



**1879:** Lavigerie stays in Vals-les-Bains until 23rd August for health reasons.

### Letter to Father Deguerry (6 August 1885)

I completely agree with your ideas. It is necessary to abandon any thought of buying in Jerusalem since the money brings in so little there, and to rely entirely on Jaffa or Beirut to which one could add Alexandria. If the conditions there are good, it is possible to get 8% of one's money there. So much for the prebendary funds. As for the money I have at my disposal, I would still accept to buy land for a sum of about 200,000 francs, from the sole point of view of capital gain, if this would increase rapidly. In order to deal with such matters, one must necessarily have a very sure and highly knowledgeable man in each of the three cities mentioned above. You could take advantage of the holidays to acquire deeper knowledge on the spot. I recommend these serious matters, especially the prebendary fund, which is more pressing. With regard to money, when you need it, let me know by telegraph, and tell me where you want it to be held at your disposal in order to settle your bills, I will send it to you immediately.

Farewell, my dear Friend, receive the new assurance of my tender and paternal affection, for you first of all and then for your good confreres, and believe that I am one at heart with you in Our Lord. If I did not fear that you were going to inflict me with bugs and other insects in the house you rented for me, I would say: go and live there with the fathers and the children for the end of the summer, so that the rent will not be lost. I leave the decision up to you. But be warned that if I find a single bedbug there when I go next spring, I don't know which one of you two I'll crush the most.

### Letter to Fr Deguerry (2 August 1888)

My Dear Friend,

I do not have time to tell you anything today other than that I have received your letter concerning the report on the junior seminary. This upset me considerably, all the more because the dispositions of the Ministry of Religious Affairs are becoming worse day by day. I have at present to ask you [to send me] as soon as possible all that exists in the correspondence of the missionaries and in their diaries about Mr Joubert: his activity, the services that he has rendered, etc. I wish, in fact, to prepare in the form of a letter a little note about him, on the one hand out of justice to him, and on the other to present him as an example for those who would one day wish to follow in his footsteps. Please be so kind, therefore, to have these extracts copied for me by your novices and send them to me; they must include the passages concerning him since the beginning, that is eight years ago. Send all this for me to rue du Regard, n° 11, because I shall be back in Paris Wednesday, or Thursday at the latest.

