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[Copied from Letter Book II]

Letter 28 ,page 31 ]

The Convent St Leonards on Sea

Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. 1863.

+ J.M.J.

My dear Sir Hungerford – [Pollen, Bt] –

I think you are not aware of the fact that we do not allow our children to go home at Xmas for their holidays which they enjoy very much in the Convent except in some especial cases, and these exceptions are never made without a necessary motive of Charity – I am very sorry you did not consult me on the subject when you were here, as I could have explained very satisfactorily to you that we certainly could not make an exception in regard to your dear little ones. Can you make this up to the children by coming here during the Xmas week so that they might enjoy the devotion of the Season and at the same time have the opportunity of seeing you frequently during your visit here? I sincerely hope you may be able to make this arrangement, as any exceptions in their case is neither desirable nor possible. It wd be much better for us to renounce all responsibility in their regard than to hazard the loss of any little good we may effect through the blessing of God by making exceptions without just grounds. I hope my decisions may not pain you and that you will decide upon not requesting any other course than that which is followed by the whole school. I am happy to say that the children are quite well & happy & they will no doubt enjoy a Xmas here more than any they have ever yet passed if they find that you are happy in having them here & in coming to see them.

I am my dr Sir

Yrs. very faithfully in J.C.

C....C...