



**1863:** Lavigerie is proposed bishop of Nancy-Toul

**1881:** foundation of St Joseph of Mbaburu in the vicariate of Nyanza. The station is suppressed on 15 June 1882.

**Letter to the Missionaries of the community at Carthage (Tunisia) (19th March 1879).**

My dear Sons,

I have received the information you sent me, and I admired the terseness with which you expressed the fear that you have no doubt wasted my time. Nevertheless, I pray you not to stop on account of this fear: I cannot have a better, more agreeable occupation than that of reading what you write to me. The more you communicate your thoughts to me, and you will give me details of your mission, the more you will enable me to direct you from a distance.

I asked you to keep an accurate and detailed journal of all that is happening of interest among you and around you. I repeat it so as to make of it a serious obligation for you. I count on Father Delattre to keep this diary and to send it to me. Let him not forget that it is only the meticulous and precise details that are capable of rendering such a work interesting, and let him not be afraid to give plenty space to his research and his archaeological discoveries. What he wrote to me the other day is full of interest.

In this connection, however, I have to tell him of a terrible reprimand I received on his behalf from Mr de Buisseret. This admirable President of the Oeuvres de Saint Louis claims that Father Delattre distributed his study notes and even his archaeological finds more or less in all directions. He asks all this to be kept together, so as to form a worthy collection for the great Saint Louis enterprise. He begs me to rule that no room should be withdrawn from the Archaeological Museum begun in your house.

He would also like the studies and discoveries to be published together and regularly, every three months, for example, in some journal to be determined, or communicated to an Academy review, for example, the *Inscriptions et Belles Lettres*. After having thoroughly reflected on them, I find the complaints and observations of Mr. de Buisseret perfectly well founded, and I think I ought therefore to impose sanctions on them by the explicit orders which follow, and of which I entrust the implementation to the conscience of Father Delattre, and the

supervision of the Rev. Fr. Superior. I therefore rule:

1) That no fragment, inscription, money, statue, etc. may be given, sold or sent to anyone outside of Saint-Louis without my express written authorisation;

2) That no communication may be made to any Company or Review except with my written authorisation, and scrutiny by myself of such work;

3) That this work will be addressed to me, therefore, at the end of each quarter by the Rev. Fr. Delattre; that it is only after reading them that I will decide whether they can be sent, and to whom.

I repeat, these are not counsels I give here; they are express orders, formulated after mature reflection, and to which I wish you to be faithful. At the same time, I can only encourage Father Delattre in the path he has undertaken, and congratulate him on his zeal. The measures I have taken have only one aim, that of highlighting the fruits of his work.

I hope that the excavations that will take place on the occasion of the next constructions will enable substantial results, for they seem to be considerable. I would need to know, as soon as possible, at what precise depth the original soil is found, on the top of the hill where the buildings are to be erected. I think we can have it almost in the excavations I had made eighteen months ago on what we thought were the ruins of the temple of the *Dea Caelestis*. But we must make sure of it again.

