



Rules concerning budgets and non-budgeted expenses (Late 1876)

We, Charles-Martial Allemand-Lavigerie, by the grace of God and favour of the Apostolic See, Delegate Apostolic for the Mission of the Sahara and the Sudan,

Taking account of the accounts of the Society of Missionaries of Africa of Algiers for the current year 1876 and the foregoing years,

Taking account of the deliberations of the Council of the same Society during the same period,

Taking account of the Decisions in Chapter of the same Society held in 1875,

Considering that the conclusion of these various documents is that the expenses for the Society of Missionaries were and are still excessive and out of all proportion to the fixed resources,

Considering that these excessive expenses arise above all from the ease with which the bursars of the various houses on the one hand and the Council members on the other make or approve extraordinary expenses.

Considering that it is our most strict duty to keep hold on such a state of affairs so that it may not be extended, for it will lead to financial disasters, as detrimental to the works of the Mission as dishonourable for religion itself,

In the name of God, we have ordered and order what follows in the name of Holy Obedience, declaring the obligation *sub gravi* on those concerned with these measures:

Art. I – We remind the Treasurer that he may not pay out any sum other than that brought in the annual budget of each house, without the written authorisation of the Council and Us.

Art. II – No expense outside the ordinary budget forecast by the Council at the start of each year for each house and the whole of the Work may be incurred without the prior authorisation of the said Council agreed unanimously by the members present and our written approval.

Art. III - Expenses incurred outside of these conditions will remain the personal responsibility of those who incurred them or ordered them; the Treasurer of the Work cannot meet them. The same applies to money lost or compromised by a Missionary's own clumsy fault.

Art. IV – Separately from the spiritual sanction mentioned above, those who have spent, allow to have spent, lose or compromise the money or the goods of the Work and the Society contrary to the rules prescribed in article II, could be sentenced by the Council, with our approval, to reimburse the fund with the sums missing or to obtain this money by charity collections if they cannot do otherwise.

Art. V – The present Ruling will be written into the logbook of Council Decisions and the Reverend Father Vicar will make it known to all the members of the Society, in the manner that he deems best.

