



**Letter to Father Bresson in Jerusalem (26th March 1883)**

My dear Son,

I am writing to Father Toulotte and do not want to send off my letter without first thanking you for the one you wrote to me shortly after your arrival in Jerusalem. The way you describe your journey reminds me of mine and stirred memories which I shall always hold dear. If it were left entirely up to me, I should want to finish my days in Jerusalem, next to the Blessed Virgin's cradle and the tomb of Our Lord.

Spend your time there well. You have a very interesting mission to fulfil, which can be of great service to religion, if, by using your intelligence, you put into it zeal and a spirit of faith. Here, everything is going as it usual does for the moment, but the future looks very bleak. Revolution threatens everything, not only here in France but also in Tunisia. A university inspector has just been sent here to organise the education system. You will get an idea of his plans and those of the people who sent him when you know that he has not even left his card with me.

What will become of our college of Saint-Charles in all this? You are greatly missed, all the more so since it has become known that you will not return here; as it was impossible to hide it any longer from the families and the children.

Yesterday, Easter Sunday, we had a fine theatre session. The children put on *le Malade Imaginaire* before leaving for their holidays. I attended, unusually enough for me, and the general-in-chief was there, too. The conference hall was turned into a very fine theatre by removing the partition wall which separates it from the study room. That wall will be replaced with a wooden partition.

Farewell, my dear Son. May Our Lord grant you in Jerusalem all you have hoped for. Seek his intercession for me.

**Letter to the Propagation of the Faith (27th March 1872)**

Gentlemen,

Father Charmetant, a Missionary from the Diocese of Lyons and Superior of our Mission Junior Seminary for local inhabitants, writes to you a letter that I am adding to this one. It is intended for your Records. I myself will write you another very soon on the foundation of our first village for Christian Arabs.

I would even ask you to keep it on the baptismal register in giving it its name. It will be inaugurated in June. A small church and twelve houses have been built at our own cost.

At the same time, and following on benign changes in the ideas of the Algerian government vis-à-vis the local inhabitants of Algeria, and thanks to total freedom from now on left to the apostolate, we will begin new establishments in Kabylia. Three entirely Kabyle villages have asked for priests and Sisters to reside among them. We have been able to buy a house in one of these villages; I will go to bless it on Low Sunday. However, we are short of funds, which are essential. We have to be able to maintain Mission personnel there right away, so as not to lose a favourable opportunity.

I have recourse to you, Gentlemen, for this quite extraordinary purpose. Despite the problems of the day, I hope you will be able to come to my assistance.

