

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [Letter Book II]
[Letter 84 – Page 88]

Letter written to Mr Pugin April 30th 1867

+
Dear Mr Pugin –

I return your beautiful drawings & have only two remarks to make.

1st. We should prefer the East window long to take in a beautiful stained glass design which we can get up in a few years hence. There are six Rose windows in the east and west Gables – do you approve of quite so many?

2ndly The entrance from the Infirmary to the Tribune is not drawn – perhaps you have forgotten it. Would it be possible to make a little Conservatory of the passage where we could keep a few flowers for the Sick and dying? Of course you observed that your drawing in the Choir windows on your section are not the same as those shewn on the South Elevation – did you intend this or was the South Elevation an after thought?

The Season is advancing & we are most anxious that all matters should be settled with as little delay as possible. Have you chosen your builder and is he ready to take the Contract at £2400 – Pray push the matter – I have a printed Contract which includes all that is necessary to make us legally safe in the signing of it, so do not take the trouble to have another drawn out. The C[hildren] of Mary have gone to Canterbury Cathedral to day. It would have been a pleasure to them to meet dr Matty, if only they had thought of writing to let her know. Pray give her our kindest messages & love. I remain

Very faithfully Yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly.

Copy of a letter written by Our Mother to Mr Sills.

April 1st [1873]

+
JMJ

Dear Mr Sills

It appears that nothing can be done in settling the matter of the Dorset St House till after the meeting of the P.S. Committee in Low Week. The purchase of the House cannot be made without assistance from the Education Crisis Fund & when we know that we may obtain a loan for the amt needed for purchase & repairs, we shall then be obliged to know that the Privy Council will accept of another Training School in London – these two points once known we may act immediately. I enclose a letter, or rather a copy of a letter on this subject from the Revd Fr Johnson which will give you a knowledge of my first proposal & of his opinion on this subject & I will ask Canon Wenham to call upon you at his earliest convenience as he is well acquainted with all that^{it} is necessary for you to know.

I am my dear Sir –

Yours very faithfully in J.C.

C.C.

Supr.

SHCJ ARCHIVES – ROME

[From copy-press duplicate or original]

[Feb. 21st 1856]

Messrs Smith Hilder Scrivins & Co
Hastings Bank

Gentlemen

I believe there has been some mistake in the Joint Stock Bank sending £156.16.0 from Mr. Towneley to our acct. Mr. Towneley had already sent £150. which you acknowledged to me – If this is the case, you will oblige me by placing the amt to Mr. Ch. Towneley's acct at Messrs Drummond, Charing Cross London, sending me a line at the same time saying that you have done so.

I am gentlemen

Yrs etc. etc. etc.

C. Connelly

Sup.

All Souls

Feb. 21st 1856

SHCJ

ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Duplicated Original]

To Dr Steggall

2 Southampton Street
Bloomsbury Sq^{re} .

Dr Steggall will please to pay to Messrs Richardson & Son the sum of
Twentyeight pounds 8/-

£28. 8. 0

Cornelia Connelly

All Souls

Hastings

22nd Feb. [1856]

SHCJ

ARCHIVES - ROME

[Letter Book I]

[Letter 114, pages 129 – 130]

Copy Letter written to Mr. Stoner. Dated June 3rd 1862

My dear Mr Stoner –

I have been again & again on the point ~~you~~ [sic] of writing to thank you for your kind letter, but the plans of Lady Stafford seemed to change from day to day, and finally she decided upon Cossey. Before giving you farther trouble I wished to see Col. Towneley sees no difficulty in our doing this, but he wished me to consult you on the different points I named to him.

They are these –

1st. May we offer the lot on sale for a lease of 99 years? If so, shall we placard it on the premises as on the building lease or to let on ground rent which ever might prove most advantageous? And is it necessary to get leave for sale before we offer it, or will it do to have leave when the Trustees require it to make out a Deed?

2. Would you put me in the way of knowing the proportional value of a building lease to a freehold property? It will be necessary for us to secure 5 pr. cent income on the sum to be expended leaving the community responsible for the capital in the buildings. If our lot is worth 4000 freehold what would it be worth on a selling lease of 99 years with a ground rent of £150 pr. an? Perhaps nothing, if it brings in 5 pr. cent. It is said by the house agents here that building lots bring a rent of from £1 pr. foot frontage to 10/- or rather 10/- to £1. We should very probably get a higher income by only renting the land on ground rent for buildings than by selling it, and thus we should avoid the Commissioners of the Charities. The frontage of the lot is about 500 feet, and this would give lots for 20 houses or more. The speculators are giving for

[continued below]

- 2 -

very inferior positions to this, very large sums. A lot worth £2000 some years ago has just brought £6000, so this gives us some idea of the increase of the value.

I am almost ashamed to give you the rouble of answers to these questions, but you know we can do nothing towards finishing the Church until our way is made clearly certain, and you will do us the greatest charity in making it clear to us. We have the money in the Consols & only want to secure the individuals in the investment of the Church; - that is to secure it to the individuals for the use of the Community in return for the expenditure on the Church. If I have not made myself, or rather my words intelligible and you should think it better to discuss the subject more fully, pray say so, & I will write again.

Your niece is quite well. I am my d^r Sir

Y^{rs} very faithfully in JC.

C... C...

Another question – I forget – are the Trustees bound to allow a claim to the Individuals of the Community on the buildings, if a persecution drove us out of England?

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II, page 1]

Copy of a letter written to Mr Stonor by Our Mother Jan 1st 1863+
JMJ

My dear Mr Stonor

You will perhaps be annoyed at my being so very pressing but I feel that there is great danger of our being totally misrepresented in Rome and that I should do wrong to defer my letter any longer. As I said long ago it would be much better for us to cast aside all our temporal interests here, and seek a resting place elsewhere than to incur a possibility of any disregard to the wishes of the S.C. which has more than once been insinuated to me by Dr. Grant. In fact it is a growing conviction in our community that it will be necessary to tell Col. Towneley that under the circumstances it will be better for us to relinquish our temporal interests here altogether. You have no doubt received my letter of last week tho' I am almost afraid that you are ill as you are always so prompt in your replies. I hope this is not the case & that you are enjoying the happiness & joy of this holy Season. God's sweet & holy will is the only real enjoyment which is the same in sickness or health when we resign ourselves.

I am

Yours faithfully in J C.

C. C.

Private. I ought to add my dear Mr Stoner that we consider any further delays of so much consequence that I should prefer sending the Mem. myself at once & if you think there is any doubt about D^r G's forwarding it immediately I will beg you to send me a Telegram that we may not lose a post. If the S.C. are to see the statement of Col. T with notes

[continued below]

that will undo what he has done, we shall again be misrepresented there. Mr Foy, Dr Duke, his son and their lawyers will be at work against us. They could not well do more that they have already done but they probably know the contents of the Memorandum if they have not absolutely seen it.

I am

Yours sincerely

C. C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 3 – page 3]

Letter to Mr Stoner from Our Mother Jan. 4th 1863

+ J.M.J.

My dear Mr Stonor

A thousand thanks for your full letter and for the excellent draft which I have embodied verbatim except making the annual payment £30 instead of £25. I think this is better to secure the matter permanently well; but this payment will of course not begin till the new Church is built, and you will explain this if necessary, when you see the Bishop next. I presume that in altering the words of the Memorandum which you mention that you have named the temporary use of the new Church to be only until the Church for the Mission is built and not to go on for an indefinite time. Will it not also be necessary to insert the same words in the copy I am to send to Rome? How shall we ever be sufficiently grateful for all your zeal in this good work which we must take care to return in a more substantial way than we have hitherto done. I am so sorry to hear that you really have been suffering from the weather. If you would study the homeopathic system you would cure all aches and pains especially those of a rheumatic cast. I am dear Sir

Faithfully & gratefully yours in J.C.

C. C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 5 – page 4]

[The Convent St. Leonards –on – Sea]

Letter to Mr. Stonor from Our Mother. Jany. 7 1863

+
J.M.J.

My dear Mr Stonor

The Bishop wrote me a very kind letter yesterday which I think I must enclose in my letter to Cardl Barnabò I have just written an answer to Dr. Grant such as you propose & I see that my future letters to him must be more guarded and formal – and also that everything must be settled in writing to be worth anything. Past experience proves that this is absolutely necessary. It will be well if the Church of the Mission could be built immediately but of this I shall speak more fully when I see you. The sooner the letter goes to Rome the better as the delay has been so much longer than we expected. Would it not be better for you to see Dr. Grant again as he is now treating with Dr. Ullathorne? I do not send my letter through you a second time as he might be wounded by my doing so, but it was just what you advise, conciliatory and polite. As to the winning over part, I have had 12 years of vacillating favour which was more productive of harm than good. So that matters are arranged in writing and that we take courage in endeavouring to satisfy the Bishop we shall go on smoothly I trust for the future. If I had toiled for him or any other human kind my courage would long ago have failed. As for the confirmation of our Institute we can only say that is in God's own hands & "if God is with us who is against us" Quis sicut Deus " ? – many thanks for speaking so freely. To me this sort of unreserved confidence is of true value. One knows where one stands. The Bishop says in his letter "How happy will it make me to

[continued below]

be able then to turn time and thought to the future of the Institute.” I think he could not write more kindly, still referring to Dr. Ullathorne’s “guidance for a good arrangement”. If it were possible to have the letter to Rome ready to go on Sunday night, I should be very glad to send it with the Memorandum to Col. Towneley. I thought as much as that Dr. G [rant] would hear of the turn of the Cardinal through Monsgr Searle who is a great friend of Dr. G[rant] and at the same time knows all the temporal matters of the Cardinal. I am glad that Mr. A [or Mrs. St ?? L.E.W.] was so much pleased with Janey. She has improved very much in her appearance &c.

With thanks again

Yours very faithfully in J.C.

C..... C.....

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Letter Book II]

[Letter 91 – page 102]

1868

Letter to Mr Pugin dated April 21st 1868

+

JMJ

My dear Mr. Pugin,

I enclose you two letters to which I make no reply. I cannot hold myself answerable for any other than the Contract, & the estimates for the Organ loft, tribune & Porch, Sacristy & door for which I have precise sums stated by Mr. Hodgson and accepted by the Community. I have of course given no orders whatever regarding the glass but simply sent the foreman the order from you regarding the unfortunate windows. I will not advance any sum whatever on Mr. Hodgson's demands. I am quite ready to pay in cash for the extra work agreed to by the Community when it is done.

Pray explain to Mr. Hodgson that the Contract & the minor estimate given are alone my guide. He ought not to have undertaken the work without knowing his liabilities for which the Community cannot be answerable.

I remain

Very faithfully yours

In J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

The Convent

St. Leonard-on-Sea

April 21st 1868

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [copied from Contemporary copy]

Letter to Mr Stonor from Our Mother

Jan^y 11. 1863

+
JMJ

My dear Mr Stonor

(This letter is a copy of that on pages 18/19 dated Jan 7th)

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 22 – page 27]

Copy.

Letter from Our Mother to Mr Stonor dated

May 7th 1863

J.M.J.

Dear Mr Stonor –

I fear by this delay in the settlement of our affairs that we run the risk of being dragged into an obligation of finding a lot for the site of the Church ! Now you know we did not offer to do so while at the same time we know for certain that there are innumerable lots to be had at various prices, and two or three in the most eligible positions if they choose to give a high price for it. But this is really not our affair – all we offered was the £1500 & the yearly allowance to the Priest.

Why not close upon this at once now that we have proved that plenty of ground can be procured? &c &c &c –

This fact was all you proposed to ensure & it is done – I shd like to propose to Col. T. to finish our Convent chapel at once & to close the Settlement.
– Is Col. Towneley In London? – (Enquiries regarding Mrs. S) &c &c

C. C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 38 – page 42]

1864 April 13th (date unclear) Tuesday

My dear Mr Stonor,

Want no apology – of course not – but some public reparation needed – perhaps Card B's letter to Col Towneley inserted in papers – the Duchess's letter containing all that she has to say on the subject – perhaps if Mr. Foy is sent away all might be done under one – but some reparation needed – an avowal that what is done for the Mission is a free gift & a benefaction &c &c &c &c &c

[Cornelia Connelly]

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 413 – page 46]

From Our Mother to Mr. S[tonor] May 15th [1864]

My dear Mr Stonor

I have not been able to see Mr S[earle] since his return as he has been occupied in the Confessional at Ore, Hastings House & here ever since his return. I beg of you not to draft any letter of apology for Mr. F[oy]. I assure you it wd quite annoy me. The reparation we need is nothing in a private way but of far more importance, a public one, that will undo the evil reports spread & encouraged by Mr. F. I see only 2 ways by wh this can be done, and both wd be most desirable –

1st That Col. T. shd lithograph the C[ardinal]'s letter in Italian with the English translation to disseminate among the Catholics in our neighbourhood & in London. & 2nd that the B[ishop] should himself send a circular shewing the true state of the case in such a form as to undo the evil & calumny spread abroad. I hope this may be done & in such a way as not to create any fresh wounds.

I am My dr Mr. S.

Yours faithfully in J.C.

P.S. I think I ought to add that we shd feel very sorry to connect Mr F. with our present settlement as he is not to be removed just yet. I shd make no reference to him whatever any more than to Dr. D[uke]. If he stays the Mission will barely exist but never flourish & we shall feel that the Capital given, together [with] the annual payment are a fund sunk to gratify the B[ishop] at our loss and at the loss of such other good, but so be it – Between ourselves the B[ishop] comes off victorious in all local points! But publication of Card[inal] B[arnabò]'s letter & the B's Circular saves the honour of all parties on our side.

[continued below]

- 2 -

The plate you allude to is Mr. Jones' House plate, Tea service &c which Mr. Foy took possession of before Mr. Searle entered the house – I gave it into the charge of our Chaplain -

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 48 – page 54.]

Letter written July 20th - 1864

My dear Mr Stonor

I would not on any account have Col Towneley threaten to close the Chapel against the Congregation at a limited time. But it is most desirable that we should shew firmness in adhering to the conditions of Card. B[arnabò]'s letter & if he were to write a mild letter to the Bishop [Grant] simply saying that the offer of £1500 and the other benefits wd be withdrawn at the end of 12 months and the present Chapel closed if the Church is not in progress or completed, it might have a good effect. I write at Mr. Searle's suggestion the inclosed letter to col. T., which he can inclose with his letter if he likes to the Bishop. We wish very much to have the Church for the Convent finished immediately & could very well borrow the money with Security for the interest being on the future ground-rents at £4 pr ct., or on the Lincoln's Inn House, if Co. T. will allow it, for Capital & Interest.

It is all quite right about Janey, except that she was required to stop for the distribution of Prizes, not for a concert. If you think of her returning, pray explain to her that she returns to learn to make dresses & to work at the machine, not to return to the school where her ex has not the best influence, I hope she will be more docile & obedient this year than you found her formerly.

I am &c &c

[Cornelia Connelly]

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 68 – Page 72]

Letter written to Mr Stonor dated Octr. 28th 1865

J.M.J.

My dear Mr Stonor –

I could not return the draft immediately as I was obliged to hold a Chapter meeting on it & to read it over carefully myself & to the Chapter as well as to make the Sisters Acquainted with the substance of the draft.. On the fifth page which I have marked it states that the Bishop &c &c are to pay £500 - - -

We think that this Deed ought in justice & truth to show that the Community purchase the land & make a gift of it to the Bishop. We could name two members of the Community – say Frances Isabella Bridges & Annie Laprimaudaye on the part of the Community –

2ndly Mr. Searle's heirs are not Catholics. Would it not be much more safe to make the gift to "Thos Grant and others" the sale of course being made to the two members of the Community? I am Very faithfully yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 83 – page 87]

1867

Letter written to Mr Stonor (dated)

The Convent
St L-on-Sea
April 30th [1867]

+
JMJ

Dear Mr Stonor

It was a great disappointment to me not to have the pleasure of meeting you yesterday, but as I had not been very well the excursion was thought to be an imprudent undertaking; so I was obliged to be very obedient & stop at home like a good religious.

1st I wished to tell you that I still hope to get the loan at 4pr ct and indeed have the offer – but I have not yet spoken to Mr. Philips as I thought you would be the one to arrange the matter in the safest way for us. The Charity Commissioners would not care what percentage we pay as they have not to rob their own pockets

2ndly We must not say £2000 when we shall really require £2500, leaving the £250 in Consols for extras in the way of Stalls Altars & benches

3rdly We do not want the Trustees to take any other responsibilities than giving security on the property for the loan.

4thly We wish to pay the Contract ourselves out of our own funds annually i.e. the interest money & the 30th portion of the Principal.

5thly We presume there will be no change in the usual appropriation of the rents to the payment of the Taxes and repairs on the present & future buildings.

I have given you a long list but your charity will not fail. Col. Towneley admired the drawings by Pugin immensely. I did not tell you that we had determined to pay off Goldie & have nothing to do with those execrable
[continued below]

drawings.

I hope you got through all the business yesterday with satisfaction. The Duchess was rather out of spirits about various difficulties with the builders but if she changes the Contract, of course she will soon run into extra thousands & not a few of them. I hope Mrs Stonor is better. We have a capital remedy for corns, & if she would like to try it, I will send her a little bottle.

I will only add that I remain

Very faithfully yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

SHCJ

ARCHIVES – ROME

[Letter Book II]

[Letter 92 – page 103]

Letter to Mr. Pugin dated May 10th 1868
The Convent. St. L – on Sea

My dear Mr. Pugin,

I shall not be here & I have nothing to say to Mr. Hodgson – if he does come. He is bound to fulfil his contract and to leave his work finished in a workman like manner. He will not blame anyone but himself if he is a loser by his bargain. He saw what he had to do & he had no falling down of Arches or any mishaps, so he may truly blame himself for his bargain – At least the Community shall not be dragged into debt. I neither can nor will allow myself to bring on any further expense for any matter whatever. If the walls leak for the want of pointing, it must be to Mr. Hodgson's shame & loss. We shall certainly not incur any further expense. I am extremely sorry that we ever attempted more than could be covered by the £2500 as this requires thirty years to pay off & the extras are now bringing us into more anxiety than is good for us. We have no Congregation to call upon to assist us in a public church & are dependent on our own savings.

I remain my dear Mr. Pugin.

Yours very faithfully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

To E.W. Pugin Esq.

Oct. 8th / 67

Dear Mr Stonor

I had hoped to hear from you before this, that the Loan & Mortgage were completed so that you can (the Trustees) begin the payment to the builders as they are demanded. I now send you the form signed by us, and as I am leaving for the winter almost immediately next Thursday evening, I must ask Mr Pugin to send the certificates to you. I have paid £950 & must beg of you at your earliest convenience to forward the amt due to the Convent, to our account to the London & County Bank, Hastings Branch & this will be quite safe – or it will be better perhaps to send it payable to the Convent acct to the Superioress here. The Contract you will remember is for £2965 loan 2550 leaving £415 to Convent funds - Paid £950 415 £535 Less expense of the Loan -- --- I think we stand this -? The bank has very kindly allowed me to draw upon it for the last payment & I shall be very thankful if you can send the amt as soon as you have completed the Loan.

I hope your summer excursion has been of service to your health, & also to Mrs. Stonor.

The Duchess returns on the 21st I hope the sale of the Ore property may be well managed and the true value realised for the advantage of the future endowment.

Yrs very faithfully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly -

SHCJ ARCJIVES - ROME [Letter Book II.]
[Letter 95 – Page 106]
1868

Copy. Letter written by Our Mother to Mr. Pugin dated June 2nd 1868.

+
J.M.J.

Dear Mr. Pugin,

I sent you a copy of the Contract by Saturdays evening post. If this contract should not prove binding (!) no Contract ever could be worth anything. You know as well as Mr. Hodgson & the workmen that I have most positively declined anything being done without an especial estimate being given for the amount of additional expense.

The article (13) in the contract states that you are the sole referee unless you are “unable or unwilling to undertake such reference”. Now I presume you are neither unable or unwilling to undertake it. If Hodgson loses I am very sorry but it wd be both unjust & cruel on my part to allow the Community to be dragged into a debt they are unable to meet. The extras ordered I am ready to meet at any time – if they amount to more that the extra £200 advanced beyond the 80 pr ct on £2965. I am just starting for Mayfield to remain a few days.

Yours faithfully in J.C.

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

P.S. The last window wh. Mr. Hodgson pretends I ordered contrary to the drawing was agreed to before he or we signed the Contract and it was also in the specifications brought to me by Mr. Osborne & also named in a letter of yours when you stated that the glass was to be white “The wicked alone dread justice. So much for the dread of my powers !!!

SHCJ ARCHIVES - MAYFIELD

[i] [Letter Book II
Letter 96 – page 107.]

[ii] [MSS. Fair copy.]

Copy

Letter written to Mr. Pugin by Our Mother

(dated) The Convent

St. Leonards – on – Sea

June 16 - 68.

+
JMJ

My dear Mr Pugin

As we have already paid £200 beyond the 80 pr ct due on the Contract & at the same time I have offered to pay immediately for the extras ordered by us according to Mr Hodgson's own figures, I do not hesitate to say that we feel ourselves to be unfairly treated both in the stopping of the works & in the demand for [i] of [ii] money on account (!) without any statement of what the demand is made for.

If I were acting on my own account I should certainly allow the matter to go into Chancery & willingly bear the expense for justice sake, that all may know the real value of a Contract & just how far a person is placed in the hands and power of both Architect & Builder. There is nothing like knowing the ground you stand upon before you imperil your position & it is a true charity to help others to know the sort of danger they may encounter under similar circumstances.

Lastly – as I am not acting on my own account we shall willingly refer you to Dr Grant our Bishop & we shall be guided by His Lordship's direction in Mr Hodgson's regard.

I remain yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [copied from Duplicated Original]

Messrs Richardson & son
The Strand
Trafalgar Sq.
London

Dr Sir

I am sorry not to send you the money for your bill, but se many are in arrears to us at this moment that I can only send you an order on Dr Steggall who owes us a larger amount.

Should you have any difficulty in having it paid immediately I shall be much obliged if you will get him to promise to let you have the amount in the course of the month.

I shall be obliged by your sending 2 Reams of white Drawing paper the same as that you last sent at 17/ pr ream.

I am

Sir

Yrs truly in JC.

C. Connelly

All Souls

St Leonards

Feb. 22 [1856]

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [copied from Letter Book II]
[Letter 56. page 63]

Copy

Letter from Out Mother to Richardson. (dated) Feby 5th 1865

+ JMJ

My dear Sir

As the charity we propose is for the poor Orphans & not for ourselves, I want to ask you to share with me the cost of the raffle tickets. – I think at one penny pr book say 30,000 books the cost would be £125. Each book would not cost more that a penny almanack would in paper. Now I am sure you would not refuse this charity which others have done. The printing is much less in matter than a penny almanack. If you will do this charity, I will promise to support an Orphan child for you five or six years. And you may have the right of presenting another one for your life in return for your charity. The Orphans will be trained to all the usual works of the best Orphanages including the stitching of books & colouring book prints &c &c &c at the same time be thoroughly trained in the practical knowledge of their religion. Pray consider well how many blessings our dear Lord would return to you, not only in this world, but the 100 fold for all Eternity. We should want the books done on papers of this sort or at least on thin white paper that would weigh about one book to the oz making four, or three, for a penny stamp, & a separate pink ticket to each Book which would have to be free to the seller of 20 tickets & give the chance of two prizes, one valued at £100 & the other at £50. It will be through this free ticket that we shall hope to sell the number of tickets we propose. I inclose you a Photograph of the Mayfield restoration to be taken smaller for

(continued below)

the centre wood cut of the white tickets. The pink ticket will have no picture and different prizes.

If you will share the expense with me, I will write off the tickets without delay & have them done & may our dear Lord inspire you to accept ~~you to~~ [sic] my offer, which is equal to £200, tho' given in charity. Unless your help will enable me to get through this, I shall have to renounce it or beg elsewhere, as we cannot promise ourselves a certainty of success, & the expense of postage besides the value of the prizes we intend to offer or money to the amount if preferred. I am anxious to have your answer without delay. We shall require at least six months to dispose of them throughout England & Ireland, India Australia & America also; & the drawing could hardly be before the 13th September.

I am my dr Sir

Very faithfully

Yrs in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

Sup. Gen.

Copy of a letter written by Our Mother to
William Sills Esq –

The Convent,
St L-on Sea
Feb 19th [1873]

+
JMJ

My dear Sir –

I beg to thank you for your letter received by this morning's post & in reply to say that I presume His Grace the A.B. has informed you that we have offered to take the Dorset St House if the £3000 can be raised for the payment of it at the usual interest which we are willing to pay & to refund the £3000 by instalments not exceeding £500 pr an – (inclusive of Interest) if possible I presume the purchase money could be raised amongst those interested in the Poor Schools on the security of the House with the names sent to the A.B. for the Community. If this cannot be done, we shall be forced, however reluctantly, to renounce the work as the House wd be useless to us without repairs which would require at least, to make it serviceable as a Convent & a Training School with building at the back £1000, and thus claim the utmost we could possibly raise in the Community. If you will arrange with His Grace what can be done under these circumstances I shall be much obliged & I remain

Very truly dr Sir

Yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly.

SHCJ

ARCHIVES ROME

[from a MS. Copy ^(or draft) in C.C.'s hand
Undated, incomplete, unsigned]

My dear Sir

You will probably receive by tomorrow's post a letter from the Superior of our Preston House enclosing another from Mess^{rs} Malton & Baynes demanding payment of a donation made towards the furnishing of ~~our~~ [sic] that house. The donation was not made to Miss Wholly but to me for that purpose – Miss Bowles was the active agent in ^{my} accepting [sic] this gift which she eagerly desires to appropriate to a house in her vicinity.

If the gift ought to be returned, that is if she has any right to claim it, we shall be ready to ~~do so~~ ^{give it} [sic] at our own convenience, & provided the affairs of Rupert House are fairly settled without further trouble to us.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 93 – Page 103]

Letter to Mr Stonor dated May 11th 1868

The Convent St Leonards on Sea

+

JMJ

Dear Mr. Stonor

You will give me credit for not teasing you with letters during the last six months but now I am obliged to begin again -:

Do not groan for it cannot be helped –

1. I send you the stamped receipt of Mr. Hodgson which brings the total received by him to £2600. The amount of the Contract you may remember was £2968. The necessary extras amount to upwards of three hundred pounds indeed we may count upon £400. The heating apparatus will be about £150. Gas not yet contracted for but the probable amount will be on the whole £3600. Mr. Hodgson is in a terrible fury (!) Mr. Pugin says – and states that the work has or will cost him £4500!

Our contract must be our guide but the heavy extras bring upon us a necessity to borrow at least an additional £1000. Can we do this from the Law Fire Insurance or by Sale of the Neath Canal Stock and Lincoln's Inn House or in what way – I have leave from the bank to overdraw for the present but of course this is only a temporary convenience.

Will you consult Mr. Towneley and let me know as soon as you can, as doubt and uncertainty as to what is to be done always give unnecessary anxiety.

We are very sorry to put off doing the cells, of which we stand much in need but the Church is so beautiful that we cannot regret the extra money expended. Besides the use of [the] present Chapel, when we have it for refectory & Community Room will give us more room above; so we console ourselves.

2. Shall I send you the receipts from the Law Insurance as I get them, or make the return each year as the Capital is

[continued below]

- 2 -

paid ? The latter is less troublesome for you. I enclose the receipt for the first fractional payment.

I hope you are in enjoyment of good health and that Mrs. Stonor and your nieces [sic] are quite well. Pray remember me to them. Does Janey go on well and happily?

I remain dear Mr. Stonor

Very faithfully & gratefully

In J.C.

Cornelia Connelly.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [copied from Letter Book IV.
Letter 8, page 8]

1872.

Copy of a letter written by Our Mother (dated)

The Convent St L-on Sea
March 2nd 1872.

+
JMJ

Dear Mr Stonor –

Many thanks for your prompt reply. We shall be very thankful to have the £500 at once, and the names of the Officials for the Indemnity may be

Frances Isabella Bridges

& Annie Croft

both of St Leonards-on-Sea.

They will serve legally as well as morally, the one being in the Deed for the Mayfield property, and the other in the Deed for the Blackpool Convent.

I suppose it will not take more than a few months to settle the Neath Canal ~~business~~ [sic] £300, and I trust it may be all right by Midsummer.

We shall pray for Col. Towneley's health & memory, and I trust our Good God may give him a long & useful life for many years to come. I am glad you were all able to enjoy the pageant of Tuesday.

Give my kind regards to Mrs Stonor &c &c –

I am &c &c &c

Cornelia Connelly

Supr.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [copied from Letter Book IV,
Letter 30, page 40]

Copy (From Our Mother to Mr Stonor)

The Convent. St Leonards-on-Sea
Sepr 25. 1872.

+
JMJ

Dear Mr Stonor

Not knowing your present address, I sent a telegram to Henley Lodge this morning & received an answer that you are at Newbury. You will remember my writing you in the Spring regarding a loan for re-building the Quadrangle at Mayfield & I think Mr Arnold also saw you regarding the matter & foresaw no difficulty in getting Sir J. Lawson &c to sign for security; however the Duchess of Leeds will not allow their being asked to do so & is almost offended at the proposal. Mr Arnold has looked into the matter in order to see whether the one signature of the Community (Miss Brydges) would do; or whether the St Leonards' Trust could stand. I send you his reply to which I answered that we must not get the two places, Mayfield & St Leonards, under the Charity Commissioners, and that before doing anything I must consult you. I cannot understand how our claim on the property (legally) could die with Miss Brydges! – Nor can I see what a life Insurance has to do with her claim for the Community. I proposed to Mr Arnold to give her name on the Property, and my name for the Community, and his letter regards this proposal. I gave Mr Arnold your written explanation of the Mayfield Deed, shewing that it is not a Trust Deed, but a simple gift of ownership to the four parties named some months ago. The Contract signed is something within £4000, but the loan we wish to take up must be £3500. Now you are

[continued below]

so clever that I trust you may see what can be done. If we are obliged to Insure Miss Brydges' life, shall we not be drawn into any amount of annual expense that would be a heavy burden to the community? – or can you suggest any other procedure? You will see at once the difficulty the refusal of the good Duchess has brought upon us, and the builder may one day call upon me for £500, or £1,000 and I shall be place in a great dilemma! I hope you are quite well & able to bear this sudden change of weather with perfect equanimity! It is almost like winter at St L. With kind regards to Mrs Stonor

I remain

Yours very faithfully & gratefully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [copied from Letter Book I.
Letter 59, page 59]

August

14 MJJ

To Messrs. Thomas & Capes.

Gentlemen

I enclose a Cheque for one hundred pounds which leaves me in your debt one hundred and thirteen pounds 14 / 1. If it would be convenient to you to wait till this time next year, this letter will be sufficient for your claim at that time but if you wish a promissory note you can draw it up and we shall sign it, as before proposed.

I am

Gentlemen

Yrs in JC

C. . . . C

S.H.C.Jesus

Convent HCJ

All Souls –

St Leonards – on – Sea 14 August. 1858

[Book M.2]

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME

[Oct 8th 1867]

Dear Mr Ticehurst

Will you kindly look at the enclosed & if you think it a proper & just view to take of the notice from the Water Works let the Bearer take it to the Office.

I hope you are quite well

& I am yrs faithfully

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

I will not go to any expense for Water Meters, unless others are required to do the same.

[This should be attached to letter of Oct 8 – 1867

J.F.R. S.J.]

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [From Letter Book I.
Letter 63, pages 62-63]

October 21st (Letter sent)
[1858]

Dear Mr Towneley.

If it be possible for you to avoid answering Dr. Duke's "effusions" I think it would be the best way of dealing with him; but if it is necessary to answer I wish you would not give him the chance of quarrelling again I shall not let him know that I know of his application to you if I can help it. Tho' after the patience of so many years with constant concessions and unwearied attentions to the convenience & comfort of the Congregation it is rather vexing to hear of accusations so false, so unjust, so uncalled for! When all is quiet again I will propose to our good Bishop that we should give £400 or £500 towards building the Church for the Congregation on the lot at the side of the Presbytery. I see no other way to ensure peace and promote the general good. Let me know what you think of this & how far you enter into these views. We should be able to offer this before the term has expired for the use of the present Chapel without any serious inconvenience as our means are rather on the increase, notwithstanding the debt of annual payment to Mr. Bowles and his Sister – and we ought also to be able to build the Church within the next five years if our dear Lord continues to bless us as He has done within the last two years. We shall pray a great deal & leave all in the hands of His Divine Will and Providence.

I am ever

Yours faithfully & gratefully

In JC.

C. C

All Souls

St Leonards-on-Sea

Octr 21st. 1858

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book I, Letter 72, pages 71 – 72]

Written August 15th 1859. A.B.V.M.

JMJ

Dear Mr Towneley,

We send our best congratulations on the arrival of the little stranger. When I announced the news to the Community this morning, I also added that they must continue their prayers for Lady Norreys, some half dozen cried out ‘but she has got it, she has got it.’ – However they soon understood that it was necessary to pray that both the mother & the little stranger might soon be well & strong & especially protected by our dear Lord & His Holy Mother.

2. I am quite sure that the Church will not be built below & we shall be anxious to finish the present one when it will be our own & there is no reason why we should not build it at the end of two years, if you will raise half the money on the endowment.

We shall never wish to close the Church from the congregation and why should they not continue to use it till they prefer building for themselves which they could do at any time by the side of the Presbytery.

The Church that is begun will not be any too large for our Community with the Schools. We at present fill the one we have & in 2 years more it will be crowded. In fact we are laying out our plans to have it a model chapel of devotion and beauty (open to the Congregation at fixed hours by the Bishop) with side chapel & altars like the Gesù and the Trinità dei Monti in Rome & you may imagine what we should feel about “equal rights” ! When they find they have no rights, they will be civil to us and there is no danger of our ever wishing anything that is not for the glory of God & the salvation of souls, since we have left the world for no other purpose and toil for this end alone year after year – surely not! “A House divided

[continued below]

- 2 -

against itself cannot stand' and so it would be with the Church, if we commit ourselves by building within two years. Our Bishop knows full well that he has abundance of power over us, & that no one could shut up the church without his consent.

We are singing the "Veni Creator" every morning that you may know & do God's Will in this matter & in all others. Wishing you all joy & a very happy Feast (with Our Lady & the Angels in spirit) & a long life on earth

I am

My dr Mr. Towneley

Yrs faithfully in JC

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book 1. Letter 117, pages 133-135]

Written June 18th 1862

Copy

+

JMJ

Dear Col. Towneley,

I almost hesitate in troubling you so soon again but I think I must do so before we entangle ourselves in any way as to the sums expended & to be still expended on the buildings here. You will remember that we now want to finish the Church here & to put up a certain number of cells over the present room now used as a Chapel. The main point is to secure a claim together with an annual ground rent from the lot on the Magdalen Road west side for the benefit of the individuals of our community who now hold the sum of £2500 in the Consols & I have asked Mr. Stonor to let you know whether this can be done, & how. I also want to know how our community and the Individuals can be secured in the sums already expended from our dowers. These sums stand thus –

| | | |
|------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1855 | From Miss Buckle - | £1540. 15. 7 |
|------|--------------------|--------------|

| | | |
|--|----------------------|--|
| | For the Presbytery) | |
|--|----------------------|--|

| | | |
|--|---------------------|--|
| | & boy's school) | |
|--|---------------------|--|

| | | |
|------|------------|------|
| 1860 | Miss Drury | £300 |
|------|------------|------|

| | | |
|--|-------------|--|
| | Music rooms | |
|--|-------------|--|

| | | |
|--|-------------------|------|
| | Miss Laprimaudaye | £700 |
|--|-------------------|------|

| | | |
|--|---------------|------|
| | & Miss Buckle | £600 |
|--|---------------|------|

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--|
| | The School Hall | |
|--|-----------------|--|

| | | |
|--|--|-------------|
| | | 3140. 15. 7 |
|--|--|-------------|

Should not these sums expended form a claim to the Individuals for the Community? We never know what persecution might rise that would drive us out of England. And besides, we must remember that the Jesuits with all their holiness were suppressed. Why might not we share the same fate? Then we do not know what may happen when you & I are in another world. There are also the sums expended by you after the Revd. J.

- 2 -

Jones' death – about £7000 I think; about £2000 you paid to Mr. Curtis, about £2000 to Robson through me Begun by Mr Jones [inserted in pencil in margin in C.C's hand], and about £3000 to Hughes & Hunter. In all upwards of £10,000 has been laid out since the death of Mr. Jones on these buildings. You will quite understand that we must be very much on our guard before expending further sums. Not in the least that we apprehend any evil, but we ought to be so cautious as that if any should befall us, those who have confided in us should not have to suffer through our want of care or prudence. It certainly would not be right for us to use the present sum required for the Church without securing an equivalent to the individuals who give it. If this can be secured by selling or letting "the lot" it will be a great advantage to us in many respects to finish the Church &c.

We expect Dr. G[rant] to return this week & I presume he will bring the decision of Rome regarding the appeal of Dr. Duke. I trust it will put an end to our troubles in that quarter, but the Cardinal is in Rome & you know the view he has taken is not the most favourable to us in this matter. The day of Judgment will shew forth the truth & we know that wise heads have said you could not have acted in a more conscientious way than you have done & anyone who knows you knows also that you are not one to be influenced or drawn over by me. The thought is quite absurd. May God reward you for the trouble & anxiety you have and on our account! The whole of this long letter comes to the two points –

1st Can you have the £2500 secured to the Individuals (who are ready to give it without security) who now hold the sum in the Consols?

2^{ndly} Can the sums already expended be also secured by any claim on the property? These two points will save you the trouble of a second review of this long letter

I am always dr Col. T.

Yrs. Faithfully & gratefully in JC –

C. C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - ROME [Letter Book II. Letter 32 – page 35]

CopyLetter written to Col. Towneley by Our Mother (dated March 2nd. 1864)

+

J.M.J.

My dear Col. Towneley.

We are most anxious that you should leave nothing undone in order to come to a fair and clear understanding with the S[acred] C[ongregation] regarding our present position at St. Leonards, & perhaps it may facilitate the matter if I frankly state to you without further delay that we are quite willing the property should be sold and the Community transferred elsewhere rather than continue in our present state incurring the dissatisfaction of Rome, subject to constant misrepresentation & most injurious persecution here. We have devoted 16 years to this establishment & we have made it what it is though with only one object in view – the good of souls amongst our children and community and God's greater glory therein. It would be impossible to continue to gain this end, save in the usual protection of our Ecclesiastical Superiors &, also in their satisfaction and no temporal interest whatever could compensate for any want of peace & union with that authority which we shall ever hold sacred. Neither could the possession of any property were it a hundred fold beyond the value of this ever repay the suffering of persecution borne only for Christ's dear sake. Pray let me assure you my dr. Col Towneley that unless our affairs are settled by the S.C. with you, we shall hail the day that decides our removal from here. Thought I must at the same time add that we should expect to be fully remunerated on the sale of the property for the large sums we have expended on the buildings &c &c and I need not add that I am very sure you would be the very last person in the whole world to allow us to be wronged in

[continued below]

any way. It will be well also to say that we shd not only be willing to sacrifice our remaining here, but also to sacrifice the Schools on the same principle. Either we must labour in peace for the extension of the Catholic Truth & for the Service of God in our vocation, or we must cease our work totally. Satan is strong in his persecution but our B. Lord is still stronger and will shew His Will and His way to those who seek His glory beyond all temporal property.

Forgive me for so strongly urging you to come to a final decision in the Settlement with the S.C., as upon this must depend all hope of future peace or good & in fact upon all hope of our remaining here. I am My dr Col. Towneley

Yours very faithfully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Letter Book II]
[Letter 36 – page 40]

Copy of a letter to Col. Towneley (dated)

March 20 1864+
JMJ

My dear Col. Towneley.

Yes – we can throw up our Rosaries & our prayers to heaven in thanksgiving for a right of just settlement in your favour & also in thanks for the result of the sale of the Short Horns. I must add that I sent immediately for the Friday & Saturday Times but not a vestige could we find about Short Horns or the Towneley Hall Sale. Send it to us if you can. Well! thanks be to God again & again that all is settled, and thanks to Dr. Roskell too. We must fête him when Mr. Searle returns. It seems to me that now you should lose no time carrying out your own terms. We ought not to let the enemy take a breath or he will get the advantage of us again.

Propaganda says that no obligation whatever rests upon you or the Nuns to finish the Church or to provide in any way for the Mission. Therefore whatever you or we do in carrying out our offer, is done freely & we become benefactors by our deeds! But how can the Bishop expect you or us to do anything for the mission until the foul charges against us are publicly contradicted, Dr. Duke & Mr. Foy silenced & some amends made for the grievous wrongs and injustice so long allowed to be perpetrated against us? Do strike while the iron is hot, & insist upon an immediate preparation to evacuate the Chapel & Presbytery & to take instant possession of the boys' school now occupied by a rag & bone man or some such occupation. Mr. Stonor will do all this for you, & thus clinch your triumph. Mr. Foy ought to have been removed long ago. It is no small matter to have to serve a priest daily in the Sacristy for six years who has been acting openly as well as secretly
[continued below]

against the reputation of the Community & to the injury of our Schools. This however is a delicate point with the Bishop who would never suffer any interference in such matters.

May our Lord reward you and guide you in all that now remains to be done. With love to Lady C. and prayers for her renewed health I am

Yours ever gratefully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

[Letter Book II]
[Letter 49 - Page 55]

JMJ

It is a long time since I have heard anything from you regarding Card. Barnabo's arrangements with yourself and we should all very much regret any further delay. If this delay is caused by the want of £500, I am ready, (to save yourself and the Community any further trouble) to intervene and offer at any sacrifice the £500 suggested by Dr. Roskell, out of our own funds. I make this offer on the part of the Community, however only on condition that the arrangements be at once carried out.

Yours very faithfully in JC.

Cornelia Connelly.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [Copied from Letter Book II]
[Letter 55 – Page 62]

Copy

Letter written to Col. Towneley Feby. 5th 1865 by Our Mother

+ JMJ

My dear Col. Towneley

I want to bed a very great charity of you which I hope you will not refuse me. It is one that will be of treble merit – first as a charity to ourselves, secondly a very great one to five poor Orphans, thirdly, one that will bring many blessings on earth to you & yours & a rich reward in heaven. It is this – we want ~~you~~[sic] to beg you to give an annual subscription of one hundred pounds, or a total subscription of five hundred pounds towards our contract for the building of the Mayfield Chapel. In return for which we will pledge ourselves to maintain five Orphans for five years & the daily communions of five of our sisters & I will promise also to offer in my poor way these five Orphans to our B. Lord in honour of His most Sacred Wounds, one to each Wound by His most precious Blood to bring blessings on you & yours for time & Eternity - - - Need I say more to you. you willl have your 10 pr cent for Time & the 100 fold for all Eternity! For the love of the Holy Child Jesus & His most sweet Mother do not refuse my petition. Remember Her sorrow & how much she mourns for Sin & for the poor deserted Orphans who might be saints if properly cared for in their childhood. The building at Mayfield is to be appropriated as much to orphans as to the Noviciate & it is for the Orphans

[continued below]

share I now plead. We have four now waiting for entrance into such a portion of the building as we are able to give them – but we are £1300 short of money to complete the Contract for the Chapel. Your £500 would reduce the sum to £800, & this we are collection by sous & centimes in France and Holland.

I propose an annual subscription that would not inconvenience you, because we could borrow the other four hundred & pay it annually as your subscription comes in. the Orphans we could support on the produce of the Farm & their own industry. Say yes - & blessings on you! – One little yes and a stroke of your pen on your cheque book will make many happy hearts & give five happy years to five poor Orphans, and a happy flow to your own good heart & you will have the whole back with the hundred fold for Eternity and this will be a thousand times better & more to you than the wealth of a gold mine! And your fields will produce better crops & your pasture better grazing & your cattle better stock - & may you say the precious yes that will bring all these blessings and draw the stroke of the pen with two round O's behind it. – Do pray. –

Ever yours faithfully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

Copy. Letter to Mr Ward dated

London May 29th 1862

My dear Sir [Mr Ward]

It was a great disappointment to have ~~to have~~ [sic] missed seeing the Revd. Fr de Magliano on his way through London, but he very kindly wrote to inclose your letter to me while I was visiting our Convents in the north of England. I have to thank you very much for your proposal to have the garden put into good order & planted for kitchen use; pray have it done; and also may I beg of you to have any little repairs made in the house that you may find necessary before the arrival of our sisters, such ^{as} window glass, or broken locks &c &c It will not be desirable to have any papering or painting done as they may require certain alterations or divisions in the rooms which you could not direct. You see I am accepting your kind offers as soon as they are made! Will you likewise have the kindness to order about 50 dollars worth of timber to be on the premises; and dry, so as to be fit for use at the time of the arrival of our Sisters. They will require desks &c &c I have written to Rome to know when we may expect Dr Wood to return to his diocese so as to arrange the time of the voyage with him & if possible that the Sisters may go with His Lordship or with any of the Bishops who may be returning at the time we propose starting. I shall be glad to know whether you have received the first \$500 on the contract for timber on the Lycoming lands &c The farm yields 4 dollars pr. acre.

Page 52

- 2 -

...(Sisters make purchases in New York - - a letter to meet them there - - - - -
- - - Send a letter to say what they will require from New York – I will write again
as soon as I hear from Rome. &c &c &c

[Cornelia Connelly]

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [from Copy-press duplicate of original]

[Feb. 15, 1856]

Dear Mr Wardell,

The specification & contract should be drawn in Mr Towneley's name alone.

Pray have the kindness to send them to me first, & I will forward them to Mr. Towneley, who is just now at Clonmel, I think.

I am dr. Sir

Yrs truly in J.C.

C. Connelly

All Souls

St Leonards Feb. 15 [1856]

SHCJ ARCHIVES (ROME)

[Copied from Letter Book I]

Letter 83, pages 85 – 87Copy by the same mailApril 8th [1861]

JMJ

My dear Mr. Wardell,

I deferred answering your most welcome letter till I could tell you of the arrival of the Bishops invitation which I have just answered with many thanks. And now I must thank you again and again for bringing such an excellent work in our way. If the zealous desires of my heart could be followed I should be ready to send or go myself next month but prudence requires the exposition of many little details before entering upon this cherished & hopeful work. I can quite see our dr Mary Lucy's delight at the prospect of seeing the old faces of her St Leonards' days, Dear child! I only wish she could have stopped here to go out with us next year, & yet we must be thankful that the journey is over & that she is safe, and that her dr Mother is past over all anxiety about her. If our Sisters are with you next year we shall hear more frequently of her & know more about you all. Please God that this may be and now I have several questions to ask you ~~for~~^{regarding} [sic] the many details we shall require to know before undertaking the expense of the journey &c &c Though perhaps you know of some good works that have been written lately & that would supply all the information in detail. If so will you kindly let me know the titles & I will send for them. Will you also let me know whether there are Houses in the neighbourhood of Melbourne that cd be rented for a few years until we can build (gradually) for ourselves and at what rent yearly.

[continued below]

I shall also be glad to know whether you find the living (not) (clothing) in general as expensive or more so than in London. If Mrs W will send me a few words of her own on these details I shall be able to judge in some measure of our undertaking. And perhaps she will give her experience of what is most necessary to provide for the journey in the way of clothing & convent furniture; and these details wd be most valuable to us.

The time of the journey or rather the season. I suppose May or June perhaps the Bishop may know of some priests who may make the journey next year and this would be most desirable for the Sisters. – Will you ^{kindly} let me know whether the overland route is much more expensive or more desirable to take generally when there is no particular object in a sea voyage. Pray ask Mrs W to consider this letter as much as addressed to herself as to you, for I should like to know more a thousand times that I can say upon paper, but her kind heart will suggest all that she would have liked to know herself. I suppose all [word crossed out and unclear] [sic] devotional pictures oratory things &c are to be taken out & not to be purchased except at very high prices. Will you also my dr Mr. Wardell let me know the probable value of land pr acre in the neighbourhood of Ballarat & Melbourne and the probable cost of building a Convent with Schools & dormitories to provide for 50 children either at Ballarat or Melbourne. I merely want to have an idea to save for future investments & to make a beginning for the purchase of the land.

I must not tease you with more questions Pray tell M L that her companions are all well & very busy getting up a Bazaar to aid in building a Chapel for themselves –

[continued below]

- 3 -

that is for the children of Mary. They have already raised by subscription of 1/- & by their little raffles, upward of £60; so that with patience they hope to raise in time £500. By that time we hope to build our church, which remains as it was when you last saw it: But we have built a large school hall and a dormitory at the back of the C & S dormitory which little Lucy will remember. I trust that the dr child ^ and with you all [sic] notwithstanding the muskitoes & fleas! I will only add my dr Mr Wardell

Yours very faithfully in JC.

C C

SHCJ ARCHIVES MAYFIELD

[draft-letter in C.C.'s hand
Copied from Original]

My dear Sir [Henry Bell Wilson]

I have handed M^r Pugins certificate to the Duchess of Leeds as you requested.

Regarding the one for £400 upon my acc^t I think there must be some mistake. The payments made already are of these dates

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|------------------|---|-------|
| 1864. | July | 20 th | £ | 400 |
| | Sep | 5 th | | 400 |
| | Nov | 4 th | | 600 |
| 1865 | Jan | 5 th | | 600 |
| | April | 21 st | | 400 |
| | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | 2400 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Bill to March 1 st Bricks & Tiles | 216.14.10 |
| 1865 | |
| | <hr/> |
| | 2612.14.10 |

Money paid - £2616.14.10
80 pr c^t on £3300 – 2640

| | |
|------------|-------|
| 2640 | <hr/> |
| 2616.14.10 | |

| | | |
|-----|-------|----------|
| Due | <hr/> | 23. 5. 2 |
|-----|-------|----------|

I think there is but £23.5.2 due from me until two months after the works are finished.

No doubt the Duchess of Leeds will send you the cheque for £113 – immediately

I am very sorry you did not call at the Convent when you went to Mayfield last week – I wished particularly to see you.

The staircase is very mean in its width and I think

~~you will remember my especially calling your attention to the necessity of
a wide staircase —~~

~~Please to let me have an estimate of the cost of stone up to the first floor
about 1½ f^t wider than the present one.~~

~~I am very sorry we did not see the width before the staircase was put up.~~

SHCJ ARCHIVES (ROME) [From copy-press duplicate of original]

Dr Sir

The parcel of books has arrived safely but there is nothing for Miss Kebby who has been here several times to enquire.

You will oblige me by adding to the remainder coming, three dozen of Dr Lingards Catechism – I think it is the Douay Cat. Enlarged by notes. Please also to send a copy of the Book of Heraldry coloured.

-And also a copy of Burkes Peerage – We require the best & fullest edition as it is to teach from.

I am

dr Sir

Yrs truly in J.C.

C: Connelly

All Souls

St Leonards

Feb 13th [1856]

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME [Letter Book I Letter 5, page 8]

CopyChance Letter

Convent H.C. Jesus. Mr Anderson
Blackpool. July 4th 1857
(St Leonard's after the 6th)

My dear Sir

Your letter reached me on the Eve of my departure from St. Leonard's & I have not been able to consult our dear Bessie regarding its contents. Her Father makes a great mistake in supposing that she had the smallest knowledge of her final decision before leaving Douglas.

I am quite sure that she did intend returning, at least for a time, nor had she decided upon remaining at St Leonard's until she had been there about ten days or a fortnight.

I am also myself persuaded that she has done right in deciding upon the state of life which she is persuaded is to secure her happiness. You must remember my dear Sir that Bessie had consulted her Father on this subject & that she had waited three years before taking any step contrary to his will. Should she regret her choice, I have only to repeat that she will have her two years of Noviciate, during which time no vows are allowed that could in any way bind her to remain with us. Regarding the payment of her expenses, I have only to say that we trust Mr Gray may be softened, & treat his own child as every Lady expects to be treated; but I have the satisfaction to assure you that no mercenary motives shall decide "the grade" in which Bessie ranks, & if he fails to provide for her as a Gentleman, we shall make it up ourselves for her sake. I sincerely hope he may be open to reason, and be towards Bessie a good Father as he certainly was during her dear Mother's life.

I am my dear Sir

Yours faithfully in J.C.

C. Connelly. M. Supr.

SHCJ ARCHIVES (ROME)

[Copied from Letter Book I]

Letter 138, page 161Letter written Oct 14th [1862]

Copy

Convent

St Leonards-on-Sea

Gentlemen

I am obliged by your letter received this morning & beg to inform you that Herr Liebech was never engaged by us for any period of time whatever but simply by the lesson. He was never engaged by the quarter or month, or week or day, but simply per lesson and he has received every farthing due to him as his receipts will prove. A note of the price of the lessons and the term of the holidays was given to him for his own convenience but we never bound ourselves to employ him ~~but~~ [sic] beyond the lesson at any time whatever.

I am

Gentlemen

Yrs. In Xt. –

C. C.

NB 17th Sepr. 1860 H.L. gave his first lesson at the Convent. If there was any amount due to him why did he not claim it at the ~~but~~ [sic] time, & in the bill of wh. we have the receipt?

SHCJ ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from Book M. 2.]

The Convent
St Leonards-on-Sea
Nover 8th [/66]

+
JMJ

My dear Sir,

I received your letter this morning & very much regret that illness should have prevented my seeing Mr Hall when he called to see the children. However I hope you will make yourself happy about the children when I tell you that you have been misinformed on the various heads of complaints & I have no doubt they will before long become attached to the Sisters & to their companions. Of course it is impossible to keep a school at the small pension of £20 per an: as select as the Upper School which is £50 per an: But I assure you we have had & always have children at the lower school of the highest reputability such as daughters of officers, Architects, Solicitors etc., and one of the children 4 years here & not long left the School, is a niece of a judge who is her guardian. The children are not mixed with the charity children, who are but few in number, & wholly occupied in the Laundry & other offices, save the time employed in evening class at the poor day school. 2nd Regarding the education they receive, it is of the very highest being in all respects the same as that of the Highest School & certainly you could find none better throughout England or the Continent.

3rd. Regarding the living, the good health of the children will prove the good living – The food is excellent in quality,

[continued below]

but not luxurious nor choice food. But they have unlimited bread, meat, vegetables & milk etc. The same butcher serves the two Schools, & the same Baker - If exceptions are necessary for the sick, such as extra tea, Porter, or wine the Parents send it to their children, or it is charged to them if they prefer it – however if you will have patience with the children & prove for yourself whether the diet agrees with them and whether they improve in their studies & behaviour or not you will then feel better satisfied as to their true interest.

The children shall not know that you have any complaints & I hope your satisfaction & experience when you see them again will induce you to leave them where they are. Our children generally are so much attached to the School that they return joyfully after the holidays & if ~~[the on]~~ your dear ones are not like the others at the end of a year I shall be surprised and disappointed.

I hope you will communicate the contents of this letter to Mr Hall and,

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

Sup.

SHCJ ARCHIVES - MAYFIELD

[Book M.2.]

[Oct. 8th 1867.]

]St. Leonards]

Gentlemen

I beg to inform you that I am quite willing to have the water cut off from the Convent.

We have two wells, and various large tanks which receive all the surface water from the roofs and grounds supplying the cattle and the Convent. I am quite willing however to keep the supply to the Schools below the Convent and to be charged the usual rate of the Town. Before we were supplied by the town Water Works we were only in want at the Schools below & this during a long drought at Midsummer when our surface water pipes had leaked during Winter.

I think you have made a great mistake in your estimate of our use of the water. If you wish to make any demand on the builders you can do so but I have given them the use of our upper pond from which they can have a good supply all the year round.

I remain Gentlemen

Yours etc.

C. Connelly