



**1867:** Lavigerie is installed Archbishop of Algiers.

**1891:** Visit of Mr. Massicault, Minister Resident of France in Tunis: Lavigerie is ill. He asked that Leon Livinhac replace him as archbishop of Carthage.

**Letter to the Propaganda concerning establishing a seminary in Belgium (5th July 1884)**

Your Eminence, my Lord,

I have the honour to inform Your Eminence of my intention to establish a small noviciate of the Society of the Missionaries of Algiers in the diocese of Malines. His Grace the Archbishop of Malines, to whom I have had my intentions made known by one of my missionaries of Belgian nationality, has responded saying that he viewed the implementing of this plan with the greatest pleasure.

On his part, King Léopold II has assured me that he would be agreeable to this foundation and Father Charmetant who saw him in Ostend has sent me a telegram stating that Your Eminence will be informed of this by a dispatch from the Court Chaplain.

I would be grateful to Your Eminence if you could write a word to me saying that you see no difficulty in bringing about this plan. In fact, this is not something new which is starting, but simply an extension of the small noviciates that we already have in various countries (Africa, Malta, France) by creating one of these establishments in Belgium, so as to recruit Belgian candidates for our missions.

**Letter to the Ambassador of France in Constantinople (5 July 1885)**

Noble Sir,

I take the liberty of announcing to you that, with the agreement of the French Government and the Holy See, I propose to visit in the near future the religious establishment of Saint Anne in Jerusalem, which is looked after by the Missionaries of Algiers. The Sovereign Pontiff, already two years ago, gave me ordinary jurisdiction over this house, thus withdrawing it from the spiritual authority of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. We have established there, as Your Excellency is doubtless aware, an apostolic school aimed at combating latinising tendencies and

at reassuring the Orientals with regard to the preservation of their rites and their privileges. I wish to see with my own eyes how this establishment is functioning, and visit at the same time some of the Catholic establishments which formerly I helped to found or support when I was the Director of the Oeuvre des Écoles d'Orient.

Although the purpose of my journey is exclusively religious, concerned with Church matters, I make a point of informing Your Excellency about it so that, if you consider it suitable, as I think it is, you may also inform the government of the Sultan, making known the true motivation, the sole one, for my journey to Syria. Otherwise, without that, there is reason to fear that suspicions, which are always lively, might attribute a completely different character to such a rare happening as the presence in these regions of the first Cardinal to have visited them since the Crusades.

It is on 4 August that I am thinking of embarking on the boat of the Messageries Maritimes in Naples and, on the 10 of the same month, I would arrive in Jaffa. I shall return to France around 15 September. Moreover, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is aware of my plans, will doubtlessly not delay in informing you. Yet I felt that I should do so myself, out of deference and respect for Your Excellency, which you will surely understand.

