



**1873:** Lavigerie gives the missionaries' habit to the "little novices" (Brothers) in Our Lady of Africa. They are described in the diocesan directory as "Coadjutor Brothers and Catechists."

**1876:** A solemn service of thanksgiving for the martyrdom of the 3 missionaries is celebrated at the Mother House, with the authorization of the Sovereign Pontiff.

**1880:** Livinhac is recommended pro-vicar apostolic of Nyanza. He remained in this position until 15 June 1883.

1888: Missionaries are expelled from Uganda.

Letter of Mgr Lavigerie to his aunt  
(12th October 1881)

My dear aunt,

It is in Tunis, where Providence has recently placed me, that I received your good letter. At the same time, I also received one from your son Félix who gave me the great news. I shall answer him in this same post and congratulate him on this union which seems to bring together and fulfil all the conditions for his happiness and give him all he desires to make up for the sadness and worries he has suffered in the past.

The only thing I regret is that the distance separating us does not allow me to share more closely with you in your happiness. Please tell my cousin-to-be that I send her from far away my patriarchal blessing. For here I am, a real patriarch, firstly through my age, which the strain of my ministry and the African sun have hastened, and through my title since I have been made bishop of Carthage as well as

bishop of Algiers. You would be shocked to see my totally white beard and my pontifical habit. Those who do not know me think I am 75 years old! You see, your nephew looks even older than you, since my sister has told me that she found you looking younger the last time she saw you. I can still write, with glasses, it is true, but surely not for long now. What a hectic life I have been living for the past 15 years, and continue to live now even more hectic than ever, in camps, at sea, on land, in the middle of insurgents, massacres. Who could have told my poor, dear mother that this was to be the destiny of her son, whereas all he wanted to be was a priest in a country parish, surrounded by chicken and ducks!

Farewell, dear aunt, all my tender good wishes, for you and for your children, with filial affection from your ever-loving, devoted nephew.

