1884: Lavigerie inaugurates the Arabic course at the scholasticate of Carthage.

1886: Foundation of a procure in Rome in the establishment of Saint Nicolas des Lorrains.

Letter to the mother of Father Pascal (15th February 1879)

A little later, he spoke, with all his zealous ardour, of their hopes for the Mission. 'As we come nearer to our Mission, we feel our love increasing for it. We do not know if the peoples who live along the shores of the Great Lakes are as good as the Wanyamwezi, but our porters are ordinarily very cheerful and friendly; they seem to have great trust in us. If we were living among them, it seems we would have good Christians in a very short time.'

In a subsequent letter to Father Deguerry from Toupa (Usagara), about thirty days' journey from the coast, he expressed similar thoughts. 'Fever still continues to plague us a bit. It is very rare for us to have a full complement at mealtimes. However, these trials are far from putting us down. We will continue on our way with the same cheerfulness and courage as at the outset. We pray the Lord that these sufferings will benefit the poor souls towards whom we are sent. On your part, please pray for us.

Ten days later, on the 27th of July a letter from another Missionary gave news of the almost complete recovery of your dear son. However, this improvement did not last long. The unbelievable fatigue and deprivation the travellers endured, principally in the inhospitable crossing of Ugogo led to a relapse more serious than the initial bouts of illness.

On the 14th of August, the Missionaries halted to observe the Assumption of Our Lady by the celebration of the liturgy. It was probably the first time since the creation of the world that the triumphal hymns of Mary rang out in the midst of the forests of Equatorial Africa. They were all imbued by a holy joy at this thought, but your dear son in particular was, whose tender devotion to the Mother of God you know. He already had a premonition that he would end his days beside her in Heaven, on the Octave of the Assumption.

Indeed, the following day, he experienced much more fatigue in a village named M'Humpa. The curiosity of the inhabitants beset the Missionaries, but without affecting for a moment his charity or patience. He spent a very troubled night. The following day, as they were leaving, he absolutely refused to be carried in a hammock, so as not to deprive any other of his sick confreres. He wanted with all his strength to ride his donkey. That day, they could only travel two hours; the caravan had to halt at Ngoudoukou. It was there that your dear child was destined to end his sufferings and crown his sacrifice.

The night of the 17th and 18th August was even worse than the previous ones. On Sunday the 18th, the Missionaries of Tanganika took an oath to Our Lord to obtain the healing of their Superior. As for him, his resignation was perfect and his piety admirable. In the intervals that his illness gave him, he did not cease to offer the sacrifice of his life to God and to exhort his confreres to submit to the holy Will of God. That day was the feast of Saint Joachim, his Patron Saint. He was so weakened that the Missionaries thought he was going to die at any moment. He himself thought so and confided his last recommendations for his dear Superiors, his beloved parents, you, his father and mother, asking the Lord to console you and offering to God the pain of dying so far from you. However, he survived until the next day, always responding with the greatest edification to the words addressed to him.

In the afternoon, Father Livinhac, Superior of the Mission of Lakes Victoria and Albert, gave him the Last Sacraments, and commended his soul to God. The diary of the Missionaries read, 'It seemed as if our revered Superior was only waiting for the final words of Holy Church to take his leave of this earth. He breathed his last at half-past three.' His last agony was calm. Lying on his mat, in his travelling tent, he seemed ready to fall asleep. Indeed, he did sleep the slumber of life, with admirable transports of charity for this mission that he had so much desired.