



**1891:** Foundation of the station of Our Lady of Hope (Ussoga) in the Upper Nile region. The station is closed in mid-October 1891.

**1891:** Foundation in Kasozi, abandoned in February 1892, resumed on 2 April 1892 and transferred to Villa Mariya on 15 May 1892.

### Letter to the missionaries of Lake Tanganika (24th March 1883)

My dear Sons,

After these general remarks, I have several particular questions to put to you and shall go through them one after the other. All that follows is addressed especially to Father Guillet.

1 – Regarding the mission post at Ujiji, there must have been some serious ambiguity either in Father Charbonnier's way of expressing himself or in your way of understanding him. In any case, the Council and I were very surprised to see that you had gone to this mission post yourself and had set up a mission station according to the rules. It has been unanimously decided that there should only be a simple procure at Ujiji and it would be our wish that the running of this procure could be entrusted to someone who does not belong to the mission.

So if you can find someone intelligent who might be able to purchase your provisions and send off your letters, since that is what the job boils down to, you must give him this responsibility straight away and then all of you, priests and auxiliaries, must withdraw, returning only from time to time when it proves necessary. If you cannot find anyone outside the mission, then just give the job to a dedicated auxiliary who would be willing to accept it for the love of God and whom you could alternate every month or two with one of his colleagues, so as not to deprive him of his religious duties. But, I say it again, neither you nor any other Father, nor any Brother must remain in this place because the mission is impossible there. With the three Fathers and the two auxiliaries who will arrive there from Tabora, where I asked for this, you will have a good number of personnel. Apart from yourself, there will be Father Coulbois, the superior of the caravan, Father Randabel, Father Delaunay, Father Vincke, Brother Jérôme, Brother Gérard, Mr Joubert, Mr Van Mell, Mr Hildebrand and Mr Tailleu, auxiliaries.

We reckon that with all these. You can easily man four mission posts: two on the lake shore where the River Congo has its source, that is on the western side; and two to the east or the south or the

north. It is up to you to consult with your confreres where these posts should be set up. We think that Muronena and Roussavia are good ideal places. For the other two, you must place them according to your knowledge of the area. I must add, however, that the King of the Belgians has written to me personally to ask me to establish a post near Karema; he is insistent about this. You will be the superior of the first of these four mission posts; Father Coulbois superior of the second, Father Delaunay superior of the third and Father Moinet superior of the fourth. We appoint Father Coulbois as your assistant and vice-superior of the whole mission. He will replace you in the event of your being absent and you should always consult him about all matters, whatever their importance.

Father Coulbois is a priest of outstanding merit; for several years he was assistant priest at the cathedral in Nevers and only reluctantly did his bishop allow him to come to us. If he had had a mission experience, we could have answered your repeated prayers and given him responsibility as superior. But we don't think we can do this at present, and you must resign yourself to continue to carry this burden.

2 – It still distresses me to see that some of the mission posts you have chosen are not up to the desired standards of cleanliness; since I see that some confreres are complaining of prolonged illnesses or of problems caused by the climate. As you are going to reorganise your posts or create new ones, I give you strict orders to establish these in healthy places, that is on higher ground and far from any marshes. This is an essential requirement, since no-one can work if they are sick and people living in unhealthy places always fall sick. I also instruct you to avoid all the careless actions which have proved so disastrous in the past.

