ou le Triple emploi des curés. (Paris, 1675, 2nd. ed.). Caignet died in 1669.

4. Nicolas Pierron, born in Monceaux-lès-Provins (Seine-et-Marne) on May 9, 1635, entered the Congregation of the Mission on May 14, 1657. He did not remain long in Meaux because on May 15, 1659, the day of his vows, he was at Saint-Lazare, where he was a professor after his ordination. He directed successively the establishments of Saint-Flour (1673-79), the Bons-Enfants (1679-81), Châlons-sur-Marne (1681-84), Bayeux (1684-86), Tours (1686-94), and Chartres (1694-97). On April 21, 1692, he became Visitor of Poitou, and on August 1, 1697, Visitor of France. The General Assembly of 1697 elected him Superior General of the Congregation of the Mission to succeed Edme Jolly. During his generalate he made every effort to maintain strong discipline in the Company and to fortify it against Jansenism. In 1703 he suffered a paralyzing stroke and died on August 17, 1703, twenty days after handing in his resignation as Superior General. (Cf. Notices, vol. IV, pp. 11-15.)

5. Claude Gesseaume, coadjutor Brother, born in Villers-sous-Saint-Leu (Oise) in 1615, entered Saint-Lazare on December 6, 1643.

Letter 2709. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2710. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Cf. Lk 19:10; 1 Tm 1:15. (NAB)

2. Cf. Lk 4:18. (NAB)

3. Cf. Mt 9:37-8. (NAB)

4. Louis Rivet.

5. Cf. 1 Cor 2:2. (NAB)

6. Cf. Mt 10:37. (NAB)

7. Cf. Mt 19:29. (NAB)

8. Cf. Lk 5:4-6. (NAB)

9. Cf. Mal 4:2. (NAB)

Letter 2711. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting. He states on the back that the letter was never sent.

1. Charmes-la-Côte, near Toul.

2. The Saint's choice was Caset himself.

Letter 2712. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The religious of the old Saint-Lazare.

2. The Bull of union of Saint-Lazare Priory to the Congregation of the Mission.

3. In the absence of the Pastor, who had been relegated to Compiègne by Mazarin's order.

4. This attestation was necessary to avoid the customary fees.

5. Francesco Maria Brancaccio, Bishop of Viterbo (1638-70).

6. Jean Chrétien, born in Oncourt (Vosges), on August 6, 1606 was ordained a priest on April 5, 1631, and entered the Congregation of the Mission on November 26, 1640. He was Superior in Marseilles (1645-53), sub-Assistant at the Motherhouse (1654), and Superior in La Rose (1655-62). On November 26, 1667, he was a member of the house in Troyes.

7. The rest of the letter is in the Saint's handwriting.

8. This is obviously Nicolas Duperroy.

9. Having been informed that the Governor of Algiers had planned on sending a force of one thousand men to force him to pay his annual contributions, under threat of imprisonment if he refused, Thomas Picquet, Governor of the Bastion of France, armed the coral fishermen and set sail for Leghorn with all his possessions, including sixty Arabs and four Turkish officials. His conduct caused a riot among the population of Algiers, who maltreated the French residents. Their merchandise was seized as indemnity and the Consul thrown into prison.

Letter 2713. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth- or eighteenth-century copy.

Letter 2714. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Roze, born in Transloy (Pas-de-Calais) in 1616, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest on December 7, 1641. He was Superior in Troyes (1653-57).

2. Charles Roquet (Taquet), cleric of the Mission, was born in Arras on September 12, 1639, entered the Congregation of the Mission on January 5, 1657, and took his vows on January 17, 1659, in the presence of M.Delespiney. Notices, vol. I (p. 487) and vol. V (Supplement), p. 586, lists him as Taquet. ; the date of entry into the Congregation of the Mission (January 6, 1657) seems to confirm the latter spelling, since in a letter of January 6, 1657, to Guillaume Delville in Arras (cf. vol. VI, no. 2187), Saint Vincent speaks of three postulants from Arras, two of whom Coste mentions in a footnote: Charles Taquet and Maximilien-François Cuveron, to whom reference is made later in this letter. Taquet. has been used in the index in this volume and in volume XIV.

3. This man was not a confrere; he appears to have been a layman, about whom there is no information. This is the only time he is mentioned in the extant letters of Saint Vincent.

4. Maximilien-François Cuveron was born in Arras (Pas-de-Calais) on January 6, 1634, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on December 1, 1656, and took his vows there on December 3, 1658, in the presence of M.Delespiney. He spent some years at Fontainebleau before going to Madagascar in 1666, where he died a few months later.

5. Adrienne Plouvier and Louise Boucher.

6. Radegonde Lenfantin.

Letter 2715. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Chrétien Daisne, born in Sedan, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 21, 1644, at twenty years of age, took his vows in 1646, and was ordained a priest in March 1651.

2. It is not known whether Nicolas Prévost's nephew ever entered the Congregation of the Mission.

3. Guillaume Pintart, born in Vandy (Ardennes) on May 5, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 4, 1649, and took his vows in Sedan on September 9, 1654. He was in Le Mans when Saint Vincent wrote this letter. Notices, vol. I and vol. V (Supplement), spells his name Pintard. .

4. Sister Jeanne-Christine Prévost had served the poor in Liancourt (1648), Fontainebleau (1651), and in Saint-Gervais parish in Paris. According to Saint Louise, she won the approval of the people everywhere she went. She was elected Assistant of the Company in 1660, but withdrawing her from Sedan was so difficult that Superiors were constrained to leave her there.

Letter 2716. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned draft in the secretary's handwriting. This is the draft of the letter mentioned in no. 2715.

Letter 2717. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505). The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Dominique de Ligny.

2. Pierre de Lorthon, the King's secretary. He was the founder of the Missionaries' house in Crécy.

3. Claude Soudin, born in Crécy-la-Chapelle (Seine-et-Marne) on May 29, 1627, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris as a coadjutor Brother on October 2, 1657, and took his vows on December 4, 1659, in the presence of M.Langlois.

4. Claude Gesseume.

Letter 2718. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. (Thady Molony) Thaddée Molony was born in Limerick (Ireland) in July 1623. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 4, 1643, was ordained a priest in Rome on March 6, 1650, and took his vows on November 14, 1655. He was in Le Mans in 1658-59.

2. Cf. nos. 2695 and 2696.

3. Jean Descroizilles, a seminarian at this time, was born in Ault (Somme) on January 25, 1631, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on August 10, 1654, and took his vows there on August 11, 1656, in the presence of M.Delespiney. In 1659 dimissorial letters were requested in preparation for his ordination (cf. vol. VIII, no. 3048).

4. Christophe Delaunay.

5. Administrator of the Le Mans Hospital.

6. Guillaume Pintart.

Letter 2719. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. The Common Rules, copies of which were distributed by Gilbert Cuiisot during the visitation.

2. Pierre de Bertier.

3. Jacques Lucas, born in La Pernelle (Manche) on April 10, 1611, was ordained a priest in 1635 and entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 10, 1638. He was Superior in Luçon (1650-56) and La Rose (1662-68).

4. Simon Treffort, born in Villiers-Herbisse (Aube) on October 2, 1611, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 5, 1642, and took his vows on October 7, 1645. He was Superior in La Rose (1668-77) and died in Cahors on July 16, 1682. In a letter written a few days after his death, Edme Jolly, Superior General, highly praised his virtues.

5. Emerand Bajoue, title holder for the benefices of Notre-Dame-de-Lorm and Saint-Aignan.

6. Alain de Solminihac.

7. Louis de Bassompierre.

Letter 2720. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. A merchant in Lyons.

2. Stefano Durazzo.

3. The Marchese Durazzo, recently appointed chargé d'affaires of the Republic of Genoa at the court of the King of France.

4. Word added by the Saint.

5. Nicolas Sevin.

6. François de la Rochefoucauld, born in Paris on December 8, 1558, became Bishop of Clermont on October 6, 1585, Cardinal in 1607, Bishop of Senlis in 1611, and Commendatory Abbot of Sainte-Geneviève in Paris in 1613. He resigned as Bishop in 1622 to dedicate himself to the reform of the abbeys dependent on the Benedictines, Augustinians, and Cistercians. With the support of men such as Saint Vincent, Father Grégoire Tarrisse, and Father Charles Faure, he restored order and discipline. Saint Vincent assisted him at his death on February 14, 1645. He was buried at Sainte-Geneviève, but his heart was given to the Jesuits. (Cf. M.M. La Morinière, *Les vertus du vrai prélat représentées en la vie de l'Eminentissime cardinal de La Rochefoucauld*. [Paris: Cramoisy, 1646]; Lallemand et Chatonnet, *La vie du Révérend Père Charles Faure, abbé de Sainte-Geneviève de Paris*. [Paris: J. Anisson, 1698].)

7. The benefices of Saint-Pourçain and Saint-Martin de Coudres.

8. Cristoforo di Monchia, a Genoese priest of noble lineage, had contributed to the foundation of the house in Genoa from his personal fortune and continued to assist it with gifts. (Cf. Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. I, chap. XLVI, p. 223.)

Letter 2721. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Councillor and first Secretary of State for Savoy.

2. Jeure-Millet, assistant tutor of Monsieur, Philippe d'Orléans, the younger brother of Louis XIV.

3. One or two words at the top of the page are illegible here due to the ravages of time.

Letter 2722. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2723. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Brother Ducournau added "November 1658"

on the back. Saint Vincent's reply (cf. no. 2724) leads us to suppose that the requested conference was given the next day, which was November 17 (cf. vol. X, no. 105: "On Rising, Prayer, Examen, and Other Exercises").

2. Étiennette Dupuis was one of the elders in the Company of the Daughters of Charity. In 1658 she was sent as Sister Servant to Angers where she remained one year. She then went to Richelieu. In 1665 she returned to the Motherhouse and was at Maisons as Sister Servant in 1677.

3. Étiennette Dupuis, Marie Bertrand, and Catherine.

Letter 2724. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. This is Saint Vincent's response to no. 2723.

2. Claude Tristan, Seigneur de Maisoncelles, Canon, Grand Archdeacon, and Vicar-General of Beauvais for forty years. His refusal to sign the formulary against Jansenism brought upon him in 1666 exclusion from choir and the loss of the income from his prebend. He died on June 29, 1692.

3. Catherine Caulet, Baronesse de Mirepoix, was going to make a retreat at Saint Louise's house.

Letter 2725. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy made from the original in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2726. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Dominican preacher; Master of Theology.

2. Louis de Chandénier.

3. In Lent of that year, there was a scheduling difficulty in Metz: a conflict between the Lenten sermons to be preached by Father Guesprier and the missions to be preached at the same time in Metz by a team led by Abbé de Chandénier (cf. no. 2520).

4. Pierre Bédacier, Titular Bishop of Auguste, Suffragan of the Bishop of Metz, and Administrator of the diocese.

Letter 2727. - Chambre des Députés, Paris, Ms, p. 138.

1. Barbe Angiboust, who holds an important place in the first twenty-five years of the history of the Daughters of Charity, entered the Company on July 1, 1634, at the age of twenty-nine, and was admitted to vows on March 25, 1642. She was put in charge of the foundations of Saint-Germain-en-Laye (1638), Richelieu (1638), Saint-Denis (1645), Fontainebleau (1646), Brienne (1652), Bernay (1655), and Châteaudun (1657) where she died on December 27, 1658. In 1641 she was responsible for the Sisters serving the galley slaves. The conference on her virtues, held in the

Motherhouse on April 27, 1659, is very edifying (cf. vol. X, no. 109).

2. Saint Vincent forgot about his letter to her of August 20, 1657 (cf. vol. VI, no. 2343), shortly after her arrival in Châteaudun. Coste surmised that the copyist might have made a mistake in transcribing the date and that this letter could have been written on November 21, 1657. Perhaps he is correct, in view of what the Saint says here about Sister Barbe's reception by the townspeople and the letter written to Saint Vincent on October 25, 1657, by the Administrators of the hospital. Nevertheless, since the date on this letter does not seem to be uncertain, the editors have left it where Coste originally placed it.

Letter 2728. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Coste originally notes that this letter must assuredly be placed between November 1658 and October 1659 and that, to all indications, it was sent shortly after the letter of October 26 (no. 2696). His subsequent corrections pinpoint the date to November 21, 1658. The secretary wrote the two rough drafts one after the other.

Letter 2729. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Giovanni Antonio Bruno, born in Aprico, near Albenga (Liguria), on August 26, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a priest in Genoa on January 29, 1656, and took his vows on April 28, 1659, in the presence of M. Pesnelle.

2. Stefano Durazzo.

3. Cristoforo di Monchia.

Letter 2730. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Cf. Mt 9:37-38. (NAB)

2. James Dowley (Duley), future Bishop of Limerick (Ireland).

Letter 2731. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Principal town of Alpes-de-Haute-Provence.

2. The captives.

3. Françoise de Lorraine, Duchesse de Vendôme, wife of César de Bourbon, Duc de Vendôme, Director of Shipping and Commerce. Their eldest son married Laura Mancini, the niece of Cardinal Mazarin.

Letter 2732. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Pierre Sirven, coadjutor Brother, born in Verdun-sur-Garonne (Tarn-et-Garonne), entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 12, 1640, took his vows on January 1, 1643, and died on July 12, 1660, in Sedan. His outstanding qualities had earned the confidence of the Bishop of Montauban, and he was highly esteemed by Saint Vincent, who considered him "the living Rule of the Company; a wise, intelligent man, benevolent towards everyone."

2. In his first footnote for this letter, Coste identified this man as Antoine Lucas. This cannot be correct since Antoine Lucas

had died in November 1656 (cf. *Notices*, vol. I, pp. 136-45, and vol. V [Supplement], p. 396). Luca Arimondo, whom Saint Vincent always called M. Lucas, had also died in 1656. It is, therefore, uncertain to whom he is actually referring.

3. Simon Warin (Varin), born in Bazeilles (Ardennes), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 6, 1645, at seventeen years of age, and took his vows on October 7, 1647. *Notices*, vol. I, p. 470, and vol. V (Supplement) p. 610, lists him as Simon Varin.

4. Cf. no. 2716.

5. This refers to the right of a Superior to confer a "devolved" (lapsed) benefice when a subordinate or customary collator has neglected to confer it within the approved time limit or had conferred it on an unfit person.

6. The secretary had added: "so that he will not go away in need;" these words were subsequently crossed out.

Letter 2733. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Of the Ladies of Charity. Parre was one of their agents in distributing aid to the devastated areas.

Letter 2734. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. The year the Sisters arrived in Ussel. The postscript shows that the letter could not have been written as late as November 24, 1659.

2. The Duchesse de Ventadour.

3. Cf. Lk 21:19. (NAB)

4. Cf. Mt 22:40. (NAB)

Letter 2735. - Dom Le Masson, *op. cit.*, vol. I, p. 54.

1. The name is missing in the text. It could well be Jean d'Aranthon's nephew, the Prior of La Pérouse (cf. no. 2615, n. 3), who was making his seminary at Saint-Sulpice.

Letter 2736. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Balthazar Grangier de Liverdi.

2. Gilles Lemerer, born in the Tréguier diocese on September 22, 1633, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 23, 1658, and took his vows in Agde on November 14, 1660, in the presence of M. Durand.

Letter 2737. - *Bibl. de l'Institut Catholique*, Paris, original signed letter; the last six lines are in the Saint's handwriting. Coste had first used a text published by Pémartin, *op. cit.*, vol. IV, L. 1761, p. 234, from a copy made available by M. Charavay. Later he was able to check the original and noted additions to be made, which the editors have added here in brackets. Part of the letter is reproduced in Reg. 2, p. 243.

1. Balthazar Moscoso y Sandoval (1646-65).

2. The original has "authorization."

3. The Papal Brief Alias nos, on the vow of poverty taken in the Congregation of the Mission, was issued by Pope Alexander VII on August 12, 1659 (cf. vol. XIII, no. 120).

Letter 2738. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The Ladies of Charity.

2. There is some confusion regarding this person. Coste identifies him here as "François de Hauteville, a student in the Congregation of the Mission." Notices, vol. V (Supplement), states that he was Superior in Montmirail in 1660. The personnel catalogue lists the Superior in Montmirail in 1660 as François DORIAULT, who was received in Paris in 1655 and took his vows there on July 10, 1657. There is also a possibility that this is a François DONAULT, C.M., who was born in Hauteville in 1600.

Letter 2739. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. He was away giving a mission at the time.

2. The Saint feared the consequences of the Picquet affair, the fire at the Bastion of France, and the flight of the Governor, Thomas Picquet.

3. Nicolas Fouquet.

Letter 2740. - The original signed letter was formerly the property of the Daughters of Charity, 20 rue du Cloître-Saint-Étienne, Troyes. Its present location is unknown. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Today, principal town of a canton in Saône-et-Loire.

2. During the mission given in the spring.

3. Claude de Chandénier, Abbé de Moutiers-Saint-Jean.

4. Marie de Chandénier, his sister.

5. Guillaume de Lamoignon.

6. Of the Tuesday Conferences.

7. Jean de Maupeou.

Letter 2741. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Lk 9:58. (NAB)

2. M. de la Bouverie-Doublard, a priest in Angers.

3. Father Jean Garat.

4. The monks of Sainte-Geneviève were continuing their efforts in Rome to have united to their Order the houses that were dependent on Chancelade Abbey.

5. The Bishop of Toledo, Balthazar Moscoso y Sandoval, had proposed that the Congregation of the Mission establish a house there. Saint Vincent gave his opinion on this to Edme Jolly in no. 2737.

Letter 2742. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Brother Ducournau has indicated the month and the year on the back of the original. The contents show that Saint Louise was writing on the eve of a feast of the Blessed Virgin. This can

only be December 8, eve of the Immaculate Conception; because it fell that year on a Sunday in Advent, the feast was transferred to Monday, December 9.

2. Barbe Bailly, born near Vitry-le-François (Marne) on June 1, 1628, and baptized the same day, entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity on October 8, 1645, and took her vows on December 8, 1648. Her first mission was with the foundlings, whom she helped install in Bicêtre in July 1647. During the Fronde, the constant presence of soldiers there and the difficulty in finding food caused great concern, but Sister Barbe handled these problems with great wisdom and devotion. In 1649 she went to the Motherhouse, where she worked as infirmarian and as secretary to Saint Louise. After the Saint's death, Sister Barbe was sent to Poland (September 1660). Illness necessitated her return to Paris in 1668. She served the Company as Treasurer General (1671-74) and first Superior at the Invalides, where she helped design the infirmary wing. In 1685 she was sent to Alençon, where she reorganized the hospital. She died there on August 21, 1699.

Letter 2743. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. Pope Leo XIII had given the letter to the Archpriest of Bruges; it subsequently became the property of the Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul in that city before being returned to Paris. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Guillaume Cornaire, born in the Besançon diocese on June 4, 1614, was ordained a priest during Lent of 1639. He entered the Congregation of the Mission on December 2, 1647, and took his vows in Le Mans on November 23, 1653, where he provided for the spiritual needs of the sick in the hospital. He died there, perhaps in 1660. Brother Chollier wrote his obituary, but it is no longer extant.

Letter 2744. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Vital Bernusset, a slave in Nauplia, a citadel in southern Greece, in the Peloponnesus, near the head of the Gulf of Argolis.

2. Louis de Chandénier.

3. The bottom of the original has been cut off in this place.

4. The hospital for convicts in Marseilles.

Letter 2745. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Henri de Maupas du Tour.

2. Charles-Auguste de Sales.

3. Mark Cogley [Marc Coglée] was the Superior in Annecy.

François Charles, born in Plessala (Côtes-du-Nord) on December 10, 1611, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 12, 1640, and was ordained a priest during Lent of 1641. He died on January 26, 1673, after serving at Saint-Lazare as director of retreatants and of the coadjutor Brothers. Edme Jolly, Superior General, greatly praised his virtue in the circular letter addressed to the whole Company to announce his death.

Pierre Deheume, born in Sedan (Ardennes) on August 20, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 8, 1646, took his vows in 1651, and was stationed in Turin and Annecy (1656). He was Superior in Marseilles (1662-65) and Toul (1667-69).

Letter 2746. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth- or eighteenth-century copy.

1. Stefano Durazzo.

Letter 2747. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

Letter 2748. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. François Fleury, chaplain of the Queen of Poland, had died in France at the beginning of November.

2. Françoise Douelle.

3. Madeleine Dugeon, daughter of a rich Parisian merchant, entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity in 1647. She arrived in Poland on September 7, 1652, and died there in February 1671.

4. The Visitation nuns.

5. Nicolas Duperroy.

Letter 2749. - Municipal Library of Orléans, original signed letter.

Letter 2749a. - Archives of the Visitation Monastery of Mons (Belgium), original signed letter. The text was published in *AnnalesC.M.* (1929), pp. 726-28, and reprinted in *Mission et Charité*, 19-20, no. 97, pp. 122-23. This edition uses the latter text.

1. Superior of the Second Visitation Monastery of Paris (faubourg Saint-Jacques). Born in Mons (Belgium) in 1603, she was, through her mother, the niece of Philippe de Cospéan, Bishop of Lisieux. In 1624 she entered the First Monastery, which she left at the request of the Marquise de Dampierre to join the group of Sisters who were sent to the Monastery in the faubourg Saint-Jacques at the time of its foundation. She became Directress there and then Assistant. Three times the votes of the Sisters entrusted to her the office of Superior (June 11, 1634-May 24, 1640; May 27, 1646-May 13, 1652; and June 6, 1658 to 1664). She went to inaugurate the Amiens and Mons Monasteries, remaining at the latter for three months; she also founded that of Angers and the Third Monastery in Paris, and played a prominent role in the establishment of the Warsaw Monastery. Mother Le Roy died on May 18, 1669. (Cf. *Année sainte des religieuses de la Visitation Sainte-Marie*. [12 vols., Annecy: Ch. Burdet, 1867-71], vol. V, p. 547.)

2. The father of a young woman who had expressed the desire to enter the Visitation Monastery in the faubourg Saint-Jacques.

3. First redaction: "of your community." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

4. After writing this last sentence, Saint Vincent crossed it out; it has been inserted here, nevertheless, since it reflects the thinking of the Saint.

5. The daughters of Frédéric-Maurice de la Tour d'Auvergne, Duc de Bouillon: Louise, Émilie-Léonor, and, perhaps, Hippolyte.

6. Charlotte de Caumont, wife of Henri de la Tour d'Auvergne (1611-75), Vicomte de Turenne, Maréchal de France. She died in 1666.

7. This term was often used at the time to designate Protestantism. Bossuet eventually converted the Maréchal to Catholicism.

8. This paragraph is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2750. - Reg. 2, p. 243.

1. Peter Butler.

Letter 2751. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. A meeting of the Ladies of Charity of the Hôtel-Dieu, of which Mlle Viole was the treasurer.

2. A town in Aisne.

Letter 2752. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, signed rough draft.

1. A lawyer at the Parlement.

2. The son of Élisabeth and Jacques Norais, the King's secretary. They had given the Orsigny farm to Saint Vincent and the Congregation of the Mission; their son was now contesting this bequest.

3. This was followed by: "and although he is fond of money, he will not accept any for this affair," which was crossed out.

4. A lawyer in the Paris Parlement.

5. Jean-Marie Lhoste was administrator of a number of hospitals in Paris.

6. Saint Vincent had also consulted Messrs. Ozannet, de Gaumont, Martinet, Pucelle, Billian, and Mussot, lawyers to the Parlement, who had given him the same opinion. M. de Saveuses, its court reporter, had no doubts about the justice of the cause. (Cf. Manuscript of Brother Louis Robineau, pp. 96-97, published in Dodin, op. cit., p. 89.)

7. First redaction: "who slipped into the lawsuit."

8. First redaction: "enemies."

9. Cf. Mt 6:33. (NAB)

10. Cf. Lk 12:58. (NAB)

Letter 2753. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. In an earlier letter to Louis Rivet, Superior in Saintes (no. 2565), Saint Vincent refers to Louis Bréant as a member of that house. It is probable that this letter was addressed to him since it also mentions Antoine Fleury, another member of the house.

2. Martin Baucher, born in Epône, in the Chartres diocese, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother in January 1653 and took his vows in Saintes on January 13, 1656, in

the presence of M. Berthe. Coste refers to him as Marin. Baucher, but in the catalogue of Coadjutor Brothers (1627-1786) he is listed as Martin.

Letter 2754. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Year added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

Letter 2755. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. There is no internal evidence by which to date this letter correctly. Marie de la Guiche de Saint-Gérard became the Duchesse de Ventadour by her marriage to Charles de Lévis, Duc de Ventadour, on February 8, 1645; Saint Louise died on March 15, 1660. From a letter of Saint Louise to the Daughters of Charity in Ussel (cf. *Spiritual Writings*, L. 598, p. 617), dated October 26, 1658, we know that the Duchesse de Ventadour had just come to Paris from her ancestral lands in Corrèze.

2. The Duchesse de Ventadour was making her retreat at the home of Mademoiselle Le Gras.

3. This part of the sentence would be sufficient to allay any doubt concerning Saint Vincent's place of birth, were it necessary. The Barony of Pouy, the village where the Saint was born, became the property of the Ducs de Ventadour through the marriage of Charles de Lévis to his first wife, Catherine-Suzanne de Lauzières, the daughter of Suzanne de Monluc and Antoine, Marquis de Thémines.

Letter 2756. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Balthazar Grangier de Liverdi.

Letter 2757. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. There was some rivalry between the Priests of the Mission, who were the Directors of the shrine of Lorm, in the commune of Castelferrus, and the lord and the clergy of the locality.

2. Pierre de Bertier.

3. Jacques Lucas.

Letter 2758. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2759. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau. The table of contents has December 25 [1658]; *Spiritual Writings*, (cf. L. 604, pp. 623-24) has December 25, 1658.

Letter 2760. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Balthazar Moscoso y Sandoval (1646-65).

2. First redaction: "to one thing." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

3. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

4. Probably the ordination retreats.

5. Marius Alberici.

6. This paragraph is in the Saint's handwriting.
Letter 2761. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Reference to the failing health of Sister Barbe Angiboust prompts us to assign this date to this letter.

2. Barbe Angiboust, Sister Servant in Châteaudun.

3. Anne Bocheron, who entered the Company of the Daughters of Charity in 1654. She is mentioned in a letter of Saint Louise in 1657 as being in Châteaudun (cf. Spiritual Writings, L. 544, p. 568). Perhaps she was one of the Sisters from there who were in Paris in November 1659 and gave testimony to the virtues of Sister Barbe during a conference of Saint Vincent (cf. vol. X, no. 114).

4. Barbe died on December 27, 1658. "Those who had seen her during her illness," relates Saint Louise (cf. Spiritual Writings, L. 634, p. 654), "confessed that they could not believe they were looking at the same person after her death; and the people, who came for two days in such numbers that the doors had to be closed, declared that she was so beautiful that she must have been wearing make-up."

Letter 2762. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection. This is one of the letters sold at auction by Xavier Charmoy (cf. no. 2505).

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

2. Clerk for Nicolas Fouquet, the Attorney General.

Letter 2763. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The words from "for contracts involving important affairs" are in the Saint's handwriting.

2. Stefano Durazzo.

Letter 2764. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2743.

Letter 2765. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy of the period.

1. The rest of the letter shows that the propositions of the Jansenists, already condemned by Rome, were not involved here; it was a question of liberal opinions.

2. Cf. Lk 12:1. (NAB)

3. Cf. 2 Pt 3:15-16. (NAB)

4. Cf. Gal 2:11-14. (NAB)

5. Cf. Acts 15:36-40. (NAB)

6. Cf. Rv 12:17. (NAB)

7. Cf. no. 2732.

8. The Hospital for Incurables in Paris, known today as Laënnec Hospital.

Letter 2766. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Barbe Angiboust, who had died on December 27, 1658, in Châteaudun.

Letter 2767. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, register entitled: Recueil de pièces relatives aux Filles de la Charité, Ms, p. 30.

1. Anne Hardemont (cf. no. 2768).

2. Saint Louise.

Letter 2768. - Reg. 1, fol. 22v.

1. The Duchesse de Ventadour.

2. Cf. Rom 8:13. (NAB)

3. When Saint Vincent was writing this letter, Mademoiselle Mance and Sister Marguerite Bourgeois had returned to France from Canada and were trying to find volunteers to go to that distant country to work for the education of children or in health care. (Cf. Étienne-Michel Faillon, Histoire de la colonie française en Canada. [3 vols., Villemarie: Bibl. parois., 1865-66], vol. II, pp. 306-13.)

4. Cf. Mt 25:23. (NAB)

5. Avoie Vigneron.

Letter 2769. - Reg. 2, p. 115.

Letter 2770. - Reg. 2, p. 187.

1. As mentioned in no. 2692 (October 20, 1658), M.Lièbe had recently left the Company. Saint Vincent had given Pierre de Beaumont specific instructions on how to deal with him.

Letter 2771. - Reg. 2, p. 92.

1. Date given by Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 61.

Letter 2772. - Reg. 2, p. 92.

1. Date given by Collet, op. cit., vol. II, p. 61.

Letter 2773. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. A renowned surgeon, whose name is linked to the story of the miracles attributed to the Holy Thorn (la Sainte Épine) of Port-Royal.

2. Alexandre Véronne, infirmarian of Saint-Lazare.

Letter 2774. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. The Sant'Antonio affair (cf. no. 2670).

Letter 2775. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Fouquet.

2. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2776. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Date added on the back by Brother Ducournau.

2. A native of the environs of Villepreux, she was sent to Richelieu in 1638 and remained there until 1644, when she returned to Paris to work with the galley slaves. In 1657 she was sent to Maule.

3. Charles du Fresne, Sieur de Villeneuve, former secretary of Queen Marguerite de Valois, was one of Saint Vincent's closest friends. After the Queen's death in 1615, he became secretary, then intendant, of Philippe-Emmanuel de Gondi.

Letter 2777. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Nicolas Fouquet.
2. Jean Barreau.
3. Philippe Le Vacher.
4. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2778. - Reg. 2, p. 64.

1. Bétharram is situated in the commune of Lestelle (Pyrénées-Atlantiques), not far from Lourdes. In 1614, Jean de Salettes, Bishop of Lescar, had a chapel built there which, under the direction of the Missionaries of Garaison (1615-21), had rapidly become the center of a very popular pilgrimage. Léonard de Trapes, Archbishop of Auch (1600-29), once led there a pilgrimage of ten thousand persons. He erected three crosses on the top of the hill and left in the sanctuary a statue of the Blessed Virgin, which he himself had carried there. Hubert Charpentier, whom the Bishop of Lescar had put in charge of the chaplains there, was a man of great virtue and integrity. In 1621 he founded in Bétharram the Congregation of the Priests of Notre-Dame-du-Calvaire, which was still serving at the shrine in 1659. The increasing renown of Notre-Dame-de-Bétharram won the favor of Popes and the aristocracy. Louis XIII, Anne of Austria, the Brienne and Montmorency families, and the leading families of Béarn and Gascony became its benefactors. The history of the shrine was written by Canon Dubarat, to whom we owe many valuable works on the Pyrénées-Atlantiques. (Cf. Victor-Pierre Dubarat, *Bétharram et le Mont-Valérien*. [Pau, 1897].)

2. Hubert Charpentier, a graduate in theology of the Sorbonne, was born in Coulommiers on November 3, 1565. After contributing to the foundation of Notre-Dame de Garaison, he founded two shrines honoring the Cross of the Savior: one at Bétharram, the other at Mont-Valérien, near Paris. He died in Paris on December 10, 1650.

3. Jean du Haut de Salies (1658-81).

Letter 2779. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, Marseilles manuscript.

1. Cf. Heb 2:10. (NAB)

Letter 2780. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Ps 31:24-25. (NAB)
2. Thomas Picquet, Governor of the Bastion of France.
3. Jean Le Vacher.

Letter 2781. - The original autograph letter was formerly the property of the Daughters of Charity, 28 rue Louis Ulbach, Troyes. Its present location is unknown.

1. Anne Vallin, of whom little is known; she was in Paris in 1659.

2. Geneviève Caillou, a native of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, entered the Daughters of Charity in 1638. In March 1640 she left the Motherhouse for Angers, where she remained until the end of 1644,

when she returned to Paris. During 1645-46 she was Sister Servant at Saint-Gervais parish; in May 1646 she went to Le Mans but returned to Paris because of the difficulties experienced in trying to establish the Daughters of Charity there. She subsequently served in the parishes of Saint-Médard, Saint-Roch, and Saint-Benoît, and on August 8, 1655, was among those who signed the Act of Establishment of the Company. In May 1680 her health failed, and she left active duty to reside in the house in Pantin.

3. Brienne-le-Château (Aube).

4. Catherine Baucher, born in Épone (Yvelines), was stationed in Nantes (1649-53) and in Brienne (1654-59). In September 1660 she was sent to Poland, where she remained until she died unexpectedly some time after 1682.

Letter 2782. - Reg. 2, p. 170.

Letter 2783. - Reg. 2, p. 188.

1. Possibly the Monastery of the Sisters of Notre-Dame in Richelieu.

Letter 2784. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. IV, p. 72.

Letter 2785. - Archives of the Soeurs Augustines de l'Assomption, 18 rue de Lourmel, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Despite a decree of the Council, postponing the elections of the Consuls, the people of Marseilles had appointed Bausset, Vacon, and Lagrange to that post on October 28, 1658. This displeased the King, who forbade the new magistrates to carry out the duties of their office and ordered both the Consuls and the rebel leaders to give an explanation to the Court in Lyons. He received them coldly but had the good sense not to take any harsh measures against them. An amnesty was granted the culprits, and it was decided that the Duc de Mercoeur, Governor of Provence, would go to Marseilles to have new elections carried out in his presence. Anxious above all else to avoid further trouble, the Duke had the wisdom to give the majority of votes to the Consuls who had been named the previous October 28. (Cf. Augustin Fabre, op. cit., vol. II, pp. 280-85.)

2. The rest of this paragraph is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2786. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. The Duchesse de Ventadour.

Letter 2787. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. Françoise Ménage was from an excellent family of Serqueux; she and three of her sisters--Madeleine, Marguerite, and Catherine--became Daughters of Charity. Françoise nursed the sick for several years at the Nantes hospital, where she had been sent in 1650. When the Sisters withdrew in 1664, she went immediately to the Montpellier hospital where she remained until 1692.

2. Cf. Mt 11:29. (NAB)

3. The Daughters of Charity still renew their vows annually on the day the Church celebrates the feast of the Annunciation.

4. Since Marguerite Ménage had died in Calais in 1658, Saint Vincent is referring here to Madeleine and Catherine.

Letter 2788. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2789. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Duperroy.

2. Cf. Mt 25:23. (NAB)

3. Albert Tholibowski.

4. For life.

Letter 2790. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Jeanne Lepeintre had been sent to the Daughters of Charity by her mistress, Madame Goussault. Saint Vincent says elsewhere that she was "a very fine, wise, and gentle girl." Both he and Saint Louise had great confidence in her because of her intelligence and organizational skills. She was first sent to the school of the Charity in Saint-Germain-en-Laye (1642). In the spring of 1646, after installing the Sisters in the Le Mans hospital, she returned to Paris, where she was put in charge of the Motherhouse while Saint Louise was establishing the house in Nantes. Jeanne then became Sister Servant in Nantes (1646), where great difficulties were being encountered. In 1654 she made the foundation in Châteaudun and, in 1657, at the Salpêtrière (cf. *Spiritual Writings*, L. 64, p. 77, n. 1). In *Recueil de pièces relatives aux Filles de la Charité*, Ms, p. 24, preserved in the Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, we read: "During the lifetime of Mademoiselle Le Gras, she seemed to be a hypochondriac. Moreover, she could not be made to do anything she did not like, nor would she accept opinions other than her own." She was reprimanded for this fault more than once by Saint Vincent. Her last years were sad ones spent at the Nom-de-Jésus hospice, where she had to be committed because of mental illness.

2. A parish in Paris.

Letter 2791. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original autograph letter.

1. This letter is from the same date, or nearly the same date, as the one from Saint Louise to Sister Nicole Georgette, dated March 28, 1659 (cf. Appendix 4 of the present volume; also, *Spiritual Writings*, L. 614, pp. 634-35).

2. Words omitted by the Saint.

3. Nicole Georgette (Georget), a member of the Company of the Daughters of Charity from its beginnings, was not getting along with the Pastor in Nanteuil. She had served in Richelieu before being sent to Nanteuil.

4. Anne Habert de Montmaur, widow of Charles de Thémines. In April 1634 she married François Annibal, Duc d'Estrées, Comte de

Nanteuil-le-Haudouin, Peer and Maréchal de France, former Ambassador to Rome.

Letter 2792. - Reg. 1, fol. 42, copy made from the original signed and annotated letter.

1. François Fournier, born in Laval (Mayenne) on February 2, 1625, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 12, 1644, took his vows on September 24, 1646, and was ordained a priest on September 25, 1650. He was professor of theology at the Agen Seminary (1649-58) and in Cahors (1658-63), Secretary General of the Congregation (1663-77), and Assistant General from 1667 to April 4, 1677, the day he died. The life of Saint Vincent, commonly and correctly attributed to Abelly, was erroneously thought to have been written by Fournier. It is possible and even probable that, as Secretary General, he helped prepare the material, but that is the extent of his role. Brother Ducournau may well have contributed much more than he. (Cf. Notices, vol. I, pp. 247-67.)

2. Saint John Chrysostom (347-407), Father and Doctor of the Church and Patriarch of Constantinople.

3. Cf. Heb 7:26;8:6. (NAB)

4. Cf. Mt 17:5. (NAB)

5. Cf. Mt 5:10. (NAB)

Letter 2793. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2794. - Reg. 2, p. 346.

1. Probably Philippe Patte. Born in 1620 in Vigny, Rouen diocese, he entered the Paris Seminary of the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on April 5, 1656, and took his vows there on April 16, 1658, in the presence of M.Delespiney. In 1659 he went to Madagascar, where he proved himself an excellent surgeon. Along with M.Nicolas Étienne, he was massacred on March 4, 1664. (Cf. Notices, vol. III, pp. 369-71.)

2. Cf. Lk 9:59-62. (NAB)

Letter 2795. - Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 89.

Letter 2796. - Reg. 2, p. 244.

1. Celio Piccolomini (1656-63).

2. The Institute of the Priests of Christian Doctrine, founded in 1592 by Jean-Baptiste Romillion and Venerable César de Bus for the instruction of the poor, the ignorant, and the people of rural areas, was approved by Pope Clement VIII in 1597.

Jean-Baptiste Romillion, born in Isle (Vaucluse) in 1553 of Huguenot parents, was converted in 1579, became a priest in 1588, and died on July 14, 1622. (Cf. Abbé Claude Bourguignon, La vie de P. Romillion, prestre de l'Oratoire de Jésus et fondateur de la Congrégation des Ursulines de France. [Marseille: B. Garcin, 1649].)

César de Bus was born in Cavailon (Vaucluse) on February 3, 1544. After having lost and regained his faith, he entered the priesthood. He became blind at the age of forty-nine, died on

April 15, 1607, and was declared Venerable on December 8, 1821, by Pope Pius VII. (Cf. P. Giloteaux, *Le Vénérable César de Bus: Fondateur de la Congrégation des Prêtres de la Doctrine Chrétienne (1544-1607)*. [Paris, 1961].)

3. Communication of privileges implies an act of competent ecclesiastical authority extending to certain persons privileges which have already been granted to others.

Letter 2796a. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Haines Family Collection, Marseilles. In his unpublished notes, Coste states that this letter is from 1659, and not from 1658. For this reason it has been repositioned here from no. 2552, placing it in its correct chronological order.

1. Principal town of a canton in Alpes-de-Haute (Provence).

2. François Fouquet was the son of another François Fouquet, Comte de Vaux, and Marie de Maupeou, a Lady of Charity most admirable for her zeal and her devotion to Saint Vincent. Fouquet's brothers were Nicolas, Superintendent of Finances, and Louis, Bishop of Agde; his sister, Louise-Agnès, was a nun in the First Monastery of the Visitation. François, named Bishop of Bayonne in 1636, was not consecrated until March 15, 1639. He was transferred to the Agde diocese in 1643, appointed Coadjutor of Narbonne on December 18, 1656, and Archbishop of that diocese in 1659. Relegated to Alençon in 1661, he died in exile on October 19, 1673. He brought the Priests of the Mission to Agde and Narbonne and established the Daughters of Charity in the latter town. A very zealous Prelate--too zealous perhaps--he found Saint Vincent's slowness hard to understand, but he greatly admired his virtue. The Saint's death affected him deeply; as soon as he received news of it, he wrote to the priests of Saint-Lazare: "However prepared I may have been for M. Vincent's death, since he was advanced in age, I assure you that I did not hear the news of his passing without surprise and without being moved by great sorrow, humanly speaking, at seeing the Church deprived of a most worthy subject, the Congregation of its very dear Father, and myself of a very charitable friend to whom I am so deeply indebted. I think that, of all those whom his charity caused him to embrace as his children, there is no one to whom he showed greater affection and gave more signs of friendship than to me."

3. A galley slave in Toulon.

Letter 2797. - Abelly, *op. cit.*, bk. II, chap. I, sect. II, §6, p. 43.

1. Commune in the district of Loudéac (Côtes-du-Nord).

2. Denis de la Barde (1642-June 22, 1675).

Letter 2798. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Dame Laurence Veyrac de Paulian, Baronne de Castelnau, widow of Melchior Dagouz de Montauban, Marquis de Vins, Maréchal of the King's troops. She died in Paris on February 20, 1659. By her will, drawn up on May 29, 1655, she left eighteen thousand livres to the Marseilles house for the maintenance of two Missionaries.

There is an excerpt of this act in the Archives Nationales (S 6707).

2. Philippe Le Vacher.

3. First redaction: "and will surely be paid. It will have to be stated that this is on condition.." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

4. This last sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

5. Pierre Pingré (1659-62).

Letter 2799. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Year added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Her son Michel Le Gras, her daughter-in-law, and her granddaughter. Michel was born on October 19, 1613. The instability of his character and his vacillation about a vocation to the priesthood were a cause of great anxiety to his mother. Ultimately he left the seminary at the age of twenty-seven (1640). After ten years of further wavering, he married Demoiselle Gabrielle Le Clerc on January 18, 1650, in Saint-Sauveur Church in Paris. Saint Vincent witnessed the marriage contract. Their daughter Renée-Louise was born in 1651. Michel Le Gras died in February 1696.

Letter 2800. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Andrzej Trzebicki.

2. Cf. Mt 9:37-8. (NAB)

Letter 2801. - Reg. 2, p. 210.

Letter 2802. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. Year added on the back of the original by Brother Ducournau.

2. Of the Ladies of Charity.

3. Guy Lasnier, Abbé de Vaux, was one of the most remarkable priests of Anjou during the seventeenth century. For a long time his sole ambition was to satisfy his vanity and his passion for hunting and other worldly amusements. In February 1627, he was appointed to the Saint-Étienne de Vaux Abbey in Saintonge; in 1628 he was named Vicar-General of Angers, then Canon of Notre-Dame de Paris. In spite of the obligations imposed on him by these dignities, he continued to lead a very worldly life. In 1632, like many others, he was curious as to what was going on in the convent of the Ursulines of Loudun. [It was rumored that some of the nuns were possessed; Richelieu ordered their exorcism and the execution of the Pastor, Urbain Grandier, for the practice of witchcraft.] Abbé de Vaux had cause to rue the day. It is alleged that, to his great confusion, one of the nuns, penetrating his interior life, revealed faults that he had never mentioned to anyone. From then on, he was a new man. In 1635 he made a retreat at Saint-Lazare, where he met Saint Vincent, with whom he remained in contact. He also had dealings with Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Jean-Jacques Olier, and Baron de Renty. In his city, Angers, he established a Visitation convent, richly endowed the

seminary, and founded the ecclesiastical conferences in his diocese. He was a prudent counselor and devoted protector of the Daughters of Charity of the Angers hospital and gave hospitality to Saint Vincent, Saint Louise, and Jean-Jacques Olier. De Vaux died on April 29, 1681, at the age of seventy-nine.

We have only one of the letters Saint Vincent wrote to him (cf. vol. I, no. 416), but there are about one hundred addressed to him by Saint Louise. (Cf. François Chamard, *Les vies des saints personnages d'Anjou*. [3 vols., Paris: Lecoffre, 1863], pp. 279-303.)

Letter 2804. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The document is in very poor condition; reconstructed text is enclosed in brackets.

1. Year indicated by the contents, especially the parts referring to Louis d'Eu, Thady Molony, Jean Descroizilles, and the Irish priests.

2. François Fichet, born in Lignièrès-la-Doucelle (Mayenne) in 1636, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 8, 1659, in Le Mans, where he took his vows in October 1663, in the presence of M.Laudin.

3. Pierre Turpin, born in Roye (Somme) on April 9, 1629, entered the Congregation of the Mission on September 16, 1655, and took his vows in Le Mans on October 6, 1658. He had left the seminary for health reasons but was readmitted.

4. Patrick Taylor (Patrice Taillié), born in Dublin around September 29, 1631, entered the Congregation of the Mission on July 9, 1657. As happens often enough, there are variations in the spelling of his name: Notices, vol. I, p. 487, has Tallier. ; vol. V (Supplement), p. 584, lists him as Tailler. .

Letter 2805. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The document is in very poor condition toward the end of the letter, which necessitated some reconstruction of the text as indicated by the brackets.

1. The inheritance from Jacques Pesnelle's father.

2. Stefano Durazzo.

3. Cf. Mt 6:23. (NAB)

4. First redaction: "prevail."

Letter 2806. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. A perquiratur. is an order or commission given by the Cardinal Datary for a single examination of dates in the registries of the Datary. The Apostolic Datary took care of certain business relating to non-consistorial benefices.

2. Nicolas Sevin.

3. This decree, dated March 1, 1659, was given ad septennium, that is, for seven years.

Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet was giving this particular retreat for those preparing for ordination.

4. From what Saint Vincent says about Pierre Escart in no. 2813, the Saint is probably referring to him here. The words "if he had a few moments.." are in the Saint's handwriting.

Pierre Escart, born in the canton of Valais (Switzerland) in 1612, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 6, 1637, and was ordained a priest the following year. He was stationed in Annecy and later sent to Richelieu. At the beginning of his stay in Annecy, he made a good impression on Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, who said of him, "M.Escart is a saint." He was indeed virtuous, zealous, and very austere, and would have continued to please Saint Jane Frances if he had known how to moderate his zeal, to be more tolerant with the defects of others, and to judge his confreres, especially Superiors, with greater fair-mindedness. His temperament carried him to extremes, and in a fit of passion he killed one of his friends. He went to Rome to seek absolution for this murder but died tragically there some time before 1659.

5. François-Étienne Caulet.

6. Efforts had been made to unite the Saint-Sépulcre Priory in Annecy to the Community's seminary in that town.

7. Nicolas Pavillon was born on November 17, 1597. As a very young priest he placed himself under the direction of Saint Vincent, who had him teach catechism and work in the missions and the Charities, where his presence was deemed useful. More than once he entrusted him with the conferences and retreats for priests. Appointed to the diocese of Alet in 1637, Pavillon accepted it only upon the Saint's urging. This new office did not deter him from his apostolic works: he gave a mission in Rueil at Richelieu's invitation, then in Saint-Germain-en-Laye at the King's request. He was consecrated at Saint-Lazare on August 22, 1639, and went to his diocese accompanied by Étienne Blatiron. A zealous, intelligent Bishop, dedicated to reform, he justified the expectations placed on him. His episcopate would have been more fruitful had he been more on his guard against Jansenistic ideas. Saint Vincent begged him in vain to sign the formulary against Jansenism. Pavillon died on December 8, 1677. There are several biographies of him, notably that of Étienne Dejean, Un prélat indépendant au XVIIe. siècle, Nicolas Pavillon, évêque d'Alet (1637-1677). [Paris: Plon-Nourrit, 1909].

8. First redaction: "I am sending you a letter from the Bishop of Alet, or rather a report of what happened."

9. Apologie pour les casuistes contre les calomnies des jansénistes. (Paris, 1657) by a theologian and professor of canon law [Georges Pirot, S.J.]. Rarely has a book caused such an uproar; indignant protests arose from all sides. It was censured by the Vicars-General of Paris, by the Archbishops of Sens, Rouen, and Bourges, by Alain de Solminihac, and by many other Bishops. The Bishops of Pamiers, Bazas, Comminges, and Couserans met with Nicolas Pavillon in Alet to discuss the terms of a condemnation. They signed the condemnation on October 24, 1658,

and published it in Toulouse under the title: Censure d'un livre anonyme intitulé: Apologie pour les Casuistes. The censures most telling for the author of the Apologie. were those of the faculty of theology of Paris (July 16, 1658) and of Pope Alexander VII (August 21, 1659). In Bibliothèque de la Compagnie de Jésus, reedited by Father Carlos Sommervogel (9 vols., Brussels: Oscar Schepens, 1895) under the entry Pirot. (vol. VI, col. 856ff.), is the long list of writings motivated by the publication of Apologie.

10. Claude de Rebé had died on March 17, 1659.

11. The rest of the sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

12. Défense de la hiérarchie de l'Église et de l'autorité légitime de N.S.P. le Pape et de nos seigneurs les évêques contre la doctrine pernicieuse d'un libelle anonyme. (Paris: Josse, 1659).

13. Three copies.

Letter 2807. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Antoine Hennequin, Sieur de Vincy, priest-brother of Mademoiselle du Fay and nephew of Marie de Marillac, an aunt of Saint Louise. A great friend of Saint Vincent, he died in 1645, four hours after being received into the Congregation of the Mission.

Letter 2808. - Arch. Nat., M 212, no. 7, copy, courtesy of the ecclesiastical court of Paris.

1. This petition was presented to the Officialis on April 8, 1659, as he himself states in Procès verbal de l'estat des bastimens, cloistres, jardins et clos de Saint-Lazare, June 27, 1659 (cf. Arch. Nat., M 212, no. 7).

2. Adrien Le Bon, Canon Regular of Saint Augustine, was born in Neufchâtel (Seine-Maritime) and died at Saint-Lazare on April 9, 1651, in his seventy-fourth year. As Prior of Saint-Lazare, he supervised the transfer of the priory to Saint Vincent and the Congregation of the Mission. He also donated a number of farms for the support of the Congregation.

3. Jean-François de Gondi.

4. For this Bull of Pope Alexander VII, reapproving the union of Saint-Lazare to the Congregation of the Mission see vol. XIII, no. 112. Many of the other documents mentioned in this letter are in the same volume.

5. Nicolas Porcher acceded to Saint Vincent's request. On April 30 he had the prescribed notices posted at the ecclesiastical court building and at Saint-Lazare to apprise the lawful claimants. Since no one came forward to object, he went to Saint-Lazare on June 27, drew up "a report on the state of the buildings, cloisters, gardens, and enclosure," and heard the testimony of those called to voice their opinions: André Guignard, Principal of the Collège de Navarre; Charles de Baignolz, Doctor of Theology and priest of the Community of Saint-Nicolas; Louis de Chandénier, Abbé de Tournus; Claude de

Chandenier, Abbé de Moutiers-Saint-Jean; and Claude de Blampignon, Abbé de l'Aumône. Nicolas Porcher confirmed the Bulls of union on July 21; on August 7, Saint Vincent took possession, before witnesses, of the Saint-Lazare house. In March 1660 the King gave his consent by letters patent, which the Parlement registered on May 15, 1662. (Cf. Arch. Nat., M 212.)

Letter 2809. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Because of the poor condition of the original letter this word is illegible.

2. Vicar-General of the Montauban diocese.

3. Pierre de Bertier.

4. The promised reply is not extant.

Letter 2810. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. April 11.

2. Cf. Jn 6:38. (NAB)

3. Cf. Mt 25:23. (NAB)

4. Nicolas Duperroy.

Letter 2811. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. April 11.

2. Henri de Maupas du Tour.

3. François-Étienne Caulet.

4. These words have faded from the original.

5. François Malier du Houssay.

6. François Dupuich.

7. Especially the Bull for the union of Saint-Lazare.

8. First redaction: "before a change of pontificate."

9. Sant'Antonio Abbey.

10. Renault Legendre, born in Tours on September 30, 1622, entered the Congregation of the Mission on August 16, 1643, and was ordained a priest in March 1647. He took his vows in Rome in November 1647 and was still in that city in 1659.

Letter 2812. - Unsigned autograph rough draft, Besançon Library, Ms. 1442.

1. The name of the recipient is not indicated on the rough draft, but everything points to Antoine Caignet, Vicar-General of Meaux, author of a collection of sermons published in August 1659 (*L'année pastorale contenant des prédications familières ou prosnes sur les épistres et sur les évangiles de la Messe, pour servir aux curez et aux prédicateurs apostoliques d'entretiens aux peuples les cinquante-deux dimanches de l'année.* [Paris: Jean de la Caille, 1659]).

2. Because I am poor and needy. Cf. Ps 40:18. (NAB)

3. First redaction: "I read the report enclosed in your letter and am deeply moved by it. It would appear, Monsieur, that the opinion you voice comes from the God of enlightenment and is based on the words of the Psalmist: "because I am needy and poor." The circumstances of your retreat and of the time and

place, the sentiments you had then, the fact that they have lasted until now, and the good results show that God.." We eliminated from the second redaction five useless words, which the Saint obviously decided to change, even though he did not delete them: "or for better" before "the words of the Psalmist" and "the one" before "which is an antidote."

Letter 2813. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Gilbert de Clerambault de Palluau (1659-80).

2. He was stationed in Richelieu when the problems arose that necessitated his trip to Rome, where he took his own life some time before 1659.

3. The "M. F." here is probably M[onsieur] F[érot]. In September 1659 Saint Vincent wrote to Jean Dehorgny that he was awaiting Férot's return from Richelieu (cf. vol. VIII, no. 2992).

Claude Férot, born in Saint-Quentin on July 6, 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 3, 1647, took his vows on October 15, 1649, and was ordained a priest in Agen in March 1656. He was Superior in Montmirail (1662-66).

Letter 2814. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Pierre Loisel, born in Compiègne on June 6, 1606, qualified as a Doctor of the Sorbonne on June 26, 1636. He was Pastor of Saint-Jean-en-Grève parish from June 26, 1637, to May 20, 1679, the day of his death; Chancellor of the University of Paris and Rector seven times.

2. This name is barely legible under the scratching out that covers it.

3. Pierre Loisel had been consigned to Compiègne in 1654 for rejoicing too openly at Cardinal de Retz's escape from his imprisonment in the Château of Nantes.

Letter 2815. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Saint-Caprais-de-Lerm, commune in the district of Agen (Lot-et-Garonne).

2. Jacques Robin, born in Mortiers (Charente-Maritime), entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on March 8, 1644, and took his vows on September 7, 1648.

3. Cf. Lk 14:10-11. (NAB)

4. Charles Admirault.

5. Étienne Bourdet, born in Saint-Babel (Puy-de-Dôme) on April 27, 1615, entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 9, 1638, and was ordained a priest on June 2, 1640. He was Superior in Toul (1641-42) and took his vows on June 10, 1648.

6. Claude Admirault. He and Charles were brothers.

Letter 2816. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Jacques Éveillard, born in Nogent-le-Bernard (Sarthe), entered the Congregation of the Mission on October 12, 1647, at sixteen years of age, took his vows on October 13, 1650, and was then

sent to Poland. Recalled to France the following year because of political unrest in Poland, he was given the chair of philosophy at Saint-Lazare by Saint Vincent. René Alméras appointed him Superior of Saint-Charles Seminary in 1662 but sent him during the year to Noyon in the same capacity. In 1668 he put him in charge of the Collège des Bons-Enfants. Éveillard left there in 1674 to become Superior of the Warsaw house. He found such favor with the King, Queen, and Ministers that Edme Jolly, who was dissatisfied with his administration, had to use great circumspection to recall him. Because Éveillard continued to scheme in order to remain in his position, the Superior General expelled him from the Congregation, notifying the Visitors of this in a circular letter dated June 29, 1680.

2. This place on the original has been damaged by insects.
3. Charles-Auguste de Sales.
4. Saint Francis de Sales.
5. Henri de Maupas du Tour.
6. Louis d'Estaing.

Letter 2817. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Rom 8:21. (NAB)
2. The Saint himself added, in his own handwriting: "with regard to your studies."

Letter 2818. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original signed letter.

1. Marie Vignier, wife of François, Comte de Clermont and de Tonnerre.
2. Guillaume Le Gouverneur (1640-67).
3. Philippe Le Vacher.
4. Father Chaduc.
5. Chevalier de Romilly, a slave in Tunis.
6. Nicolas Fouquet.

Letter 2819. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy written in part by the secretary, who added on the back: "Copies of the letters written by M.Vincent to M.Le Vacher on April 17 and 18, 1659."

1. Jean-Marie Canalle.
2. Jean Coquebert de Ravelon, a Knight of Malta.
3. This letter is not extant.

Letter 2820. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Cf. Lk 16:10. (NAB)

Letter 2821. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Cf. Prv 16:1. (NAB)
2. Cf. Mt 15:22-28. (NAB)

Letter 2822. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, copy. This copy was made by the secretary, subsequent to the letter of Pierre Loisel, published as no. 2814. The secretary added the following comment to his copy: "One day while M.Vincent was dictating this

letter to a Brother, in the presence of Messieurs Portail, Dehorgny, and Alméras, whom he had called together to discuss the most important affairs of the Company as was his custom, M. Dehorgny interrupted to say that the Pastor of Saint-Jean, to whom the Saint was writing, might be very surprised if he told him he did not know well enough a priest who was under his direction. To which M. Vincent replied, 'I am well aware of that, Monsieur; but even though Our Lord knew perfectly well all kinds of persons, He still said to some, "I do not know you;" and He will say this on Judgment Day because He does not know with the knowledge of approval.' [For the interpretation of this, see Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, Bk. 1, Q. I, Art. 14, 8c.] In making that statement, M. Vincent was actually saying enough to make himself understood by that Pastor, without revealing the faults of the priest. In addition to the countless acts of charity and prudence I saw this great man practice, I wanted to stress this one, which is charitable because it preserves the reputation of a priest who had not been an edifying subject in the Company, and which is prudent because he simply made known his instability, without putting it into words. He gives this Pastor reason to think that the man was not suitable for his flock or, should he want to use him, he would have no reason to complain about his answer if, in fact, he became dissatisfied with the man. It is also worthy of note that these acts of charity and prudence testify not only to the wisdom of M. Vincent but still more to his practice of drawing on the living source of the words and actions of Our Lord for everything he says and does and to regulate himself in all things according to the spirit of the Gospel, to which, however, few persons pay attention." (The priest in question here was Chrétien Daisne.)

Letter 2823. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. no. 2817.

2. Cf. no. 2815.

3. The words "nothing else is eaten, etc." are in the Saint's handwriting.

4. Celio Piccolomini.

Letter 2824. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Mt 25:21. (NAB)

2. Nicolas Duperroy.

Letter 2825. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Administrator of the Le Mans Hospital.

2. Cf. Mt 5:9. (NAB)

3. The records available to us give no indication that he was ever received into the Congregation of the Mission.

4. Pierre Aubert, a merchant in Le Mans.

5. Charles Le Blanc.

6. First redaction: "If, by chance, he asks to leave it to do something else, help him to realize that obedience is essential in the Company and that we prefer to see outside, rather than inside, a man who is willing to do only what pleases him."

7. Pierre de Grougnault.

Letter 2826. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2826a. - Property of Count de Roussy de Sales, Thorens-Glières, France, original signed letter. The editors are indebted to Sister Marie Patricia Burns, VSM, archivist of the Visitation monastery of Annecy, for providing us with a copy.

The original did not indicate the addressee, but the contents leave little doubt that it was Charles-Auguste de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, who was always favorable to the Missionaries stationed in Annecy.

1. It is uncertain whether this M.Donyer is the unnamed lawyer mentioned in no. 2532 or the person of evil intent mentioned in no. 2816. Saint Vincent seems to be alluding here to the problems the confreres in Annecy, especially M. Le Vazeux, were experiencing with the union of Saint-Sépulcre Priory to the Congregation of the Mission.

2. François Charles, born in Plessala (Côtes-du-Nord) on December 10, 1611, entered the Congregation of the Mission on March 12, 1640, and was ordained a priest during Lent of 1641. He was Director of Retreatants and of the coadjutor Brothers at Saint-Lazare and died on January 26, 1673. In the circular letter addressed to the entire Company to announce his death, Edme Jolly, Superior General, greatly praised his virtue. (Cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 245-46.)

Letter 2827. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. This is probably the letter mentioned by Collet (op. cit., vol. II, p. 539, note); he read Caset. instead of Cabel.

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1. Trier, in what is now part of Germany.

Letter 2828. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Fouquet.

2. First redaction: "the Administrators must not expect any more until they receive payment.." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2829. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

Letter 2830. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. In the preceding text, the Saint made a few additions. He himself inserted: "until the month of September," "former," "or perhaps they can take care of their business without us," and "a little."

2. Tommaso Robiolis, born in Nice (Alpes-Maritime) on August 23, 1634, entered the seminary of the Congregation of the Mission in

Rome on July 30, 1659, and took his vows there on July 30, 1661, in the presence of M.Simon. Robiolis served a time as Assistant General and died on August 5, 1701.

3. A town in Sarthe.

4. Common table;. title under which the support of a member of the Congregation of the Mission is guaranteed; such a guarantee is required to receive the sacrament of Holy Orders.

5. Hilarion Rancati.

6. Pietro Paolo Baliano, born in Genoa on February 3, 1628, entered the Congregation of the Mission there on November 1, 1649, was ordained during Lent of 1652, and took his vows on September 8, 1652.

7. Antonio Morando, born in Croce, Tortona diocese (Italy), on January 13, 1613, was ordained a priest on September 20, 1636. He entered the Internal Seminary of the Congregation of the Mission in Genoa on March 25, 1650, took his vows in September 1652, and died on July 15, 1694. His obituary (cf. Notices, vol. II, pp. 439-47) is a great tribute to his virtue.

8. Martio Ginetti was appointed Cardinal on January 19, 1626, then Legate in Ferrara, Legate a latere. in Germany; Bishop of Albano, Sabina, and Porto. He was also Cardinal-Vicar and sub-Dean of the Sacred College when he died at eighty-six years of age on March 1, 1671.

9. Jacques Legouz.

10. François Malier du Houssay.

11. In this context "bankers" means "forwarding agent" at the Court of Rome. These officials were responsible for sending out all the Bulls, dispensations, and other documents issued in the Roman Court.

Letter 2831. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Françoise Doujat, widow of Omer Talon, Solicitor-General at the Parlement. She died on April 17, 1667.

2. The Treaty of the Pyrenees (between France and Spain) was being drawn up and, after prolonged discussion, would be signed on November 7, 1659. The areas in which Jean Parre was working would now know peace after the long periods of devastation.

By this treaty Louis XIV married the Spanish Infanta, Maria Teresa, eldest daughter of the Spanish King, Felipe IV. This treaty marked the end of the Spanish ascendancy in Europe, which now passed to France.

3. Notre-Dame-de-Liesse (Aisne).

Letter 2832. - Archives of the Diocese of Cahors, Alain de Solminihac Collection, notebook, copy made from the original.

1. For information about this book see no. 2806, no. 9.

2. Jean Ferrier, born in Valadi (Aveyron) on January 20, 1614, entered the Society of Jesus on April 22, 1632, was appointed confessor to the King in 1670, and died in Paris on October 29, 1674. He was the author of several works against the Jansenists.

3. Jean Ferrier, *Les sentimens des plus considérables casuistes sur la probabilité des opinions dans la morale.* (Toulouse, 1659). The work is dedicated to Pierre de Marca, Archbishop of Toulouse at the time (1654-62).

Probabilism is a theory that any solidly probable course may be followed in disputed moral questions, even though an opposed course of action is or appears more probable.

4. Pierre de Marca born in Gans (Basses-Pyrénées) on January 24, 1594 became a magistrate and, on April 16, 1631, a widower with the care of four children. He was a Councillor and then Minister of State. Although he had decided to enter the priesthood, he was sent to Catalonia as Visitor and Intendant-General (1644-51). He was confirmed as Bishop of Couserans at the consistory of January 13, 1648. In Barcelona he received Minor Orders on March 25, 1648, subdiaconate on March 28, diaconate on March 29, and priesthood on April 2. De Marca was consecrated a Bishop in Narbonne on October 25, 1648, and continued his service in Catalonia until he took possession of the Couserans diocese on August 3, 1651. On March 23, 1654, he was promoted to the office of Archbishop of Toulouse. Although named Archbishop of Paris on June 5, 1662, he died on June 29 of the same year and was buried in the Archbishops' crypt of Notre-Dame Cathedral.

5. Isaac Habert (1645-68).

6. François de Bosquet, Administrator for Justice in Languedoc, who later became Bishop of Lodève (1648-57), then of Montpellier (1657-76). He died on June 24, 1676. (Cf. Abbé Paul-Émile-Marie-Joseph Henry, *François Bosquet.* [Paris: Ernest Thorin, 1889].)

7. Hippolyte Féret.

8. Antoine de Salignac, Marquis de Magnac, Lieutenant-General in the government of Upper and Lower Marche. He was also Fénelon's uncle.

9. Nicolas Pavillon.

10. Louis de Lévy de Ventadour (1655-79).

11. The Bourges diocese was headed by Anne de Lévy de Ventadour (1651-62).

12. Nicolas Sevin.

Letter 2833. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Ernestine de Ligne-Aremberg.

2. Principal town of a canton in Aisne.

3. This sentence is in the Saint's handwriting.

4. Denis Pinson, born in Villers-sous-Saint-Leu (Oise) in 1630, entered the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother on July 17, 1654, at twenty-four years of age.

Letter 2834. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Nicolas Duperry.

Letter 2835. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original autograph letter; formerly the property of the Carmelite monks of Rennes.

1. François de Bosquet (1655-76).
2. Philippe Le Vacher.
3. After the letter had been signed, this first part of the postscript was inserted in the blank section on the original between "I am, in His love" and "your most humble servant."
4. First redaction: "M.Beure's." Jacques Beure is listed in the personnel catalogue, but there is no Bidre.
5. Nicolas Get, Firmin Get's brother.

Letter 2836. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, copy made from the original in the Hains Family Collection, Marseilles.

1. Philippe Le Vacher.
2. Nicolas Fouquet.
3. François Constans, Chancellor of Brother Jean Barreau, the Consul in Algiers.
4. Cf. Mt 6:24. (NAB)
5. Vital Bernusset, a slave held in Nauplia (Návplion), a town and port in the Peloponnesus (Greece).

Letter 2837. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Coste originally identified this man as Maria Emmanuele Brignole, Marchese di Grappoli, in Tuscany, son of Antonio Giulio Brignole, who had entered the Jesuits on March 11, 1652. In a later unpublished note on this, Coste states that it was "the son of Rodolfo Maria who made the donation. M.Pesnelle was unaware that he had doubtlessly acted without his parents knowledge."
2. Cf. Mt 20:1. (NAB)
3. Giovanni Lavanino (or Langino), born in the village of San Marco, Genoa diocese on December 27, 1641, entered the Congregation of the Mission in Genoa as a coadjutor Brother on October 9, 1659, and took his vows there on October 20, 1667, in the presence of M.Pesnelle.

Letter 2838. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Lk 9:58. (NAB)
2. Rodolfo Maria Brignole (cf. no. 2837, n. 1).
3. Nicolò di Bagno.
4. Ferdinand de Neufville de Villeroy had been Coadjutor to his uncle, Achille de Harlay de Sancy since 1644. When the latter died (November 20, 1646), Neufville succeeded him, remaining Bishop of Saint-Malo until 1657, when he was named Bishop of Chartres.

Letter 2839. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Originally, these words were followed by the ones at the end of the letter, "dear Brother, etc." before the signature, which was separated from them by a large blank space. After the letter was finished, the secretary inserted in that space the news about Parre's nephew and M.Carlier. That is why the phrase "I am, with the heart God knows, etc." seems incomplete.

Letter 2840. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, Conférences spirituelles tenues pour les Filles de la Charité, SV 17, p. 648.

Letter 2841. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. First redaction: "to the whole diocese." The correction is in the Saint's handwriting.

2. Balthazar Grangier de Liverdi.

3. Cf. Mt 9:38. (NAB)

Letter 2842. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Lk 17:10. (NAB)

2. Antonio Bruno had taken his vows on April 28.

3. Marchese Durazzo, who had arrived in Paris on April 6.

Letter 2843. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Sevin.

2. François-Étienne Caulet.

3. Marcello di Santa Croce.

4. The personnel catalogue states: "Nicolas Étienne, born on September 17, 1634, was admitted on August 8, 1653, provided he remain a seminarian all his life because of the serious deformity of one of his hands. He took his vows on August 8, 1655, and with a dispensation was ordained a priest on August 31, 1659, on condition that he go to Madagascar." (Cf. Notices, vol. I, p. 480.) Étienne had already applied to go as a catechist; it was Saint Vincent who sought the dispensation for his ordination. He set off the first time in 1660 but could not land and had to return to France. In May 1663 he left again, arriving in Madagascar in September. His apostolate was short-lived: Dian Mananghe, a Malagasy chief who had promised to receive Baptism, invited him to dinner, then imprisoned and murdered him, along with Brother Philippe Patte and some indigenous Christians.

Coste and Notices, vol. V (Supplement), p. 218, give February 27, 1664, as the date of the massacre. Notices, vol. III, pp. 350-68, gives a fuller biography of Étienne: on p. 350 it states that he died on March 4, while on p. 367 it says "in the first week of Lent 1664." A short account of Brother Patte is given on pp. 369-71 of the latter, which states that he died with Étienne on March 4. In both instances, Mémoires de la Congrégation de la Mission. Madagascar, vol. IX, is cited; Coste specifies pp. 374-494.

5. Ignace-Joseph de Marthe, born in Arras on March 19, 1637, entered the seminary of the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on July 7, 1654, and took his vows on October 14, 1656, in the presence of M. Berthe. He was Superior in Noyon (1668-74) and Toul (1678-83).

6. François Pallu, born in Tours in 1626, was a Canon of Saint-Martin and one of the founders of the Foreign Missions Society [Société des Missions-Étrangères]. In 1655 he went on a

pilgrimage to Rome with some friends, but a letter from the Duchesse d'Aiguillon influenced him to approach Pope Alexander VII and Cardinal di Bagno for the erection of Vicariates Apostolic in the Far East. The Pope received the suggestion favorably and appointed a commission of four Cardinals to study it. On May 13, 1658, Propaganda Fide approved the report presented to it and, on August 14 François Pallu was appointed Titular Bishop of Heliopolis and Vicar Apostolic of Tonkin, Laos, and southwest China. He died in Moyang, China, on October 29, 1684. (Cf. manuscript life of François Pallu, Archives of the Missions-Étrangères, vol. 106.)

7. Henri de Maupas du Tour.

Letter 2844. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Near Rethel (Ardennes).

2. Alexandre Véronne.

Letter 2845. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. A small locality near Saintes (Charente-Maritime).

Letter 2846. - Archives of Propaganda Fide, Africa 9-10, Madagascar-Morocco, no. 252, original in Italian.

1. The request made in this petition was granted on May 27, 1659.

2. Cf. nos. 2616-17 and 2619-20.

Letter 2847. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Cf. no. 2820.

Letter 2848. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter. There is also an unsigned letter, perhaps a rough draft, in the Archives of the Mission, Paris.

1. The Saint was well informed because the preliminaries of the peace treaty were signed on June 4. The negotiations, begun in 1658, lasted another several months; the Treaty of the Pyrenees was signed on November 7, 1659.

2. Nicolas Duperroy.

3. Following this, the secretary had first written: "Then, too, has anyone ever seen a Polish person come to France expressly to have his wounds dressed? That seems to be a temptation." He then crossed it out and added: "Nevertheless, if we could be sure that such a long journey would not make this good Missionary unwell and he could be completely cured once he was here, we would be delighted to see him and to give him this satisfaction. It would be for the good of the Company and the glory of God. But, given the doubt and appearances to the contrary, I think he should abandon himself to the holy guidance of God and remain in peace. I embrace him with all the affection of my heart, and you as well, Monsieur, for whom I am, in the love of O[ur] L[ord], your most humble servant." This ending did not satisfy Saint Vincent, who had the letter rewritten and concluded it in another way.

Letter 2849. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

Letter 2850. - Archives of the Mission, Turin, original signed letter.

1. Sant'Antonio Abbey.
2. A town in Piedmont. With regard to this mission see Abelly, op. cit., bk. II, chap. I, sect. VI, p. 90.
3. René Alméras the younger.
4. Étienne Bourdet.
5. Charles Admirault.
6. The Oratory of Saint Philip Neri.

Letter 2850a. - Ducournau Archives, Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Mission, Saint Vincent's Seminary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA), original signed letter; gift of St. John's University, New York. Its authenticity was verified by the antiquarian Giovanni Puccinelli (1922) and, more recently by Father Angelo Coppo, C.M.

1. The rest of the letter is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2851. - Reg. 2, p. 53.

1. The copyist of Register 2 omitted the name of Mark Cogley, to whom this letter obviously refers.
2. The Annecy house.
3. Thomas Berthe.
4. This departure is mentioned in a letter of October 1646 to Gilbert Cuissot (cf. vol. III, no. 879).

Letter 2852. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2853. - Lyons manuscript.

1. Apparently, the person in question here was mentioned prior to this segment of the Lyons manuscript, as indicated in n. 3. If this is correct, and because of the panegyric nature of the contents, 1659 can be presumed for the date of this letter.
2. If Brother Nicolas Perrin is the person eulogized here, then his Superior in Troyes would be François Dupuich.
3. Nicolas Perrin, born in Troussey (Meuse), entered the Congregation of the Mission in Paris on January 11, 1642, at twenty-five years of age. He took his vows on November 20, 1646, in the presence of M. Berthe, and renewed them in 1656. Perrin died in Troyes in 1659.

Letter 2854. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

1. Cf. Lk 9:23. (NAB)
2. Cf. Mt 11:30. (NAB)
3. Cf. Rom 8:21. (NAB)
4. Cf. Mt 21:5. (NAB)

Letter 2855. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2856. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Next came the words, "...because we would rather follow his order than our determination," which were crossed out.

2. The first establishment of the Priests of the Mission on the island of Corsica was in Bastia in 1678.

3. The rest of this letter is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2857. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Giacomo Corradi.

2. The letter written by the secretary stopped here; the rest is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2858. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2859. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. A Lady of Charity in Paris.

Letter 2860. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. François-Étienne Caulet.

2. In no. 2843.

Letter 2861. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

Letter 2862. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft, original in Latin.

1. This date has been assigned because Saint Vincent mentions this letter to Pope Alexander VII in two other letters that he wrote on June 6 (cf. nos. 2861 and 2863).

Letter 2863. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, rough draft in the secretary's handwriting.

1. Louise-Eugénie de Fontaine (Fonteines) was born in Paris of Huguenot parents on March 13, 1608, and entered the Visitation Monastery (rue Saint-Antoine) in 1630, seven years after her abjuration of heresy. She soon became Mistress of Novices; after her election as Superior in 1641, she was reelected so often that the convent had her at its head for thirty-three years. In 1644 she went to La Perrine Abbey near Le Mans to establish the renewal. On her return, the Archbishop of Paris asked her to work on the Rule of Port-Royal Abbey. Saint Vincent, who observed her behavior in certain difficult situations, stated that "an angel could not have comported herself with more virtue." (Cf. Sainte Jeanne-Françoise Frémyot de Chantal. Sa vie et ses oeuvres. [8 vols., Paris: Plon, 1874-80], vol. VIII, p. 446, note.) She died September 29, 1694, at the age of eighty-six, leaving the reputation of a holy religious. "God always blessed her leadership and her undertakings," states the Book of Professions. (Arch. Nat. LL 1718). Her biography has been written by Jacqueline-Marie du Plessis Bonneau, Vie de la vénérable Mère Louise-Eugénie de Fontaine, religieuse et quatrième supérieure du premier monastère de la Visitation Sainte-Marie de Paris. (Paris: F. Muguet, 1696).

Letter 2864. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. In the personnel lists that are available to us, there is no listing for a Caron. We know from no. 2870 (June 13, 1659) that he was to be ordained, but we learn from a number of letters in vol. VIII that he left the Company.

2. The last four words are in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2865. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Barthélemy d'Elbène.

Letter 2866. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Maréchal de Fabert.

2. Maréchal de Fabert.

3. Saint Vincent seems to think that a plan which was still only a proposal had been realized. The Marquis de Fabert had told Mazarin he would go, as leader of the officers and soldiers made available by the general peace, to help the Venetians, who were at war with the Turks. On May 11, he wrote to his friend d'Andilly: "Before dying, I am determined to make a foray against the Turks. The peace now in place between France and Spain should convince me that men of my profession are now useless to the King. If his Majesty decides to send an army to Venice, I am fully resolved to ask to go there." Mazarin was satisfied with the good will of the Governor of Sedan. The expedition took place in June 1660, but with only a small contingent of soldiers and without the Marquis de Fabert (cf. Bourelly, *op. cit.*, vol. II, pp. 226-33).

Letter 2867. - Jules Gossin, *Saint Vincent de Paul peint par ses écrits*. (Paris: J.J. Blaise, 1834), p. 467, copied from the original made available by Alexandre Martin. This letter is very similar to no. 2861 of June 6, written to Edme Jolly, which the Saint included in the one to Mother Louise-Eugénie de Fontaine (cf. no. 2863) to be enclosed with her packet of petitions to be sent to Rome. The Saint seems to have written this second letter (no. 2867) to be sent directly to M.Jolly; perhaps no. 2861 was never mailed.

Letter 2868. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Cf. Mt 25:21. (NAB)

2. François de Bosquet.

3. The words "that area" are scratched out in the original. Apparently, this was not done either by the Saint or by his secretary.

4. Philippe Le Vacher.

5. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2869. - Reg. 2, p. 139. Abelly states (*op. cit.*, bk. III, chap. XXIV, sect. 1, p. 346) that the original was in the Saint's handwriting.

1. Nos. 2908 and 2957 (vol. VIII) give us reason to think this letter was probably written in 1659. It is certainly posterior to Antoine Durand's assignment to Agde (1656).

2. Perhaps François Brisjonc or Brother Jean Thierry (cf. vol. VIII, no. 2908).

Thierry, born in Cahors, entered the Marseilles Seminary of the Congregation of the Mission as a coadjutor Brother in 1648, at twenty years of age.

Letter 2870. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The document is in very poor condition.

1. Date written on the back of the letter by the secretary.

2. Robert de Lagrange, born in Lille (Nord) on November 1, 1636, entered the Congregation of the Mission at the Paris Seminary on October 19, 1655, and took his vows on October 19, 1657, in the presence of M. Delespiney.

Letter 2871. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Date of M. Berthe's visitation of the house in Toul.

2. Superior of the Montmirail house.

3. The Duc de Noirmoutiers and his wife Renée-Julie Aubery had three children: one daughter, named Yolande-Julie, and two sons.

4. The six or seven lines that follow in the original are too incomplete for us to reconstruct the text. There is some question in them about a lease.

Letter 2872. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The upper right-hand corner is badly damaged by mildew.

1. Date given by Collet (op. cit., vol. II, p. 145). The year is given on the back of the letter.

2. A town in Aisne.

3. On April 20, 1659, a two-hundred-year-old lime tree was felled in Fieulaine, near Saint-Quentin. Workers who were cutting it down uncovered a small statue of the Blessed Virgin, to which rumor attributed some miracles. This was the origin of the pilgrimage to Notre-Dame-de-Paix. A chapel was soon built near the site, and people flocked to it. (Cf. [Charles Bourdin], *Histoire de ce qui s'est passé de plus remarquable à l'occasion d'une image de la sainte Vierge, dite Notre-Dame-de-Paix, nouvellement trouvée au village de Fieulaine.* [Saint-Quentin: C. Lequeux, 1662].)

Letter 2873. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The poor condition of the original obliged us to reconstruct several sentences.

1. The words, from "for the salvation.." are in the Saint's handwriting.

2. A Spanish coin; at that time, the patagon was worth about three livres tournois.

3. A word left out of the original.

4. Jean Dolce.

5. Jacques-Raoul de la Guibourgère, born in 1589, was the widower of Yvonne de Charette and father of several children when he was ordained. In 1631 he succeeded his uncle as Bishop of Saintes, then went on to Maillezais, and finally to La Rochelle when the

episcopal See was transferred there. Very few other bishops were so closely associated with Saint Vincent. He died in 1661.

6. In a note that filled the last page of the Saint's letter, which was blank, Pierre Daverout himself informs us that a Frenchman named Lasserre lent him in Lisbon the money he needed for his journey (143 livres 15 sols) and asked that this amount be reimbursed to the Superior of the Franciscans of Toulouse, who was supposed to use it in "the service of Our Lady" in their convent chapel.

7. The postscript is in the Saint's handwriting.

Letter 2874. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy, written in Latin.

1. June 17.

Letter 2875. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft in the secretary's handwriting. The document is in poor condition.

1. Seigneur de Saint-Julien and Treasurer for France in Lyons.

2. Cf. 1 Cor 7:9. (NAB)

Letter 2876. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. This date is also written on the back of the original.

2. Charles Le Blanc.

3. The five lines that follow in the original cannot be deciphered.

4. Domfront-en-Champagne (Sarthe), near Le Mans.

Letter 2877. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, unsigned rough draft. The text is mutilated; the few words that are missing are found in Reg. 2, p. 122.

1. Jean du Haut de Salies (1658-81).

2. M. de Lanepian.

Letter 2878. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. Date written on the back by the secretary.

2. Only three words of the four lines that followed on the original remain.

Letter 2879. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original signed letter.

1. Nicolas Duperroy.

2. Albert Tholibowski.

3. Cf. Mt 9:37-38. (NAB)

4. Françoise Douelle.

Letter 2880. - Archives of the Diocese of Cahors, Alain de Solminihac Collection, notebook, copy made from the original.

1. Cf. no. 2832.

2. The Apologie des casuistes.

3. Antoine de Salignac, Marquis de Magnac.

Letter 2881. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The passage referring to Cardinal Durazzo of Genoa shows that this letter was written after no. 2870 and before no. 2885.

2. Francesco Maldachini, born in Viterbo on April 12, 1621, was created Cardinal on October 7, 1647, and died in Nettuno in 1700.

3. Cardinal Durazzo had been in Rome since June 14.

Letter 2882. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

Letter 2883. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. First redaction: "it will not depend on us, God willing, but on God."

2. François de Bosquet.

Letter 2884. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. Because the letter is torn, part of the text is missing.

1. Philippe Le Vacher.

Letter 2885. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter.

1. The sentence that reads: "I heard that the Cardinal of Genoa left for Rome on the ninth of this month," shows clearly that the letter is from the month of June; since it took at least two weeks for the mail from Genoa to arrive, it can only have been written at the end of the month.

2. The French Friars Minor had a convent in Rome, at Trinità del Monte, which was under the protection of the French Kings. Having heard that Jean Guillard, the new Vicar-General of the Order, intended to make a visitation of their house--although the preceding one had taken place less than six years before--some of the Friars protested loudly and declared that they would not submit to it. The visitation took place, and the Visitor thought it advisable to take strong measures against the malcontents. It was no sooner finished when Étienne Gueffier entered the monastery in his capacity of Agent of the King and ordered two of the Friars to go to the Court of the King of France to give an account of their actions. This occurred on May 24, 1659. Such was the origin of the sad affair which, for two years, caused strife between the pontifical authorities and the royal power. (Cf. Archives des Affaires étrangères, Rome 137, pièces diverses, especially the documents in fols. 546 and 576.)

3. Of the six lines that follow in the original, only isolated words remain, and it is difficult to make any connection between them.

Letter 2886. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, seventeenth-century copy.

Letter 2887. - Archives of the Mission, Paris, original signed letter. The original has deteriorated. The bracketed words are taken from Register 2, p. 17.

1. An inflammation of the eyes.

APPENDIX

Appendix 1. - Archives of the Mission, Krakow, original autograph letter. Since this letter and the two that follow were written in the name and by order of Saint Vincent, they have been included in the Appendix.

1. Victor Duperroy.

Appendix 2. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, Recueil de pièces relatives aux Filles de la Charité, p. 682.

1. This date has been assigned because of the reference to the Saint-Fargeau Hospital, to which the Sisters were called by the Duchesse de Montpensier in March 1657.

2. Anne-Marie-Louise d'Orléans, Duchesse de Montpensier.

3. Louise de Béon, a Lady of Charity devoted to Saint Vincent and his work, was the daughter of Louise de Luxembourg-Brienne and Bernard de Béon, Intendant of Saintonge, Angoulême, and the territory of Aunis. She was also the wife of Henri-Auguste de Loménie, Comte de Brienne, Secretary of State. The Daughters of Providence owed much to her charity. Louise de Béon died on September 2, 1665.

4. For the hospital.

Appendix 3. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original unsigned letter.

1. The note given below, which Saint Louise received from Hippolyte Féret, allows us to assign this date.

2. Hippolyte Féret. He had written the following to Saint Louise: "Paris, January 9, 1659. Mademoiselle Le Gras is very humbly requested to admit the bearer of this note into her house for an eight-day spiritual retreat. She plans to become an associate of the Sisters of the Charity of the parishes, if her vocation is recognized as such. Your most humble servant, H. FÉRET." Both notes are written on the same sheet of paper.

Appendix 4. - Archives of the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, original autograph letter.

1. To do bloodletting.