

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from the Original]

Convent St L on Sea  
Jan 16. 1871.

+  
JMJ

My dear Sister Josephine

I was more sorry than you could have been not to have had you here for the holidays, and I understood from Sr Anastasia & the Sisters that you were expecting a removal –

Well now you are in Preston! where the same good God watches over you – where you can go to Him in the Tabernacle & whisper all your hearts wants & ask for Council [sic] in every way. It is more particularly before the Most B. Sacrament that our good thoughts present themselves and many a difficulty there is solved that our weaknesses could not have encountered alone. Take care not to lose the interior spirit by the pressure of activity and be sure never of your own fault to lose one single spt exercise of obligation. You can generally secure [part of the page is torn away here] ary in walking to the [scho] ols and partially enter into your adoration in returning – And as the sisters who are employed all the Day in the Schools are never allowed to teach in the Night Schools also, you will doubtless have your evenings free.

Remember I shall always expect to hear from you once a month or at any time you like to write – Pray very much for poor France.

Yours afftly in JC

C.C.

[Written on the outside is]  
Sr M Josephine Gilston  
St Wilfrids

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from the Original]

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> 1871

+  
JMJ

My dearest Sr Josephine

I very often think of you & of the change &c &c – but I have confidence in your making yourself happy in doing God's will wherever you may be sent – Let me hear from you soon again & of your work – The prospect of large numbers will be a good exchange for your zeal – May God ever bless you my dear child and give you His sweet grace in abundance

Yrs affcly in JC.

C.C.

[On the outside of this tiny half sheet of notepaper is the following]:

Sr M Josephine Gilston

[These two letters dated Jan 16 and Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 1871  
are enclosed in a tiny white envelope marked]:

Sr M. Josephine Gilston.

Sh(smudged)

SHCJ.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from a Typescript]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
November 29<sup>th</sup> 1872.

J.M.J.

My dear Child, (Sister Mary Josephine Gilston)

I have this moment received your letters, on my return from Mayfield, where I was called to see Sister Mary Stanislas (Lizzie Birmingham) who was very near death at one moment though she is now better and at least in less imminent danger than we thought her to be last week. She received Holy Communion as Viaticum this morning. Your poor Father! Yes, we shall all pray for him and your dear Mother – She will need even more than your father who has been preparing for a long time now – You must remember his many charities, and his faith which he proved in giving you up to Our dear Lord for which he will now have his reward. Let me hear very soon again, and let us hope that the alarm of consumption in your two sisters is a false alarm! I wish your Mother would bring them both to St Leonards for the winter and give them a chance of being cured. I hope to see you soon, at Christmas which is not far off now.

God ever bless you.

Ever your affectionately in J.C.

C.C,

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from a Typescript]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea,  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1872

J.M.J.

My dear Child, [Sister Mary Josephine Gilston]

I feel deeply for all your sorrows and for your dear Mother, but your great consolation must be in the hope you have for your dear Father's happy departure. Send us the Mortuary for the Chapel or ask your Mother to send it. Let me know the real state of your sisters health and advise your Mother to come to a warmer climate without delay if the doctor advises the removal. Tell her how much we feel for her in their sad trial and assure her of our prayers.

I should like to bring you here at once, but we must see what can be done for the Schools before I make any change. They want you to go to St Walburgas now that there are two more certificated at St. Wilfrids. Do not be anxious I hope to be able to bring you here and if I can do so in justice to the Schools you may count upon it sooner or later.

Send your thoughts to heaven with your dear Father's spirit and this will be of moe profit to him than dwelling on the past. R.I.P.

Ever yours lovingly in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly. S.H.C.J.

S.H.C.J.      ARCHIVES      MAYFIELD [Copied from a Typescript]

[1872]

J.M.J.

Dear Sister Mary Josephine, [Gilston]

I have only a view to your health in regard to a change for you, and my proposal was simply to exchange you for a time with Sister St Edward. I think you are wrong to be so anxious about any change and I hope you will tell Sister St. John frankly if you feel that it will be better for you to exchange with Sister St. Edward. I have no other view whatever than to benefit your health, and I will arrange for you with Sister St. Dunstan after you have talked the matter over with Sister St. John. May God bless you and make you well and strong.

Ever yours affectionately in J. C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES MAYFIELD [Copied from a Typescript]

[1872]

J.M.J.

My dear Sister Mary Josephine, [Gilston]

I return Kate Fosters letter and hope she may be able to get lodgings near us or at Bohemia for a low rate. It would be impossible for us to receive her here – This is the most busy time of our year as you know of old, and I cannot put extra cares or burdens upon the sisters in charge who already have their hands full, and more than full.

I hope you are getting strong and well in every way yourself and not teasing over any thing. Pray and have great confidence in God who will take care of His own work and guide and govern it by His Holy Spirit. Say the Te Deum on your way to school and the Benedictus.

Ever yours lovingly in J.C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME [From copy-press duplicate of Original]

Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> [1856]

My dear Mth [Teresa Hanson]

I really do not know what to advise about the House – We must see our way much clearer than I see it just now – We must get in advance of own means before we take fresh expenses – I have not the money to get what is necessary for the Queen's Scholars & this must be secured before every thing.

Mr Marshall writes to me this morning. – I will enclose his letter which you must return – Kate Hennessey & Julia had better come without delay as the Lectures have begun. – Kate, however must make up her mind to a second year or the payment for the pension would fall short.

It has just struck me that perhaps the neighbourhood of the Albany St Schools would not be quite respectable to live in, and perhaps you had better not engage Sergt Bellasis in any expense that we might be sorry for later – Consult him regarding this point - A bad neighbourhood <sup>would</sup> never do for us. Perhaps you will not understand me – I mean a neighbourhood of disreputable people. Be sure that you see to this before Sergt Bellasis makes any move in the matter.

In answer to No. 2 in your letter – Anne Boyle – I am very sorry – I think Government counts past fifteen but not to sixteen – ask Mr Marshall – I have no other to send you.

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No 3 – A. Regan – I am very sorry for her but I will not receive her here. If you can induce Mr Hunt to interest himself for her ( which I think he will consider a duty ) it will be the best you can hope to do – She certainly has some claims after five years labour in their schools.

No. 4. Send to Burns for Cowper – get a School copy – and get at the same time “School Chronology drawn up for the Liverpool Collegiate Schools” – This is the title – 1/- each – 6 will be enough – The Sisters can learn it by heart while they read Flanagan. The questions I shall send for Geography will be made from those they must answer pg. 108. Sullivan Generalized. – At page 201 in the same book they will find a nice little Historical Sketch of England etc to learn by heart & write from memory to send to me next Monday. They can make the children in the Schools repeat it for the reading lesson until they also do it from memory. Give each Sister four quires of paper – one for Gram. One His. One Geography & maps (copied four times each and once from memory.)

Ever your own faithfully in J.C.

C. [Connelly]

[Written across the top:] I will send a list of books that Kate H & Julia may bring with them. I hope they will have the Government Money & bring £5 with them to supply the drawing materials etc. etc.



S.H.C.J.      ARCHIVES      ROME    [copied from the duplicated Original]

[Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> 1856]

My dr Mth Theresa [Hanson]

I am very sorry you are so naughty as to feel sad – why do you?

I am glad Cicy is coming on Monday – I only wish I could bring you all if it were for the glory of God – but we must work & suffer to gain the crown.

If Ellen O'Connor comes to you & has not the money to bring her down, you had better take her to the Station & pay her ticket. – I send you Mth Emily's letter that will shew you the Liverpool spirit – that is Mr Newshams –

I enclose also the list of wants, & will send you a cheque for them when I know what you will require to pay them.

Take care that Sr Frances, Agatha etc. etc. have their full study & send me their papers every week. They must be sure to teach what they are studying - & to read the History of England with the P. Teachers & first classes.

Ever your own faithfully

In J.C.

C. [Connelly]

S.H.C.J.      ARCHIVES      ROME      [from original]

My dear Mth Theresa, [Hanson]

Mr Butt is taking the "Dismission" for our Counsel [sic] to sign, which I have written since Mth Lucy's <sup>last</sup> letter, [sic] telling me that M. E. [Emily Bowles] has come out of retreat, & refuses the reparation due.

When you have signed it, which I already know you wish to do, - I wish it to be sent by tonights post to Mth Alphonsa & from her to Mth Lucy, and from Mth Lucy to be returned to me.

Mr Butt will hand you this

Ever yrs faithfully in JC.

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> 1856

S.H.C.J.      ARCHIVES      ROME      [Copied from the Original]

My dear Sr M Theresa [Hanson]

I do not know how my first letter to you could have been lost & this is an extra one.

I want to recommend you to read a few sentences in the Im. Jc. Every day by y<sup>r</sup> self you will always <sup>find</sup> some thing t<sup>e</sup> [sic] consoleing [sic] & useful to you. I always pray for you.

Ever y<sup>r</sup> loving  
Mother in X<sup>t</sup>  
C.C.

Oct 31.

S.H.C.J.      ARCHIVES      MAYFIELD

[ in C.C's hand on back of  
Letter from Geo.M.Arnold  
17<sup>th</sup> Novr. 1869. & copy  
letter from Sankey Son &  
Flint]

Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1869. Hyères Var. France.

My dear Mother Theresa [Hanson]

I have just sent Mr Arnold the Cheque for £300 and I requested him to send the receipt to you as of course it must be kept there. How good of our good good God to send us children who can make up this enormous amt. of extras, and in May we shall you see £271 to pay. [sic] It seems some months since we left home! and so many thoughts and anxieties wh. our good good sweet God brings us out of – and if this turns out a work of taking in Converts Oh how can we ever be grateful enough for His making use of us!!! My heart is full in the very hope, when I turn upon my own unworthiness and many imperfections! This evening an American Lady came to look at the Villa and if she takes it, certainly it will be through St. Joseph and our Novena to him. I will finish this tomorrow as it is too late for tonights [sic] post, and the Sisters are waiting for me. We shall be so very glad when Sr. Julianna is here for the children and the house.

[not completed]

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME [Copied from MS copy]

My dear Mother Teresa,

Our dear Sister Lucy Ignatia expired this evening at 2/2 o'clock having received the last rites of the Church.

Her cheerfulness & resignation were truly edifying & we may say of her that she died practising her vows till the last hour of her short life. She was 24 years of age, & 3 years in religion.

She received extreme unction several days before her death, & the Holy Viaticum last evening.

Her agony lasted from 4 o'clock A.M. till 2½ P.M. She was perfectly sensible until the last half hour, & spoke or answered us until then.

R.I.P.

Ever yours faithfully in J.C.

C.C.

Mth. Teresa Mth. Emily & Mth. Lucy

My dear Sisters

I wish you all to get "Bromby's Grammar". It is the most perfect little logical thing to be found & has reached the eighth edition without ever coming under our notice. I think we must make it a point of conscience to get certain new books (to send from house to house) of the specimens of the day. At least for a time & just at this time when the march of teaching is going at such a wonderful pace. God grant we may march at an equal pace in the path of perfection & that the "Pax Vobis" of our Lord at this blessed season may bring to all peace of conscience for each and everyone – peace with God – and peace with your neighbour and not only peace for your own sakes but that all may as possess that peace which is God's own gift, that you may be untiring in desires that all of His creatures may enjoy the same ineffable good that you enjoy for this is true love and charity.

Simplicity seeks God

But purity finds Him

May your Simplicity seek & may a daily increase of purity find Him.

Pax Vobis

Ever your own in J.C.

C.

My dear Mth. Theresa

Our dear Sr. Francis death must be described when we meet. I will only say that she died singing 'Jesus & Mary I love you' & thirsted for Paradise. She lies in the parlour with her marble face smiling more sweetly than I ever saw it in life.

I have another fact to tell you that makes my elbows weak as I attempt to write of it. Sr. Walburga is cured by taking the Saints miraculous oil! She received it on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> & was instantly cured just before 9 in the evening. She went to Communion the next morning in the Chapel & tho' she has been in bed since the Feast of St. Theresa & vomited gallons of blood & matter in each week, vomiting also her food daily, she continues perfectly well & eats heartily since the moment of her cure. The swelling has all disappeared & she has not the slightest pain in wearing her stays. She could not endure the pressure of her habit before the cure.

Nature has resumed its action & her bowels are restored though no medicine has had the smallest effect for months, indeed nearly one year.

This miracle is something more stupendous than Margaret Christians (?) resurrection! If you wish to come and see for yourself – come.

Ever dear M Theresa

Yours faithfully

in J.C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[From a MS copy]

Copy of a letter written to Sr Angela [Hunt]

Agt 5<sup>th</sup> 1870  
The Convent,  
Mayfield

My dear Sister

I received both yr letters by the same post, & feel very sorry that you did not seal your letter trustingly in the presence of M. Alphonsa. I never heard of any Sup<sup>r</sup> having refused to send a letter to me, or of having opened one that was intended for me alone, still as you were under this sort of mistrust & acted upon “presumptive leave” I should not consider your act as disobedience, tho’ I do not know how much you may have failed in respect in your words & manner with M. Alphonsa & thus have failed in obedience to the Rule. The language of yr letter to me is very intemperate & I should myself consider such judgements on the minds & hearts of others a grievous sin. Perhaps you did not mean what you say.

The resolutions of your Retreat were not according to the Gospel, or in the perfection of the Rule – not Christ-like.

1. I am glad you tell me about the hours. If you had more than the four hours work, why did you not say at once that I had said four? – do so now.
2. As to the wine you take, if in obedience when you feel you need it & I shall pay for it. You had much better not think about it again. There w<sup>d</sup> be no end to taking offence in a Community when anyone hunts for wounds of this sort.  
What practical use can anyone make of prayer & meditation if she goes directly against the words of Our Lord? It is a mystery to me how you can allow yourself to imagine & grieve over the words & doings of others & take them as unkindnesses even if they were meant as such. Why not



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try to gain merit yourself and leave others to God? He certainly will take care of you & fight your battles himself, if only you would turn them to profit. He will not ask you about the sins of others if you have not been accessory to them. He does not always will that which is the most perfect in itself but the most perfect possible under the circumstances.

3. I am astonished & sorry that you imagined I was unkind to you, as I certainly was very kind & relieved you of every trouble in my power by securing rest & less than equal labour with the other Sisters. I certainly never had a thought of ridiculing your need of wine or any thing else! The evil one must have held a bitter cup to you for a long time to make such a draught for you! In<sup>d</sup> make him drink it himself for the future & turn to the Chalice of our Lord. Religious life is a farce to anyone who disregards the common laws of Charity. We condemn ourselves by our judgements of others. Blessed are the meek! Do for the love of God take some care of your own spirit & leave others to Him. Leave them all to God, as the Irishman w<sup>d</sup> say of his worst enemy. Oh hateful pride! If the head gets wrong we can never make it right but the heart can be brought to the right point.

Now I will tell M Alphonsa to be very kind to you & no doubt she will tell me she has been so & then I shall tell her to re-double her kindness but if the Evil One brings his cup of bitter spirit & you take that instead of the Chalice of our L you will go back again & again to naughty thoughts till y<sup>f</sup> brain really gets a fever -----Text 1. Cor.IV.12. Now tell our Lord that you mean to be of His soul & begin again in good earnest –  
The longest life is short -----

Yours lovingly in J.C.  
C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Letter Book IV  
Letter 4, page 3.]

Copy of our Mother's letter written to Sr Angela

(dated)

The Convent , St Leonards – on – Sea

Dec. 26 1871

My dear Sr in Xt.

I am again warned from three different sources of the very grave faults into which you have fallen against religious order & discipline. This is the fifth Religious House from whence your dismissal has been requested. I have no other House willing to receive you under these circumstances, & I leave you to seek counsel of your Director as to your future steps, for I see no other resource for you than to return to your Mother where we are ready to provide for you until we can find a proper situation in which you may be employed. May our good God give you light, and the strength of virtue!

I remain in much sorrow

Yours in J.C.

Cornelia Connelly

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES U.S.A. [Copied from Original]

July 11<sup>th</sup> 1867My dear M<sup>th</sup> M Agnèse [Ingram]

I send these few lines to you as I do not know who will be left in charge in M<sup>th</sup> M X- absence. F<sup>r</sup> carter does not seem to think she will come but I told him I had said she was to come if possible – So I shall hope to see her before D<sup>r</sup> Woods arrival – perhaps she will cross F<sup>r</sup> Carter in the channel – I never so much longed to see you all as now –

I have given F<sup>r</sup> Carter the deed to record – But nothing can be sold or signed without leave from the Society whether I am living or not as the names put into the Sharon corporation is for the Society & held as such without any personal power – F<sup>r</sup> C told me that he has \$6000 of yours invested in U States Bonds I thought is [it] was \$2000 only. He told me also of your saving \$500 to invest – and with great satisfaction in your good management. He also spoke of inviting the Bishop to make a visitation – I told him we never did it – if the Bishop chooses to make a visitation he is always welcome – He also said his Lo<sup>rd</sup>p ought to see the accts I said the Bishop was not answerable for your expenses & that if you were in difficulties you would come to us & I should soon settle matters – This finished the question –

Read the enclosed & also the scrap on “business” attentively and give it to the one in charge at Sharon till M<sup>th</sup> M X's return.

Ever yrs lovingly in J.C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES U.S.A. [Copied from Original]

Business

1<sup>st</sup> The Deed making over the property in Towanda Bradford & Lycoming is signed & given to Fr Carter to have recorded immediately, and given to you. It makes the property over to the "Sharon Female Academy Corporation" which Fr Carter tells me is not tied to any property but that it is perfect [ly] independent [sic] of any property.

I explained to  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Fr Carter ~~understands~~ [sic] that,  
 " In making over this property  
 " to the Corporation the Duchess  
 myself  
 " and community ~~here~~ [sic] have no  
 " intention to allow it to be sold  
 " for any local purpose or to be used  
 " by any one save as a loan for  
 " immediate wants, and that the  
 " loan <sup>if taken</sup> is to bear interest until the  
 " whole is paid to the Society for future  
 " foundations. The gift of this property  
 " was made by the Duchess of Leeds

not for one foundation only but for the establishment of the order of the Holy Child Jesus <sup>wher ever desired</sup> through out the United States to be paid back by each F/ [sic] Convent ~~an~~ [sic] yearly interest and Capital during ~~such~~ [sic] <sup>as</sup> <sup>short</sup> a period of time as the success of the establishment will allow -

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and then to pass into another Diocese if that [sic] or if there is no desirable opening is such [sic] in the U States it will [sic] is to be paid to the Mother House [sic] General in—ngls [sic] for future foundations in any part of the world [sic] where ever they may be <sup>desired &</sup> made by the Society [sic]. I will send you the sort of agreement you should sign with [sic] to hand over to the Order, and also the substance of what is necessary in making the loan & in requiring security, which I will have done by our Solicitor –

[Written on the back]

Sent to Mt M Agnese  
July 11<sup>th</sup> 1867

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES

ROME

[Copied from MS]

Letters of our dearest Revd M. General to Sr. de Borgia on her departure for America 1866. October.

The Convent St Leonards on Sea  
Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> / 66

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J.M.J.

My dear Sr. de Borgia, [Jane Jones]

I sent you love and blessings by Sr. M. Walburga, who will also tell you how much we shall pray for you all the journey and till we hear of your safety with our dear Sisters at

1135 Spring Garden St.  
Philadelphia.

Mth. Theresa will see if you can be booked through to Philadelphia, which is about as far from New York as St. Leonards is from London. Then when you get to Phila: you have only to take a cab direct to 1135 Spring Garden St. – Take care that you both know your luggage & the number of parcels.

Very likely you may find some friends on board going to Phila. & they will be ready to assist in giving you both due information if you are not met by some one on arriving which I think will not happen. Good bye my dear little Sister for a little while & God ever bless you

Yours affectionately in J.C. C.C.

“Love & Suffer”

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J.M.J.London. Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1866

My dear Sr. de Borgia [Jane Jones]

I sent you a few lines last evening & I hope they will greet you on your arrival at Preston. In case they do not, I write now to say I have just received your letter – Our Lord will be with you in the journey you are making for His most Holy Will & your Angel will guide & keep you – We shall pray constantly till we hear of your arrival.

I put the life of St. Gertrude for you to read on the way & hope you will know where to find it. I am more sorry not to see you both till the last moment than you can be.

May our Lord comfort & console you in the moment of sickness and health –  
in X –

I wrote to you last night and also to Sr. M. Walburga.

Ever yours affec<sup>ly</sup> in J.C.

C.C.

Render to Caesar that which is Caesar's and to God that which is God's.

That is give to God all the powers of your soul & faculties of your mind & body since all comes from Him & all belongs to Him.

Accept – return thanks –

Fear (the use you make of God's

Favours & gifts)

C.C.

St Leonards on Sea

Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 1866

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Letter Book IV,  
Page 127]

Letter from our Mother General dated

The Convent  
St Leonards – on – Sea  
April 7, 1875+  
J.M.J.

My dear Mother Alphonsa [Kay]

I wrote to you last week but did not send the letter as I thought the subject of your removal might disturb you unnecessarily, & it is always painful to me, as I know you have been annoyed by the amalgamation required by the Bishop. Still you must really look upon the command of the Bishop as the expression of God's most holy will – and this is not to be doubted.

You will perhaps hear from M. Gertrude that we have agreed to take the second house in Winckley Sq & thus secure the necessary accommodation for the Pupil Teachers & for the Day Schools. I do not know how soon the moving can be effected, or when it may be convenient for you to leave Preston for the South, but you shall soon hear, & in the meanwhile you will have all in readiness for the last notice.

Give my love to the Sisters & tell them they have our heartfelt sympathy in these trials which we must all take in humble resignation to the Divine Will. I hope as the weather improves that you will also improve in health & that a change may be of the same service to you as the one of last August.

With many kind messages

I remain d<sup>r</sup> M<sup>th</sup> AlphonsaYours very affec<sup>ly</sup> in JC

C.C.



S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Letter Book IV,  
Page 134]Copy            From Our Mother GeneralThe Convent  
St L – on Sea  
April 24<sup>th</sup> 1875+  
J.M.J.My dear M<sup>th</sup> Alphonsa [Kay]

I have not written to you since you sent me the Protest which you say is on its way to Rome. You have undoubtedly a right to appeal to Rome, but if instead of a Protest which looks like a declaration of war, you had humbly complained to me of the want of regard in not giving you an official notice of Mother Gertrude's going to Preston, which was certainly not intentional, a little explanation would have cleared the matter.

You knew we accepted the Bishop of Liverpool's conditions sent before the Chapter was held, and we were therefore bound to carry them out when His Lordship insisted upon our <sup>so</sup>doing. Under the very exceptional circumstances in which we were placed M<sup>th</sup> Gertrude was provisionally elected Superior for Preston, His Lordship of Liverpool not being willing that any Superior who had held the office in Preston should act as Superior for the amalgamated Com<sup>ty</sup>. The responsibility of the mission work lay with the Bishop, and we believe that the amalgamation will prove a benefit to our Community. Certainly no slight or personal offence was intended towards you, and M<sup>th</sup> Gertrude was allowed by the Bishop to act as Gen<sup>l</sup> Assistants, and to be provisionally

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elected for the amalgamated house.

Now I hope my dear M Alphonsa you see we have acted for the best. The house to which you were elected as Superior having ceased to exist, I can only ask you to be generous enough to resign that Office of which circumstances have deprived you for grave reasons quite independent of any personal cause. I hope you will be happy at Mark X and that the rest & change of air may be of service to your health, if not we must make another change.

M Catherine is one of the kindest persons I have ever known & I feel sure that you will have every care and indulgence that your health of mind or body may require.

The quiet of the country will be almost equal to the Pastures of Inverness, if only you will amuse your mind & cast aside all thoughts of any intended offence. Let us try to gain merit for Eternity & to Judge of things as our good and merciful God judges of them. We have all a large share of suffering and if we had not we should never become Christ like as we ought. Pray for me I beg & especially for all I most wish & desire.

I am dear M<sup>th</sup> Alphonsa

Yours affectionately in JC.

M. Cornelia Connelly

Sup<sup>r</sup> G<sup>l</sup>.

FROM OUR MOTHER GENERAL

The Convent  
St L – on Sea  
Apr. 30, 1875

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J.M.J.

My dear Mother Alphonsa [Kay]

I quite accept your statement that no personal motive originated your Protest forwarded to the Bishop of Southwark & to me but I still fear that you have not realized the fact that your appointment as Local Superior though resting on due election had no confirmation from the Bishop of the Diocese. The conditions of the Bishop of Liverpool were – “that no change of any of the Religious in the Liverpool Diocese, should be made without the Bishop’s previous knowledge & consent and that the houses in Preston should be amalgamated into one.”

The Bishop of Liverpool having before the election insisted on the amalgamation of the houses in Preston, His Lordship consequently declined to accept or to confirm the nomination of Superior made by the Council. When I wrote to you requesting you to resign your Office, it was in obedience to the expressed wish of the Bishop of Southwark, although in doing so, it was not that we ourselves supposed you had any office to resign.

In like manner if at the time of the next Chapter His Lordship insists upon your coming to it we shall in the same spirit of obedience comply with his wishes, but we

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cannot acknowledge any right of office. I hope you begin to find benefit from the change of air and that when you know more of those dear little ones entrusted to us by Our Lord, you will be more in the work & take real pleasure in the share given to you –

With every kind message to you I am

dear Mother Alphonsa -

Yours affectionately in JC.

M. Cornelia Connelly

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[From original]

The Convent  
St Leonards of Sea  
Oct 29/ ['63 ?]

+  
J.M.J.

My dear Sr M. Theophila [Kay]

How to be obedient & take advice if you do not want to lose a store of merit that our dear Lord intends to provide for you. tell M<sup>th</sup> Th all that you find difficult with S<sup>r</sup> Christina's management - & ask her to tell you where your faults lie – If she appears to defend her, no matter, you will have done what you ought to do in telling your difficulties – Remember that you cannot make friendships with some & not with all of the children be open & frank – and humble – Remember the resolutions of your retreat and thank God for all humiliations sent to you straight from His own humble heart. Christmas will show you.

S<sup>r</sup> Theresa is very much better & in a very sweet spirit. Sr Joseph is in the Community room poking about again –

Yrs affec – in JC.

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

I must not forget to say that I noticed an off hand manner in you that does not seem humble, pray & correct it.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES

[Copy letters in notebook]

March 8, 1876  
St. Leonards+  
J.M.J.

My dear Mother Mary Theophila [Laprimaudaye]

You will be shocked to hear that dear Mother Gertrude expired this morning at 5 o'clock. R.I.P. May her precious soul rest in peace! She had been suffering from illness for some time & she came here hoping rest quiet & change of air might help to restore her. We were up all night with her & at 10 o'clock sent for Fr. Hogan & Mr. Ticehurst, who were however nearly two hours before they arrived.

Everything that could be done was done for her. She was not conscious for 7 or 8 hours before she breathed her last. Mass was said for her precious soul an hour afterwards. I am writing to all from my bed which prevents my adding more. D<sup>r</sup> Mother Gertrude only came here on Saturday with M. Angelica who had been to Preston – and on Sunday night she expressed a great wish to die & she said confidently that St. Joseph would fetch her on Wednesday, and it was this morning Wednesday that she breathed her last, at 5 o'clock. R.I.P.

I am dear M.M.Theophila

Yours very aff<sup>ly</sup> in the Wounds of Jesu

C.C.

Convent St.Leonards Mar. 8

Poor Sr. Hilda is a little better again &amp; may last some weeks

Sr Gonzaga Barret in Preston is in danger from disease of the heart also Sr Marian from inflammation of one lung

Sr. Stanislas is very suffering &amp; longing to die.

[An unfinished pencil note – no date]

Dear M Theophila [Laprimaudaye]

Vespers are just over & I must not lose a post in telling you that I have rec<sup>d</sup> Mth M Aloysius letter together with a copy of one from her Father regarding Little

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

[Copy of letter from C.C. to Sr. M. Gertrude Managhan]

Sr M Gertrude  
Managhan

Villa Sémainville  
Hyères. Var. France  
Dec 6<sup>th</sup> [1869]

+  
JMJ

My dear Child

It would be a great pleasure to me to be present at your profession but since I cannot promise myself anything so very consoling I must make up for the loss by writing to wish you all the blessings belonging to so Holy an occasion. No doubt you are full of joy & have made your retreat with great fervour & exactness and you will try to remember always that it is in trying to imitate our dear Lord in the love of a life of mortification and poverty in sufferings of one sort or another that we finally may hope to become Saints. It is only for this that we vow poverty Chastity & Obedience that we thus may be[sic] keep perfectly the Commandments of our dear Lord in trying also to follow His Counsels. It was by an act of perfect love that our Lord gave us these Counsels, to shew us how we might try & hope to be perfect – Oh that we may all value them more & more and ever be ready to see our own faults first and to see only the virtues of others while excusing their faults by our charity -



( 2 )

Our Vows will help us to make many acts of charity which is the highest of all virtues – If we are obedient we are at least on the road towards gaining humility and if we gain humility we shall prefer the Will of God and the love of God to any thing in this world and far beyond our own will.

When you are under the pall you will not forget to ask for my intentions and the vocations for Mayfield – We want many good Novices and especially our old children who ought to come to their Alma Mater. Ask our Lady especially for this purpose. I could name at least 7 of her joys but it is better not. Our Lady knows them. Pray very fervently & humbly for these.

May our dear Lord bless you and give you the Hundred fold in the great gratitude & joy of your happy vocation. I shall give you the profession kiss in spirit after the Ceremony – congratulations & many prayers.

Ever yours lovingly

In the hearts of Jesus

& Mary

C.C.Sup.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[From duplicated original]

April 25 1856.

My dear Sr Paula [McCarthy]

For Shame! For very Shame –

I will not believe, that in your senses, you wrote that letter to me – It is false that you wanted either the Spirit or courage to speak before making your vows – You not only spoke freely but I gave you every opening to withdraw if you had not believed that God called you to religion: & Fr Johnson did his best for you – It is now that you want courage when an evil spirit would drag you to your ruin – aye to utter misery in this world and an eternity of shame in the next. Where is your gratitude to Him who died for the love of you & who has placed you unworthy as you are in His own garden? For shame. I blush for very shame in thinking of you & that you dare give utterance to so faithless a return to your rightful king and Master and most loving father – For shame! Go to Mth Emily & tell her all that you have told me about yourself and ask her to let you make an extra Meditation every day and an extra chapter of Tho a Kempis every day that God may deliver you from your delusion. Why did God create you? Was it to seek pleasure in this world, in the flesh? Or was it to know, love & serve Him that you might be happy with Him for all eternity? Shame upon you: -

“Whoso putteth his hand to the plough and looketh behind him is not worthy of the kingdom of heaven”. For shame!

I cannot say more just now for the shame I feel for you –

Yours faithfully

C. M Sup

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES – ROME

[Copied from Original]

The Convent S<sup>t</sup> Leonards  
Oct 13 – S<sup>t</sup> Edwards F.  
[1876]

+  
JMJ

My dear S<sup>r</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Edward [Melling]

I must give you a line to shew you that I have not forgotten your nice welcome letters, and as today is your particular Feast, and a great Feast for us, all, being the anniversary of our going to open the Derby Convent, while S<sup>t</sup> Theresa's Feast is the anniversary of having the B Sacrament with us all, as your[r] Feast, today I wish you every blessing & many more every year, and beg you to thank for me all the welcome letters rec<sup>d</sup> from the Sisters since the Examinations. Te Deum laudamus.

Ever yrs affc<sup>y</sup>

In JC

C.C.

[Addressed to – S<sup>r</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Edward –

Pray for our Convent removed to Paris from Toul.

The Convent  
Mayfield  
Hawkhurst  
Sep 11<sup>th</sup> [/78]

+  
J.M.J.

Dear Sr Alice [Mills]

Yes, certainly you had better <sup>see</sup> your Nephew as soon as possible as you will have to be in London on Monday to meet M Agnes Carter with whom you will go to Blackpool. You were so sorry to leave there that you will feel like going to your old home in religion ! I hope you will keep up to all the good resolutions of the retreat - you will not forget the indulgenced prayer "Oh Jesus Meek & humble of heart make my heart like thine" - especially at times of need.

Goodbye, & a safe journey to you.

Ever yrs affectly in JC.

C.C. Sup. Gen.

Many thanks for all your prayers - How we must thank God for your poor sisters Conversion !

The Convent  
St L. on Sea  
Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> [1869]

+  
J.M.J.

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I am delighted that you are so happy & getting at home at St Anne's - I hope nothing may be left undone to secure regularity - silence, cleanliness & order. These are the marks of a good religious house. I hope too that you have merry recreations & that the meals are well-cooked & served up hot & good. Sr Dorothea is not much of a cook but she must try to manage well & do as Mth Agnes has directed in all things. My comfort is that you have the Blessed Sacrament in the midst of you and ever waiting for you - & in all your troubles & anxieties He is your friend & adviser & will help you to bear the cross whenever it may come - Give this advice to all who are down or in discouragement, and induce a recreation with Him in silent peace rather than be stupid or sad in the Community. May our dear Lord ever bless you all - We are reading the sweet life of Henry Dorié, the late Martyr - It is delicious.

We leave on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Nov. for Hyères. With love & blessings to all the Sisters.

Ever yrs affly in JC  
C.C.

[ February 1870 ]

+  
J.M.J.

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

It is a pleasure to me to know that you enjoyed dr Mother Catherines visit - Unfortunately they found her looking very ill on her return but I hope she will now soon be better –

Why did you not let me have a line from you when Sr M Gertrude sent her letters? Two full thin sheets can come to France for 4d - You know I am always glad of a line to say you <sup>are</sup> all well. You are in a nice quiet corner with our Lord & so much more like religious than that worldly looking Harley St ever was that I often go to you in spirit for a visit to your happy little home. Tell Sr M Gertrude that I liked her letter to her Sister very much - and far better that a news letter ! The dear Sergt is very ill and unless there is a miracle very little hope of his recovery - Therefore I want all the children of the School to pray daily for him and to make a Novena to our Lady for his cure - Our Father Hail Mary & Glory be &c five times & 9” Immaculate Conception (of Lourdes) cure him” (Lourdes is pronounced Lourd). The history of our Lady of Lourdes is wonderful and miracles are constantly granted. He has the water from the miraculous fountain which began to flow in 1858, and is preparing to drink it. I want all the Sisters to join in the Novena with all the fervour possible - His life is of great value & his four young sons

( 2 )

particularly need his paternal care, if it pleases God to spare him ! What he now suffers is gangrene of his great toe which ought to fall of in order to be cured. I do not think that the Doctors think there is a chance of a cure. And the suffering is so great that he only sleeps by taking Chloral & having morphine injected by a needle run between the two skins. I hope you all pray will, sleep well & eat well.

Ever yours affectionately & lovingly in J.C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Original ]

+  
J.M.J.

My dear Sister St Dunstan [Morley]

You see I am beginning to be rested otherwise you would not see this sheet ! I hope you are well & joyful - The weather is beginning to be warm & I shall hope to be with you some time next month. Give my love to the Sisters each & all.

Will you tell Sr St John that Mth Theophila did write about the Postulant and said if she was young strong and active, and with good common sense as well as piety, that the girl might come. The letter was sent to 58 Clarence Gardens, so I do not know how it could have missed. Let Sr St John know this immediately please. I ~~suppose~~<sup>hope</sup> [sic] you sent the questions of the Sub-Committee to Mth Agnes to answer - What a fuss about nothing. Let me hear from you abt once a month if you can -

Yrs lovingly in J.C.

C.C.

The Convent

St Leonards on Sea

May 15<sup>th</sup> 1870



The Convent  
St L. on Sea  
Nov 8<sup>th</sup> /70

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I am grieved to hear that you are so poorly but not in the least surprised. Doubtless the paint & the close rooms have to do with your illness.

If you feel able to run sown to St Leonards come & get a change of air, & plenty of good food & porter! – a fortnight here would set you up for the winter. Of course I do not say that you are to come in obedience as you can best judge of your present state & of what would be best for you, and I do not see what need prevent your taking a fortnights rest – The weather here is very dull still it is less smoky that London – This is the suicidal month in England.

You know how glad I am always to have you here while at the same time I tell you to use your own judgment –

Ever yrs lovingly in J.C.

C.C.

Have you heard from the Sergt yet abt the withdrawal from Govt? If not I will write & ask him.

Shrove Tuesday  
[Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> 1871]

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Let me know by return whether things are settled with the Archbishop for the Chaplain. It is more than a week since I heard from Mother Agnes & I am afraid she is ill.

I am very anxious abt your not having Mass. So do not lose a post in letting me know. If I were not ill & lame I should be with you before now – as it is wrong to allow things to go on in this way.

Tell Sr St John if [she] does not take care of those two vocations that have gone to the Training School they will go astray – Mary Jones & Fanny Thompson – Sr Agatha writes abt them to me & hopes you will cultivate their grace.

I hope A Roskell may come down here.

Yrs aff.

C.C.

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
Maundy Thursday  
April [6,1871]

+

JMJ

My dear Sister St Dunstan [Morley]

I sent you a telegram yesterday, for Sr St John to come at once with Agnes Poskell, as I thought it a pity to lose Tenbrae – Did you receive it? Our Sepulchre is beautiful – I hope you are enjoying the services some where - ? We are making our three days into a sort of retreat, or recollection days taking the end of Man, the Kingdom of Christ, the three classes of men, & the three degrees of humility, into our visits to the tomb & into the Passion of Christ renewing old retreats &c. I hope you are well & not overdoing your strength during the last four days of holy week –

Tell Sr St John that her bed was ready last night – of course you understood that I would pay for her journey – and that she should bring back the amt of her journey down. Surely you are not without money in the house for your daily wants?

God ever bless you & give you all you need –

Yrs affectly in JC.

C.C.

Do you keep your acct books now quite separate from the Culvers?

[Easter 1871 April 9<sup>th</sup> ]

Dr Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I do not know whether Sr St John is with you again or not – but you can read the letter as there is nothing private in it & then if at the Culvers forward it – Easter joy to you all – in haste

Ever yrs lovingly in JC

C.C.

Agnes is a Child of Mary & very well

[*On the reverse side are the words:*] Alleluia Alleluia

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
May 4<sup>th</sup> - /71

+  
JMJ

My dear Sister St Dunstan [Morley]

You will still be in advance of my coming by a week or two! – I wish if possible to be with you abt the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month but I really can not be sure – The weather is by no means settled & Mth Theresa does not want me to stir before the last week in May. She thinks we shall have snow again – I do not

Tell Sr M Gertrude thanks for the St James Report. What an enormous sum they have paid to the Teachers!! Tell her also that I heard from America yesterday & all [are] well – Good news &c &c &c –

I have answered Fr Richardson of Newport & said we had no Sisters to spare being full of work by the increased number of Schools. Thanks – Will you send Sr Scholastica down on Saturday. If she is not with you already Mth Agnes will send her in & you will send Sr Imelda to the Culvers & I shall send a Sister to take your kitchen on Saturday. Pray hard for the Holy Father & for poor France.

I had hoped to send the Sisters to Toul before now & only wait to see the results of the Civil War of Paris – [sic]

With love to all, ever yrs aff in J.C.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Original]

[Mayfield]

[Sept. 1871]

My dear Sister [St Dunstan Morley]

You do not mention what sum in all ~~that~~ [sic] you paid to Mr Hayward, together with the £50 cheque. Always be frank and straightforward with me & never leave me in the dark. If any remains still unpaid let me know at once & what amt. Let me know also whether you all are sufficiently clothed for the winter, and if not what you really need.

We are all busy here at the repairs for the Priests House repapering & painting & doing up every thing after the careless dirty Housekeeper. There is no end of work in repairs both here & at St L. The Comty room is beautiful & the Ref – you would not know it now. Perhaps you would say raising your thumb “With the greatest pleasure” If I say you must run down for the Xmas holidays!! Give my love to all & tell them to make the glove fit well.

Ever yrs affec in JC.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Original]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
Oct 4<sup>th</sup> - /71

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Sr M Anastasia left us by the 2 O<sup>c</sup> train yesterday & we have not a line to say that she has arrived safe though the letters from Sr Anne came to M. Veronica by the first and the last post today – Pray let let [sic] me know without delay that she is safe & that she went to the Culvers this morning.

I told her to tell you that you might give the Vestment if it is our – (The Black one you speak of as from Harley St). The vestments belonging to the chapel and given to it by the Sergeant of course could never be given away.

I should not think any dirty work our things worth the carriage to Syria !!!

I sent all we could spare of Mr Jones's sets to the Bishop about a year before he did and have nothing for Toul. You will rejoice with us in knowing that we have a fresh Priest – He seems like another St Aloysius most devotedly Pious and sensible ! – Deo Gratias. We do not know where Mr Spillane has gone for he would not tell!

Mr Hogan comes from Arundel. He has been with Mr [sic] Canon Butt for some years

Yrs lovingly in JC.

C.C.

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from Original]

[Pencil note undated]

[Oct. 16. 1871]

Dear Sr St Dunstan & Sisters

I hope you enjoyed yr Feast of St Theresa yesterday as much as we did – We thought of you all & wished you a happy feast in Spirit & in union with the Blessed Sacrament – It is transferred in this Diocese because of coming on Sunday but we took it on the Eve not to miss the 15<sup>th</sup> . Mother Theresa is well & able to enjoy it with us all. The gifts were made the Evening before & the Refectory decorated & we had games in the Evening after reading & walking in the day wh was most lovely – I am now sitting in the Donkey chair up at the pond to get the sweet air & take advantage of our pocket Book & pencil to send you all dearest love & blessings. – Tell dr little Sr Stanislas that I shall not forget her when the next profession comes. Sr Laurensi is here & going on well.

Love from all

Yrs lovingly in JC.

C.C.



The Convent  
St L on Sea  
Nov 13<sup>th</sup> - /71

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I do not wish <sup>^</sup>you to send letters to Preston please at this time nor until I tell you any one may write – I will explain this when we meet.

I hope you have Fr Murfords book on Purgatory – If not get it from Cates – Canon. Morris edites [sic] it & gives an appendix on the Heroic act which you all are free to make & not only free but I recommend it most particularly – We made it long ago – It is splendid.

We are having a very beautiful Feast of St Stanislas – Mass in the Oratory &c &c

Yrs lovingly in JC  
C.C.

The Convent St L. on Sea  
Dec 18<sup>th</sup> – 1871

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I shall be delighted to see you here for your holidays or for the 21<sup>st</sup> whichever you like to choose between. If you have the Midnight Mass of course you will want to stop for it and you[r] visit would be a short one – You must do as you like best – either come for the holidays or for the 21<sup>st</sup>.

We are enjoying Mother Agnes's visit but there is no chance of her stopping for the holidays.

I will see whether we can have others for the holidays a little later, as I do not know for certain abt our beds.

Ever yrs lovingly in JC

C.C.

When you come will you bring down Bézique for four – a box at 5/- Bazaar.

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I wish you would tell Fr A. of yourself, that you know I am only waiting for an opportunity to send the Revised Rule to the Archbishop, and that if he would write to ask me to send it to his Grace you are quite sure that I shall be happy to do so.

You had better show him the little one we use at the same time – It is passion week & I will only send love to all in JC

Yrs C.C,

PS Mother Theresa is expecting the little Pillow by post which she left – you can tie it up tight in a roll & then put paper round it with ends open –

March 19<sup>th</sup> 1872 St Joseph

The Convent

St Leonards on Sea.

I was told by a wise old Priest never to confess matters of Rule as not binding under sin), but to confess disobedience, or anything against the Vows or the Commandments of God.

+  
JMJ

My dear Sister St Dunstan [Morley]

What abt the Sisters coming down for the Easter holidays? Some I think wanted to come for holy week – you will have to arrange so as not to have two visits in the year for the same Sisters and perhaps no one will want to exchange! ~~But~~ <sup>And</sup> [sic] if so you may arrange as you like best for your Easter Week to spend it wholesomely. Sr M Gertrude & Sr St John looked the most fagged of any, & if they would like to come I shall only be too glad to give them the rest & pay for their journey if you have not the money. If they could come as soon as the School closes it would be better profit to them.

How did you arrange your doubt abt giving the Rules?

Ever yrs affcly in J.C.

C.C.

The Convent

St Leonards on Sea

March 25<sup>th</sup> - / 72

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[from Original]

The Convent St L. on Sea  
April 20<sup>th</sup> - / 72+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I thought you quite understood that I wished Sr St Edward to take St Anns – Her having passed her five years as a P. Teacher stands as her Certificate & she must take Sr Anastasias place, not Sr Laurenza. Sr L must act as assistant – You will have to give the name of

Sarah Melling P.T.

At St Preston –

To Mr Dunn. I do not know whether he sends the name now that the Capitation grant is withdrawn or not –

2<sup>nd</sup>. I do not wish the Meditation taken in the Park – It would come to nothing, but the Sisters can study in the Park – and the [sic] could take the second quarter of Meditation in the garden just to catch the fresh air for that quarter & finish Med in the Chapel.

Yes, you may talk at Dinner every Sunday. I do not remember giving leave for this before. Tell the Sisters that I think we shall name Sr Xavier & Sr St Peter to examine the Schools, for the last week in May. Lizzie K. make [sic] one of her sweet remarks, “Ah when I am a Nun they shall have a better house than St Ann’s!” it was not only nice of her, but it seemed to come from God for I looked forward to such an event to secure a Convent & Church there in a few years when we last discussed the Subject – After Mayfield this must be our next good work please God. So pray that our good God may preserve her even miraculously if necessary from those who would drag her into the world & its miseries.

I am very thankful that you have Fr Johnson & we must manage to give him £20 Extra at Xtmass without saying anything abt it at present.

When I told Mth Gertrude that I was going to write I

- 2 -

meant abt her going with Lizzie that you might be prepared but I really thought I had answered your questions so it is well you wrote at once.

Take care to have no sitting up for Rolls, Registers, or any work whatever – aim at the most perfect always – God alone forever – Excelsior –  
Yrs lovingly in J.C.

C [ornelia] C[onnelly]

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

[May 1872?] Wednesday

+  
JMJ

My dear little Mother [St Dunstan Morley]

Send your dear little Nun at once to Mayfield & I will write to night for Mth Angelica to meet the 11, train – she will know know [sic] the time I think she ought not to start before 10.50 O'Cl whether there is 3<sup>rd</sup> class or not & Mth Angelica will send to meet her – I should like to fly to you with that dear child I hope Sr Rose is with her - Give her my love. Oh! I wish I were able to go with you –

Give dear Etty my love - & tell her we pray for her, dear darling. It is our dear Mothers Month & she will take care of her.

Love to Sr St E. and a sweet journey to Mayfield

Yrs Aff<sup>ly</sup>. In JC.

C.C.

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
May 14<sup>th</sup> 72

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

The weather has been so windy & rainy that we have not yet started for France – But the moon changes tomorrow & with it we hope the weather may also change.

I shall be anxious to hear abt dr Etty & send you our address at Toul. Write on thinish paper & put 3d on your letters. Of course I shall take no news as good news, but if you are anxious write – If Etty's Aunt does not come to London of course Mth Agnes will be with you & you will know what is to be done in case of death.

Any news of Fr Anderson? I am so glad you have Fr Johnson.

Ever yrs lovingly in JC.

C.C.



S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 1872

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Do not make yourself unhappy abt the clothing &c – Get what is necessary & without delay – Get warm long flannel N<sup>gt</sup> Gowns for Sr St John at once – And if you will go to Shoolbred & ask for patterns of waterproof cloth for cloaks ( send them to me with prices) you will no doubt get what you need. There is a nice light kind of cloth quite black, not tweed like ours, that would suit London & it is waterproof – Eugenie Ryan brought one for herself (ready made from the shop) & it is like ours in shape. Perhaps you might find the same ready made. – Try – Mth M Theophila is here for her holidays. Regarding the meat I told you that the fat is bad & only fit to make night lights – But the meat & the jelly make excellent soup, & curry on rice – Do not disgust yourself before you need. Fr Baron & Fr Tunstall use it and out in the world every where! For the love of God do not let us be more nice or faddy that seculars! And now I leave you to do as you please. I have given you my advice, but not to enforce any obedience in such a matter – A religious may become not only immortified but even gluttonous if not chequed in the love of eating but all that is necessary for health & strength we are bound to secure for them. You ought

( 2 )

to arrange with Mth Agnes for your wants & depend upon her judgment as she has much more experience than yourself & knows the danger of debts.

Ever yrs  
Lovingly in JC. C.C.

P.S. I forgot to say that I only wish Sr Laurenza to secure full time for her studies & papers to make certain of her passing her Examination – She will require at least three half hours for writing in itself – and three more for notes in printing etc – That will make 3 hours & she will require three more for Study & Reading – of course she ought to keep her class for the Religious Ex & push up the children to the right mark - & keep at it till the Ex is over.

Tell her to keep to strict Doctrine & nail it in! I heard of a Sister teaching children something from Soeur Emerich abt the number of nails which fastened our Lord to the cross!!!!!!!!!! Piety will not supply for sound points of Doctrine!

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[copied from Original]

The Convent St L. on Sea

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 1872

+  
JMJ

Dear Sister [St Dunstan Morley]

Let me hear how you are and what you are doing abt your cloaks &c – I think you will do much better to see <sup>at</sup> what price you may buy black water proof long cloaks ready made – I am anxious abt your comfort & warmth during the winter weather & the worst part of winter is the beginning. How is Sr St John?

I hope Sr M Stanislas is better, and that she is able to retain her food – I sometimes think it is like Alice Blunt was – too rapid digestion & if so she ought to take but little & often, and sleep late in the morning if she can with going to bed early after supper. When Sr Laurenza is giving her Religious Instruction Sr M Stan. ought to lie down if she needs rest. She could take her Spiritual Reading on her bed – I suppose you have consulted Mth Agnes and that she has been at St Anns as I heard she was at Mr Sasses [?] with one of the children.

We have got a beautiful supply of family jam at 7d pr lb and as fruit was so very dear this year we could only secure enough for lent. and now beginning with upwards of 60 children we could not get milk for puddings and our family

( 2 )

jam, and preserved meat free us from insurmountable difficulties. The Australian Mutton is capital to make up for wants, but I should not like it at all as the principal meat staple! It is not like fresh meat but is a great convenience to have always at hand.

It was all right, abt the Examination –

The Training Sch in London is still talked ab<sup>t</sup>.

Was not Dr Gosses death a great shock to you!

Ever with love to all yrs aff. In JC.

C.C.

[Written in the Margin]

I have asked for the retreat to be the last week in Oct.

Is there any one you know to come to it?

S.H.C.J. ARCHIVES ROME

[from original]

The Convent

St Leonards on Sea

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 1872

+

JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

How very busy you must be to leave my last unanswered! I send you these delicious accounts of our Lady of the Angels wh Sr Laurenza may copy out into your Comty Book or journal wh if not yet begun had better be without delay – Every house ought to have its journal faithfully [sic] written – Sacristy Book is not enough. You can get a nice one at Hammonds for 18d – wh will last you the year – It must be like a log book for the Schools, the same for the Comty.

I hope you enjoyed Mth Agnes's visit & that you have succeeded in getting black water proofs – We have just got two ready made at 10/6<sup>d</sup> each! A happy St Theresa to you all – Some nice sayings of the Saint's own, & a pleasant game at Bezique – And above all the sweet joy of God in the midst of you

Ever yrs lovingly in JC.

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

I hope Sr St John & Sr M Gertrude may have a pleasant visit to the Training Schl & send a nice letter to Fr Mount. I told him we had not one Sister to spare.

SHCJ          ARCHIVES   ROME

[Copied from the Original]

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JMJ

Dr Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I have run away from <sup>the</sup> Comty Room to write a line to say the enclosed is much the best, & it is water proof – I tried it for an hour & ½ pinned up double with a teaspoonful of water which it held without being damped on the other side –

You have a cloak of the right sort. Straight in front & seamed up the back.

A happy feast again

Ever yrs lovingly in JC

C.C.

Tuesday Oct 15 1872

PS. We have more news today of our Lady Queen of the Angels. I hope Sr Laurenza is making a nice copy into your Book of Miracles & Graces – and that the Manuscript is safely recd.?

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St L. on Sea  
Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> [1872]

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Perhaps you may see Mother Theresa to morrow as she went with Bridget Mary Jane & Lucia today to see them off to our Sisters in America – and I told her she might go up to see you if she liked so I think you will see her tomorrow at least for a few hours. You will be delighted to have Fr Andersons blessing He asked be [sic] to take £5 worth of his books & I proposed part for Masses If you hear of any one going to Germany will you let me know. I want a protector for Katie Collis who is going to Calvarienberg.

With love to all

Ever yrs affecty in JC

C.C.

Pray for a safe voyage for them.

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St L. on Sea  
Jan 24/73

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

A telegram has just come to say that the dear Sergeant died this morning! R.I.P. at Hyères. Let the Sisters and children have many prayers said, & have Masses said for the repose of his most dear Soul as soon as possible. You will I am sure pray also for the repose of the Soul of my dear Sister, Mme Mary Frances Peacock, who died on Xtmass Eve. R.I.P. I hope she is in heaven and having the reward of a life of Sacrifice and suffering But she was Superior for many years & had many responsibilities & therefore needs more help. She died at the Convent in Rochester N. York – U.S.A.

Will you tell Sr Anastasia that I told Theresa Morgan I thought she ought to take a school – but she said she would not go back to the Precious [?] She is not in a state of health or calm sufficient to decide her vocation. And gave us a great deal of trouble. Let her go to the Sisters of Charity.

Ever yrs affecty and in great sorrow.

C.C.



SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[from original]

The Convent  
St L. on Sea  
March 5<sup>th</sup>/73

+

J.M.J.

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I think it more pleasing to our Lord that you should adore Him in the B.S. at home, & not go to the Churches I hope you will have a very holy Lent – no talking in the Refectory in Lent even on Sunday, but keep strictly to the reading – Strive to keep to the letter & the spirit of the Rule & this will be far better that [sic] going among worldlings.

The best of all penances is to aim at keeping strictly to the silence & humility of the Rule – and you must say this to the Sisters that all may work together & bring down the blessing of God upon the house & on the order.

Sr St John must go on resting till Lady Day & then we shall see whether she is fit to get up. With love to all

Yrs affec in JC

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[from original]

[The following is a fragment only]

[April 13<sup>th</sup> Easter 1873 ?]

so ill that the Holy Week Services have been lost to me –

I am very sorry that you have lost good Fr Johnson – Do not think of shewing the Rules – If Fr Luke asks say that Rodrigues explains far more than the Rule what the Vows require & that the Rules in themselves do not bind under pain of sin, not even of venial sin – But it is the Vows. A holy Jesuit Fr will advise not to make the Rules the subject of Confessions (the rules are for the Superior & for private conferences) Our Fidelity in the service of God lies in keeping to our spiritual duties as well as to our Ordinary

(the Commandments of God & the Ch), [sic] ones, & In the practice of Faith Hope & Charity I send you the acct of the last moments of my beloved Sister – still pray for her please & say the Te Deum in thanks – Today we said it after the De profundis at the little graveyard for the intentions of our dear Sisters there in reposing

Ever yours wishing you all Easter joy & nice recreations

C[ornelia] C[onnelly]

[To Mother Mary St. Dunstan Morley]

The Convent April 21<sup>st</sup> '73  
St L. on Sea

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Will you read the enclosed & then give it to the Sisters. I have not written yet to tell Mth Agnes, but as soon as I hear when the Sisters can be ready I will let her know.

Pray much for the T. School to be settled this week.

You had better get two folding iron bedsteads which are to be got for 8/ or 10/ that no one may have to sleep on the floor but in healthy air in the two parlours, while we are with you.

If you have no matrass [sic] for the 3 ft bedstead that you bought, let me know, as I must bring one with me and leave it with you if you have not bought one. Did you appropriate Burchetz money to the provision of comfortable beds or not yet – Let me know.

Ever, wishing your [sic] renewed Easter joy

Yrs aff<sup>ly</sup> in JC

C.C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
May 15<sup>th</sup> 73.

+

JMJ

Dear Sister [St. Dunstan Morley]

Yes, I closed the letter & quite forgot the cheque I can only lend it to you to be returned when you are paid by the Trustees.

Could not Johnny Ryan find a more honest Butcher to serve you? We are not charged more than 9d and if you watch the Market prices every week or two to keep a check upon your Butcher as we do – and also upon your vegetables &c. &c - We do the same with the groceries & with the price current in hand over look in the very eyes of the Grocer his prices. It is only with this sort of care that you can keep your bills down.

I am relieved to know that you only give brandy when the Doctor orders it. We do the same, only for sickness I had a letter from your good Priest this morning

With love to all & each & rejoicing to hear that Sr Anastasia is better

Ever yrs Affc<sup>ly</sup> in JC

C.C.

You will have to endorse the cheque

+  
JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

A very happy feast to you and to all with you in union with the Angels who surround our dr Lord. What a sweet consolation it is to think that union with the will of God, and a heartfelt desire that He may be known blest & served by all mankind is a constant act of Adoration – that is of interior adoration. We may carry this into all our actions every where as St Theresa did with very little trouble.

Love to all & each

Ever yrs affecty in JC.

C.C.

May 18<sup>th</sup> 1873

SHCJ ARCHIVES RO ME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent, Mayfield  
Hawkhurst  
Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 1873

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

Sr Annunciata & Sr St M. will be up with you on Monday. I hope to have a change for Sr Dorothea a little later and that she may stop with you till the retreat begins, and this will be better than now – and you also will be able to come then I hope. All the others will be at St Leonards on Monday?

I hope to be well enough to go over for a couple of days to see them all. Will you carefully remind them that they must keep to the Rule in not speaking of affairs of other houses, ask them to read over the Rules practised by the Saints that they may not fail in their words, but that Charity may reign in all its brightness amongst all. Not to discuss anything but their own progress in perfection & virtues.

Ever yrs affectionately in JC.

C.C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
Mayfield  
Hawkhurst, Aug, 14<sup>th</sup> -/73

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I will let you know in time for the retreat & you & Sr Dorothea must come & have your turn of sea air. I shall be so glad to see you. I have mislaid your letter amongst my papers, but I remember the mattress marked 18/- brown wool – yes, I think this will do nicely – you can get these and have your others washed & stuffed afresh.

You may give your palliasses if they are for any one who does not drink & pawn her bed, but not to get rid of them, as they could be sold, if you do not want the wrapping [sic] for dish or scouring cloths They would take them & restuff them for you with wool at 2 shillings more than the wool would cost. We must remember our vow of poverty. Mth M Veronica had those at Preston done so – I spoke myself to the Upholsterer who made no difficulty in sending for them to wash & restuff them.

Perhaps Mth M Ig. Mth Catherine & Sr Columba may stop to see you on their way from Hornby. You will be sure to give them a hearty welcome if they do. I have not yet seen the d(ea)r Sisters at St Leonards you know they came after I left – I hope to be there when you come. Have you the bath from the Culvers that was to be sent last May? You did not say it had been sent but I suppose it was. We have taken the Culvers for another year. I hope you are not very lonely or dull! –

Love to Sr Dorothea

Yrs aff.

C.C.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
 St L. on Sea  
 Dec 16<sup>th</sup> /73

+  
 JMJ

My dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I intended sending Sr M Gertrudes letter by return but had not time before starting for Mayfield last Saturday. We had a most charming day yesterday with the six clothed & 3 for Vows. The Bishop came & was met at Wadhurst by the two Fr Fr Hogan [sic] We had two Masses before they arrived one with the Capuchin Father & one Fr Baron. The whole ceremony was most beautiful & the blessing of the Bell followed, then Benediction & then the blessing of the Convent, & then a very grand Dinner You will hear the rest viva voce – The new Sisters are

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Lizzie Kenworthy,           | <u>Sr M Frances</u>  |
| Emily Poquet                | <u>Sr Philomena</u>  |
| Agnes Moran                 | <u>Sr Aldegonda</u>  |
| Eleanor Balburnie           | <u>Sr St Rita</u>    |
| Fanny Bunn                  | <u>Sr M. Cecilia</u> |
| Caroline O'Hara             | <u>Sr Domenica</u>   |
| Professed Sr Angela         | M Healy              |
| <u>Sr Maria del Carmen,</u> | <u>C. Cisneros</u>   |
| <u>Sr St Cuthbert,</u>      | <u>Ellen Hearn.</u>  |

Who shall we see on the 21<sup>st</sup>? You must arrange the "who" -

Ever yrs lovingly in JC

C.C.



(2)

The Bishop offers me the Industrial School at Eltham but we cannot take any fresh work any where being more than full with the great increase in our Schools here & at the orphanage. Tell Sr M Gertrude.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St Leonard on Sea  
Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1874

+  
JMJ

Dear Sister St Dunstan [Morley]

I take a sheet of our best paper to shew you the sort our Sisters ought to have in writing to seculars – When they write to me or to any of the religious they may take an old envelope or a fly leaf of an old letter or straw paper, but to seculars I think they ought to have good hot pressed such as this with hot pressed envelopes to make the writing & style look respectable, which common\papers does [sic] not - The envelopes ought to suit the paper – so as to fold once & square if not too expensive I do not know – I intend to be more careful ourselves on this point than I have hitherto been. All educational <sup>orders</sup> must attend to such points AMDG

The poor Duchess is gradually dying, but she [is] quite gone now in mind & we watch over her day & night.

Ever yrs lovingly in JC.

C.C.

[Written in Margin]

I do not write on the other leaf that you may take it to compare your next purchase with it.

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

[April 1874]

+  
JMJ

Dr Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

If you would try the Cod's liver oil three times a day with Sr St Edward and leave off all study, letting her walk out in the garden & take a fresh egg for breakfast & watch over her in this way perhaps she might quite get rid of her cough. But if not then she can have a change for a fortnight or so without actually making any permanent change. I am so grieved abt Etty Dillon but it would be very unwise to run any risk by returning to the Culvers in her present state – If her Aunt could take her with her it would be the best thing. I could not take her here even if the Doctor advises sea air as we are full. I wonder her Aunt does not take her to a proper boarding house in London! Surely she does not think of stopping with you!

I go to Toul in a few days address,    The Convent

Hotel de Rigny

Rue de Rigny 6

Toul, Heurthe,

France

In writing Toul make a French I or the letter ..... [letter torn; perhaps words are 'will go astray'] as there is another place called Isoul which they mistake –

Love to all

Thank Sr M Gertrude for the Code wh arrived

Ever yrs aff. In JC

C.C.

The Convent

St L on Sea    Tuesday

The Convent St L, on Sea  
June 10<sup>th</sup> 1874

+  
JMJ

Dear Sr St Dunstan [Morley]

I expected to have been at Blackpool this evening, but owing to Mth Theresa being too ill to start I remain here perhaps for a day or two.

I will try to combine the two retreats so as to have a Father before the 15<sup>th</sup> of August in fact it will quite suit for the election.

There is not the least chance for Emily Kennett in religious life. Therefore it must not be encouraged or thought of in her state of health. No, I could not have you <sup>to</sup> go to Kew to spend the day!!! On what ground could you imagine such a thing! When you like to take the pupil Teachers out, where you wld not be seen or known, for an airing we should not transgress – but not visiting like seculars.

You will come here for the holidays if they begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> August – We shall not have beds before our children return home Mother M Ignatia & Sr M Frances Kenworthy went up to Bpl to-day without waiting for us as we were expected. Love to all. Yes give Sr the enclosed.

Ever yrs lovingly in JC.

C.C.

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St Leonards on Sea  
Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> - /74

+  
JMJ

Dear Mother St Dunstan [Morley]

The retreat here is only for the children. Sr Stanislas has written to ask to come to it for herself & for you!!!

By the arrangement we made in the Spring I have had a bill for £43.12.6 for the Holidays at Mayfield 10/ pr wk for each Sister & in this Sr St Edward is charged for 4 wks & 4 days £2.5 I have paid it for you, so you will please enter upon your books from me on acct of Sr St Ed. £2.5 As we have made this arrangement for the sake of justice to each house you must do the same & charge at the same rate all visitors, and double it, if for one night on acct of the sheets.

All holidays will be charged henceforth at this rate whether here or at Mayfield 10/ pr head for each wk. – Tell the Sisters. Will you be careful please in sending me the quarterly acct of the houses? That is an exact copy of the Ledger wherein Butcher Baker & Grocer must enter, also the day book for the three mos, Do not make me repeat this or ask for the acct, but send it regularly.

As Mother Theresa & Mother Angelica went to London today you will most likely have them with you tonight though I know they will return if possible here & I shall be glad for your sakes.

Ever yrs lovingly in JC

C.C.

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

Convent  
St L. on Sea  
March 16, 1875+  
JMJ

Dear Mother St Dunstan [Morley]

Thanks for your letter read this morning I was so glad to hear that all was right. Give my love to Sr St Gabriel and tell her I hope she is really enjoying her visit which however to the best of my knowledge & belief will not be a very long one.

Poor Mrs Gosman died on Sunday morning – Please pray for her & get all the prayers for her possible, though I hope she has passed on very near to the heaven <sup>[haven]</sup> of Purgatory as she was a most faithfully devoted soul, and never missed Mass while she could crawl up to Church in the cold winter mornings.

Poor Sister Aloysia Eugenie Ryan has just had a telegram to tell her of the loss of her Mother – ill eight days of Typhus fever and only three months since she lost her Father! Probably her M's grief for his loss brought on this state of health. Do have prayers said for her immediately in the School & by the Sisters, and whatever Masses you can get.

There never was such a year of deaths and disasters of all sorts within my memory & such a winter here! Nothing but snow and fogs and a rare sight of the sun!

God ever bless you all & give you joyful hearts in

( 2 )

Domino & Maria Pray hard for the dead and the dying.

Ever yrs aff<sup>ly</sup> in JC.

C.C.

Yes Sr M. Josephine had better come with Mth St John on Saturday before Holy Week. I suppose the printer sent you the Rule Book. I received our only yesterday.

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent St L. on Sea  
April 9<sup>th</sup> 1875

+  
JMJ

My dear Mother St Dunstan [Morley]

Mth Eulalia will be with you on Monday to take Sr St Edwards place & I wish you to send Sr Gabriel Thornton down to us to-morrow as she can be spared on Saturday and we want her here.

I hope Mth Annunziata may be very happy with you all She is so active and good that she will be sure to find comfort in the School work. I was grieved to take her from the Orphanage, but our good God disposes of us as He will You will all feel the loss of dear charitable peaceful Mth M St John. She makes herself beloved wherever she goes, & Mth Gertrude will value her.

What nice weather is coming – Fr Taylor wrote such a nice dear letter – I wish we could do for the London P.T. [the] same as for Preston.

Ever yrs aff

C.C.



SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

[Copied from the Original]

[June 1<sup>st</sup> 1875]

+  
JMJ

Dear Mother St Dunstan [Morley]

I have thought constantly abt you and shall be ready to give Sr Stanislas the rest she requires as soon as she can safely bear the journey It must not be attempted while the pain is acute – If you rubbed her with a Belladonna lotion mixed with Chloroform it would relieve the pain almost immediately. I am sorry not to give you what you ask for in a young Sister – The only ones I could send you would be Sr Barbara (big) or Sr Austin –

Let me know when Sr Stan can come & the same day I shall send the Sister in her place.

Much love to all & every blessing – I wish I could fly up to you –

Ever yrs affc<sup>y</sup> in J.C.

C.C.

June 1<sup>st</sup>

The Convent

St L. on Sea

SHCJ          ARCHIVES   ROME

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
Mayfield  
Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> 75

+  
JMJ

My dear Mth St Dunstan [Morley]

Your letters were forwarded to ..... From St Leonards and I have sent ..... telegram to Mth Angelica to say that you intend to send Sr Stanislas down to day.

I hope you keep the girl in the Kitchen all the day to cook for you & to assist in the house work – as I have no one but Sr Barbara II to send to you & you say you do not want her.

We came here on Wednesday last & shall stop out the week D.V. Then return to St Leonards. I wish you had all you need & wish for in a strong Sister, but if you had it would be more than the usual share that falls to our lot. We are obliged to hire for our Laundry & house work as a usual thing besides giving out the Y.L.'s wash & a half dozen of the biggest children of St Michaels – What with the number of invalids amongst the lay Sisters our hands are insufficient - ... had thought of sending M. Eulalia to ...don but M. Agnes says the School for the village is not ready yet.

I sincerely hope that your change of Sisters may gradually get more bearable I foresaw that the suffering

( 2 )

must come without my being able to ward it off! Offer all to God & ask Him to settle all that may still annoy you for I have no help for you but through His all – wise providence.

God ever bless you with His own sweetness & loving goodness

Yrs affec<sup>ly</sup> in Xto

M.C.C.

If you could make it quite convenient to ask Mr Nagle to get us a half dozen of those little tables from 2 ft to 3 ft in diameter like those he sent up before at from 6/ to 10/ each I should [be] so glad to have them at St Leonards.

[The .... in the first and third paragraphs indicate where the paper has been torn, leaving the words illegible.]

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    MAYFIELD

[Copied from a typed copy]

The Convent  
St. Leonards on Sea  
February 27<sup>th</sup> 1876.

J.M.J.

Dear Mother St. Dunstan, [Morley]

We have another dear Sister and true friend in heaven! Dear Mother Helen was only about a week very ill and she had worked on to the last with her music lessons with as much zeal as the day she came out of her Noviceship! Still we pray for her and her intentions all the same – To day the Mass was said for her here and in many places no doubt and will be said Monday and Tuesday and in France very soon – And we shall never forget her – She is to be buried at Mayfield and we shall have a very nice enclosure with flower beds and Iron railings and keep her always in mind and in sight as far as possible. She had received all the last Sacraments and last blessing and finally I sent for the Capuchin Father to give her the Cordon Seraphique which we also received with her so she had a Plenary Indulgence and the Papal Benediction on Thursday. I was not with her the last few hours, but she passed on to heaven most peacefully and joyfully and I think without purgatory for to the last she was patient as an Angel and trusting in the Contrition of our Lord in the Garden and in His most precious wounds – full of gratitude for her vocation to religion and

( 2 )

for God's infinite Goodness, praising him for all – God alone. The disease originated in weakness of her heart and terminated in congestion of the lungs.

I do not think it wise to send Sister Mary Gertrude to the North at this season – She can come here at present – It is bracingly cold enough to bring any one up, and exposure to the north cold when she is rather down might be very bad for her. So let her come here at once and Mr Ticehurst shall see her and prescribe.

God ever bless you all and give you His most bountiful help to prepare for heaven as well as our dear departed.

Eternal light shine upon her.

Ever yours affectionately in J.C.

C.C.

COPY

J M J

The Convent  
Sept<sup>ber</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1875

Dear Mother de Britto [Mullen]

You must indeed have been anxious for an answer to Mother Lucy's last letter to me & I am very sorry to have kept her waiting. We have now decided to accede to Mother Lucy's proposal & to allow her the £65, or five years pension in advance. She may look upon the annuity as certain though we cannot send her the certificate of security until she has settled the dispensation of her Vows with the Bishop. When the Bishop grants the dispensation I must beg of you to pay M<sup>th</sup> Lucy the £65 for which she will give you a legal receipt. We are grieved that M<sup>th</sup> Lucy should have come to her present determination & we shall pray much for her that Our merciful God may direct her in the right way.

With much love to you &amp; the dear Sisters

I am, dear M<sup>th</sup> de BrittoY<sup>rs</sup> affec in J C

M Cornelia Connelly

P.S. You may hand this letter to Mother Lucy as I should write the same to her.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME.

[Copied from the Original]

The Convent  
St. Leonards on Sea  
March 13 [67]

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J.M.J.

My dear Mother M Xavier (Noble)

I write again this week to let you have an answer to your question regarding the translating of Books –

1<sup>st</sup> If you have the time without interfering with other duties it will be a good work and a most useful one for the Novices, yourself rewriting their translation. The Jesuit novices generally employ a small portion of the day in such work. It keeps the mind on proper subjects when embracing the Passion of our Lord or the life of such a saint as the extatic Gertrude.

If the undertaking would burden you, already weary with the climate & general supervision, you ought either to decline it or to give it to another.

2<sup>nd</sup> You could not give it to the publisher without leave from the Bishop & without having it overlooked by a Jesuit or Priest.

3<sup>rd</sup> Always it is necessary to have a remuneration of some sort – For translating we require from Richardson about the value of £10 in the Book itself – That is for a Book that sells at 1/6 we have the gift of 150 volumes of the same -

( 2 )

as for instance “Walking with God” & “Higher Paths” I asked for 500 copies but Richardson would not allow more than 150 as his was the risk of Publishing so I agreed because I could not get the 500 – If you do it make sure of your 500 copies at least – You are doing the favour to the Publisher, but in our case the Publisher did us the favour to print the book we wanted.

Your School – Very sorry <sup>am I</sup> to hear it is not good – It ought to be on the increase as it is more known – What a pity – But ours is the same this year. There must be occasional variations. We have 40 in Y.L. School and 54 in St. Michaels Sch so that we are not far short of one hundred but then you remember we gained our 50 in the H.C.J. Sch. – and it is sad to come down again instead of going on to 60 as we hoped. I suppose it is best so, as it must be God’s sweet will. But you must increase, to build with safety.

The Deed. I wrote to Fr. Carter as you will no doubt hear and asked him to bring you over when he comes – (What a great treat it would be to us all ) I also told him the D. could not sign the Deed till she goes to London in the Spring. I am quite willing to have it in the Sisters names who are in America, but not to give them leave to sell it. When Dr Wood can be persuaded to sell his I shall begin to think it must be a barren tract of stone but while we can sell the timbers on it and hope to sell the working of the coal & other minerals or Springs I should think I would commit a mortal



( 3 )

sin to deprive the Society of it for future use.

Your Coming. Do not think I have been jesting – If you can come I think you ought to do so – And bring anyone you think wld profit by it – Mary Bowen wld do if she could pay her own expenses, but not without. I have not yet heard whether she has her money or whether the lawyers are squandering hers as well as the rest – what a pity! Did you hear that George Connelly died some months ago? He was very rich before the war and died unmarried. I should like to know whether he lost all in the War and whether he left a Will. Could you find out without saying that I mentioned the subject to you. I should like very much to know as Ady & Frank ought to come in for their share if the War did not sink everything. I should also like to know whether Charles Duval is still living and where – He is my brother in law's youngest brother and an old friend of mine though a year younger than me – I should like to do him a good turn if I could make him think of religion before he dies – and he wld be open to anything from me rather than another perhaps.

Your journals are delightful. I have read them at two recreations & not quite finished yet! There is no end of work and now the Bazaar claims all our time. Mayfield has made us feel our poverty more than ever. Love & blessings to all and a thousand for you.

Ever lovingly yrs in J.C.

C.C.

[The following is written across the side of the paper, then

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crossed out:] You can send the money in United States paper wh is always payable in gold – Register the letter please.

[Copied from Original]

SHCJ        ARCHIVES    ROME

Letter Book II

[Letter 85 – Page 89]

Letter written by Our Mother to America

June 13. [1867]

+  
J.M.J.

My dr M.M.Xavier, [Noble]

F Carter arrived in London at 121 Harley St and came to St Leonards at one o'clock on Monday. We are all delighted with him. The morn<sup>g</sup> he came we gave him luncheon (chops & veg) with coffee at the end <sup>that</sup> he could not drink, for to our horror it had salt in it – only accidentally discovered by M. Theresa after he had gone down to the Presbytery to scrub off the railway dust; They kept him waiting at Harley St for Mass as he arrived at 6 o'clock in the morning (!) But everything was soon ready & on the whole there was mutual satisfaction. On Monday he dined at 6 o'clock, and as the salted coffee was not drunk the health was not injured. After dinner we had a nice evening with the Duchess Sisters & the two Fathers Carter & Donnelly. Tuesday we were with F. Carter all the day & made the most of the time in listening to all he had to tell us. He took all the time with us & did not go to Ore or to Mayfield or the Orphanages where he has promised to go on his return from Rome. He will return on the 14<sup>th</sup> July and sail about ten days after but he cannot stop for the prizes. I have a better idea of your position in every respect than I could possible have had by letters in a half century – I did not even know that you are abt 1½ miles from the Delaware & that you had walks on the Schugkell (I forget the spelling of it.) and on the Delaware. I have so much regretted your not coming with F. Carter. You might have made the voyage alone with the Bishops & a fee to the stewardess to take care of you & then you would have been sure of at least one to return with you. I have promised F. Carter to go next spring with two Novices if he gets the

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consent of Dr Grant which he will be sure to do. The first thing I have to say is that F. Carter is very well satisfied & I have told him I should tell you so.

The second that I hope you will take his advice in temporalities of any consequence where his experience is worth yours & mine & all the Community together – Such for instance as purchasing a horse or cows &c I would not trust myself in such matters & I am sure you wd only rely on those who are judges, but those who are able to judge are not always honest. What on earth can you do with three horses! We only have 3 at Mayfield where we have 120 acres to farm & there I would only keep two but for the very hilly fields to plough requiring 3 horses to plough them going up. I recommend you to use the experience of others even at great inconvenience rather than to run the risk of wasting money. F. Carter tells me he has \$6000 ~~dollars~~ of yours put away for the building but that it really is only the rent that he could demand on Sharon so it cannot be called money gained. I thought you told me you had only saved \$2000. Did you know that he had invested so much? I think he is the greatest friend we have ever had & I should set immense store by the experience of such a thorough business man, if I could find him. We have never found anyone in England to help us with their knowledge & money as he helps & keeps you up. I should store up the very fault finding as a great help in pushing on to regularity & punctuality & order & cleanliness – I thank God from my inmost heart that you have such a true friend. He wants you to ask his advice in temporals because he has both knowledge & experience & he does not want in any way to interfere with your religious duties or with matters of rule – This is pretty much the sum of all our conversation.

(Private for the Council of Mothers)

The Deed – I presume you understand that the Corporation of the Sharon Female Academy has nothing to do with the Sharon

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Property. Therefore in making over the Lycoming lands to the Body Corporate we do not in any way involve <sup>it<sup>or</sup></sup> the Towanda property. I explained to F. Carter that if we allowed the property to be sold, the money received could only be used with the condition that it must gradually be paid back to the Society for future foundations – for instance \$2000 pr an to be invested in Government Funds bearing interest. This property was given by the Duchess with the view to found Educational convents throughout the States & not for one Diocese only therefore Lycoming & Towanda with the Bradford land must be paid back gradually for future foundations in whatever diocese they may be placed.

When the money is invested in Bond they ought to be kept in the Bank & you shd have a legal receipt for the deposit. You ought also to have a running Bank account and let the bank draw the interest for you half yearly on the Bonds. You might use this Interest till it amounts to \$500 and then add it to your next yearly deposit. The interest of \$2000 would be yearly of course \$120 at 6 prcent. We are going to take 30 years to pay off our £2500 as we do not want to tie ourselves too tightly & not be able to assist others in their beginnings, but we shall have more than £500 to make up for the Contract this year & this with Mayfield will pinch us immensely for a few months or a year –

Fr Carter now holds your bonds in his case wrapped up “For the Sisters” & he says they would be there if he were to die marked for you. This is all right with him because of the rent which he tells me would be \$2500 were he to ~~tell~~ let it. I do not think he cd ever get so large a sum. It would equal a £500 rent here. We pay for the Culvers & 10 acre £170.

Perhaps you do not know that Government Bonds may be drawn by any one if they are like the Russian Bonds not requiring a signature. I did not know this myself till I

( 4 )

enquired of our lawyer. So your rental deposit may be burnt up or stolen if the Presbytery meets with an accident unless F. Carter has had them placed in the Bank during his absence. Have you any legal receipt for them either as deposit or rental?

I can assure you that a want of business knowledge but little becomes the heads of a religious Order & an indifference or carelessness on such points would be ~~absolutely~~ <sup>positively</sup> wrong – even a robbery to the Society (and it is for this reason that I cannot give leave for the Towanda Property & land, or the Lycoming lands to be under any doubt as to the appropriation being anything more than a loan to future foundations) & both you and M. Lucy Ig Mth M. Walburga & M. Agnese ought to know something of legal matters that are really necessary. Mr Hirst would soon put you in the way of knowing what is really ~~necessary~~ <sup>of consequence</sup> in such things.

I ask F. Carter if the Deed for Sharon was recorded – he said no. Of course you cannot spend any money save in ordinary repairs on a property not belonging to you & I made this remark to him – He told me there was a fence tumbling down that you had not repaired. Do have it done before he returns It is much better to have repairs done with your savings than to make deposits beyond your rent. If I were in your place I would pay a 6 pr ct rental on the \$18000 F Carter gave for the place as rent & I would do it legally.

I cannot of course say you must do so because I do not know your reasons for making \$6000 deposits into the hands of others without their being legally your own – Bonds being wrapped up & marked “For the Sisters” are just as much belonging to the Diocese as to you in case of F. Carter’s death. I, in your place, should pay my deposits <sup>in rent</sup> as rent legally, which our most valued & excellent friend & benefactor F. Carter could use as he pleases He smiled with much pleasure when he

told me he had \$6000 of yours but at the same time he said you had not saved \$10 as he could rent the place for \$2500 pr an., at 6 pr ct on \$18000 paid, the rental would be \$1080 – equal to £220 – a very high rent compared with England. If you wish to do your duty & be up to the mark in the esteem of the clergy and the world as you ought, you will be prompt in settling matters of this sort ~~promptly~~<sup>justly</sup> & legally. I think F. Carter is strongly inclined to appropriate the value of the Towanda House on Sharon. Now first he stated that the diocese of Phil is to be divided & that Lycoming & Towanda are to be cut off from the Bishop of Phil & they will be in that of Scroton. He would not name who was to be Bishop there, but afterwards it came out to be Dr O'Hara. He said he could get \$6000 for it & I added "Yes in worthless bonds' He said "No in good money. F. Carter said that a railway was to be made immediately from Towanda to join the New York & Phila railway. Why then should we not have another hole in another diocese & begin again in Towanda where the access would be most easy to all the Stations of the Phil & N. York line? where education wd be more cheaply carried on & where we are safe under another Bishop & Diocese & not kept down in the power of one only to disperse us if anything turns up to displease or annoy him! It seems to me perfect madness to throw such liberation away! What could be better than Towanda <sup>there,</sup> as a 3<sup>rd</sup> House? With a junction Railway? & as to daily Mass there is not reason why it shd not be at the Convent if you pay the Priest a Salary & that he has leave to duplicate on Sunday. You wd find an immense change with the help of a House or two in other Diocese It was our salvation in England not to belong dependent upon one Bishop. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> year saw us in London & the 4<sup>th</sup> in Preston. Your chance also of good subjects is increased threefold with every new House that can be supported & also of Scholars. Children come here from

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Blackpool & from Preston - & from here to Preston Blackpool and London, when necessity would otherwise force us to send to others. Parents also move from place to place & are kept in friendship to the community & bring many pupils & friends again to make you known. <sup>Get your third House if you can.</sup> F. Carter did not seem to think that you make many friends & the unfortunate bringing in of Parents to the Distrib. of Prizes cd have done you no good. The Parents all expect their children shd be the first for Prizes &c &c. I wd never have the Prizes given publicly – if even you have a Concert in this way. If it is understood that Parents are never admitted & that Priests only preside, no offence could be given & no jealousy excited. The description of the beauty of the room &c &c wd be quite enough to puff up the School. If your School falls, it will be a thousand times harder to get it up again than at your first effort. The Notre Dame Nuns & the Sacre Coeur are for ever at work by letter & by parlour intercourse to increase their School & no one seems to go to travel from one place to another without a Circular letter of Introduction to make use of wherever they go. Thus bringing at the same time new friends to see them, & with new friends, new pupils come in the end. Parlour promptness & amiability bring many blessings in various forms. I really must stop – The Duchess will sign the Deed when she goes to London next week - & I will send you a copy of it. Keep the Deed itself for F. Carter to have recorded & deposited in due order – only remember you must not sign any property away without an order from the General & her Chapter. God ever bless you. Keep this letter & copy it into your Chapter Book –

P.S. How I wish we had such a friend in a Priest caring for our true interests like Father Carter! Do value him & use his knowledge. Is it possible you have your men & boys at Mass on weekdays when they ought to be at work? If it is a custom pray put an end to it at once. It is not to be done anywhere during working hours. Our Sisters here do the Milking & also



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at Ore. Do they do it at Sharon? If not let them learn at once & take it from the men. Pray do not think that Fr. Carter did anything but praise you all, yet I got a great deal of all he thought in his strong common sense way & business like style. He is evidently delighted with M.M.Agnese & I think you ought to be glad to have him point out whatever he sees wanting in any way, whether of order cleanliness punctuality &c &c in external & temporal matters or any other way to be remarked & really thank him as you would your own Father for such helping remarks or fault finding. After we had had a long talk I said it was of great consequence to make people happy & that they would always succeed the better for being happy". He said he would willingly borrow \$10,000 for me if I were there, but not for those who would waste it! He also said several times laughing "I keep the Vows that others make."

Yours lovingly

C.C.

[Minor changes have been made in this typescript to make the letter accord with the original copy which is also preserved in the S.H.C.J. Archives in Rome.]

SHCJ          ARCHIVES   ROME

[Copied from Letter Book IV  
p. 143]

The Convent – St Leonards on Sea  
October 21<sup>st</sup> 1875

Copy

My dear M. Mary Xavier

Your reply to my last letter was received while I was expecting very soon to hear of your arrival according to the orders sent. –

My dear I did not send you an “invitation” but a command to come over the first week in October. Will you please to understand that you are now to come to be here DG before the end of Nov? You are not to send anyone in y<sup>r</sup> place but to come yourself & to bring a Sister with you as my last letter explained. Your Vows oblige you to obey nolens volens May God bless your journey & send you quickly & safely across the Ocean +

Ever yours faithfully

In J.C.

M. Cornelia Connelly

Sup<sup>r</sup> Gl

SHCJ          ARCHIVES   ROME

[Letter Book III.  
Pages 16 – 19]CopyRead this please  
to M.M.WalburgaThe Convent  
St. Leonards-on-Sea  
Sussex  
Feby 12<sup>th</sup> 1876 – (Sent on the 17<sup>th</sup>  
The telegram was  
sent Feb 14<sup>th</sup>  
St. Valentine's  
Day

Letter from our Mother General to America dated as above.

Private

Dear Mother M Xavier [Noble]

I send you the copy of G<sup>r</sup> Grant's letter, and the Consultor's report on the Rule which was presented in French in 1854. This was a revision of the Rule approved by Cardinal Wiseman 1850. When we held a Council on it before it was presented, & when to make it more in conformity with the rule of St Ignatius we unitedly decided that the Superior GI should be for life. Our Council was in the latter part of 1853 when Miss Bowles, Miss Woolley & M<sup>th</sup> Alphonsa were with us. It was after this revision that I had the small abridgment printed which you have with you, added to which I gave you for guidance the translated manuscript of the Rule of S<sup>t</sup> Ignatius. I now send you the copy of the Constitutions approved by Card. Wiseman where you will see that the Superior General is to be elected for the term of six years. It is an exact copy of it. The abridgement which you have understand was from the revision of this I now send. –

We shall never come to anything if you decline studying the facts as they stand. You seemed not to condescend to looking into the copy of these important decisions of the Sacred Congregation & you discarded the idea of a Cardinal Protector which is in the old Rule!! and which is in fact

- 2 -

our only protection. If you cut yourselves off, you will fall under the sole power of the Bishop of each Diocese that may spring up, & make Sisters of S. Joseph or anything else that the Bishop wishes to make you into. What D<sup>r</sup> Danell did here was nothing more than the Canon Law gives him the power to do & what will be done to you if you do not keep yourselves perfectly united to us. We are of one mind no doubt, but these little points are like leakages in a roof that would soon tend to ruin.

The point to work at now is to examine & to object to whatever changes our work by these alterations in the Rule. - To sift them in all their bearings, & to make notes upon them. If you do this the Sacred Congregation will weigh them well, but you must study the book I sent you to know what the Sacred Congregation of Rites will demand – and to obtain that knowledge which every Superior ought to know in order to be safe in her own judgments. I grieve not to have had the book before our Chapter, but Our Lord had not sent it, & we have suffered from our own ignorance as you also will do unless you give due attention to my advice. F<sup>t</sup> Cicateri may soothe & console you, but knowledge is of more use to you than useless consolation.

Be quite sure of this that I have never altered the Rule of my own will – We were called to Rome in 1854 on the plea of the Rule being approved & what was then done was by our Council.

I will enclose a copy of Miss Bowles' reasons for wishing the Superior for life.

In the alterations made in the revision at Rome in 1869 I simply obeyed according to D<sup>r</sup> Grant's letter & under Padre Anselmo. This was the Rule you put on the shelf. If that had been accepted we should not have tied up as we are by D<sup>r</sup> Danell. If we do not act unitedly now after prayer, thought & study you will go to ruin. You know quite well

that the Bishops prefer Diocesan Orders where their power is without any appeal save to Rome & if such an appeal is made, the usual answer is "Obey your Bishop!" If I were with you in America it would be just the same and what work could you hope to accomplish if such a misfortune were to occur? Your only safety is in union, & protection of your own body, & a Card. Protector to help it. Surely you would never be happy in the thought of going on without the final approbation of Rome! – However we love our old Rule & hold to it, we must love still more the approval of the Sacred Congregation, as well as the protection we need to meet the wishes of various Bishops.

If you do not put your mind to the examination of facts as they stand, of course you will act in ignorance. If I had thought earlier of sending you the letter of D<sup>r</sup> Grant 1864, it would have shewn you more truly the opinions of those on whom we have to depend. And again if we had known the decisions regarding the late Orders, we should have been greatly helped at the Chapter. Still more I say study Craisson that you may know all that you ought to know & be aware of your danger in time, lest you fall a victim when you least expect it. These are sad troubles, but all Orders have had to go through much the same. The Sisters of Notre Dame were 44 years waiting for their approval, but they were no doubt united.

If we had not suffered from the Preston rebellion, we should never have had such a Visitation as this last. Before we are approved, we shall no doubt have an Apostolic Visitation to go through at head-quarters & with all the Bishops before acting. Even the Convents that are exempt are still subject to the Bishop's Visitation when he wishes to make it. And this according to the Sacred Canons.

Fr – advised me to obey strictly the Rule now given

by D<sup>r</sup> Danell & at the end of the three years to ask to be exempt from the Ordinary.

I am quite certain that the new Rule cannot work & as convinced that it will not be approved without change. It is for us to point out our objections & to send them to Rome, but we ought to be very sure of what we are about. And to be very submissive & docile to the decisions of Rome. The humble shall be exalted. If it were God's will to keep us waiting thirty years longer we must still say God's will is sweeter than even the longed for approval of the Holy See.

I do not think we shall ever come to a clear view of the true state of things until we meet. Would you rather I should go to you with M. Angelica or that you should come here?

With love to all

Ever yours affect<sup>ly</sup> in J.C.

C.C.

Sent with letter, Letter from D<sup>r</sup> Grant – 1854 and a [This in  
long letter of 1864 containing the substance of the C.C.'s  
Report from Rome with the following notice on hand]  
enclosure –

The inclosed letters are for M. Mary Xavier & M.M.Walburga to read attentively. They will shew facts as to the real position of the Rule with regard to Rome after the application of 1854.

Our having worked upon a Rule for 30 years successfully will not authorize it as a Rule approved by the Holy See! - We have the approbation of the Institute, not only from the Cardinal, but by the Rescripts from the Holy See in the favours granted, and with these the Archbishop, D<sup>r</sup> Wood, accepted us.

The approbation of an Institute with all its Branch Houses is the First Point, & on this we entered into each

diocese. Be full of confidence in God & in humble resignation to these crosses, while we must do all that depends upon us for our safety.

SHCJ ARCHIVES ROME

[Letter Book III  
Letter 22. pages 31 – 34]

Copy

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1876  
The Convent St Leonard's on Sea

My dear Mother M. Xavier [Noble]

Perhaps your letters may have miscarried but we have had no acknowledgment of the Telegram I sent to you on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup> though the letter received yesterday bearing date of the 10<sup>th</sup> March was written nearly a month later – If you did not receive it then we ought to claim back the payment made. I thought it necessary to relieve your mind as promptly as possible. How you could have thought that I could have sent D<sup>r</sup> Danell's Rule to the Archbishop remains to me a mystery not to be solved. I am very thankful that you write freely to M<sup>th</sup> Angelica or to any of the Assistants. We are quite united in our decisions and determined to hold together. Our position is most trying under the present circumstances, and we all feel a heavy weight of responsibility, casting aside all personal considerations as we are bound to do. I did not intend to write again so soon myself, but M<sup>th</sup> Angelica was about to answer your letter by return of post. She was however obliged to go up to Preston with M<sup>th</sup> St John without doing so yet I hope she may find time not to defer answering you. She handed me your letter though I hand the letters to the Assistants as well as to the Monitress sealed always unopened by me that all may feel as free as possible. Do not think for a moment about giving me pain personally. I must make myself happy in having my heart pierced and broken – A broken heart is love's cradle "when our love is crucified" Let us bless and thank God for every stroke.

2<sup>nd</sup> Now my dear, how can you who knew the spirit of the Preston S<sup>r</sup> in 1860 quite as well as I knew it myself, suppose for one instant that I could have acted on D<sup>r</sup>



Grant's letter of 1864. What hope could I have entertained when surrounded by young and [in?] experienced Sisters of combating with those who had determined to sustain their own School Mistress spirit, and even this at the cost of becoming Diocesan. Dr Grant's letter gave me advice from Rome of ten years prior to our wants of 1864 so that even if we could have hoped for any union of spirit with Preston we should have been at a great disadvantage in what was advised. Time and patience were needed for prudent action and indeed when I went to Rome in 1869 with commendatory letters from four Bishops and with the aid of the Consultore given to me by Propoganda (F<sup>r</sup> Anselmo) and there made the additions required by D<sup>r</sup> Grant and in obedience did what I was to do, five years after receiving D<sup>r</sup> Grants letter, you reject it or at least put it on your "shelf" and at Preston they sign it and appeal against it!!! What good did my delay of five years do? No other than this, that we have numbers of religious five years older, and more able to combat against the Preston Spirit. Then again you may say why did I not communicate the contents of this letter to all – simply because I should have created a ferment in the minds of all without having the power to act. We should still have been in this state had I not pursued the necessity of an Election of the General and the Assistants which you stormed against. Try to be just in your judgments my dear one and do not fancy that I act without advice, or that I would encourage any one to do so. I shall rejoice in the day when I shall hold no office whatever. Thank God I am not Superior over any house in particular now, and give no orders to any one, and I am personally very happy to have nothing to do but to carry out what is discussed in the Council & with the Assistants, (who all four ought though they do not, live in the house without particular interests) and after these duties to look to my own soul and to help

others and in time I shall regain fresh strength by the blessing of our dear Lord who will always be faithful to us if we are faithful to Him. Thank God the Preston Cabal is at an end, but it will take some years to renew perfectly the old Spirit amongst all who were tainted or rotted by the Cabal.

3<sup>rd</sup> You are mistaken about our affairs temporal and spiritual in the Diocese of Southwark – the temporals never were so flourishing as now. Our schools never more lauded and never so high in numbers and in reputation as at this moment – in 1874 though we had the epidemic that prevented our having the written papers and consequently the children sent home at Christmas did splendid papers, and these are proofs both to the parents and to all their friends of the actual progress, and besides the high numbers here our preparatory school at Mayfield numbers above 20 - - - The Orphanage is also most flourishing and highly praised.

Again we have never since giving up the Training Schools received so many postulants as this year. Facts are proofs while empty words may go for what they are worth. Our new and beautiful class rooms and extra large Dormitory are no doubt additional attractions added to the great beauty of our new Church and the new building at Mayfield.

If in other Dioceses they had laboured as hard for souls and for the good of the Order, as those in Southwark have done much more might have been attained for the salvation of souls and for the greater glory of God.

4<sup>th</sup> We certainly have done our very best for America and if for each Sister sent we might hope for the salvation of even one soul we shall not feel sorry to have sent so many supposing there may be no other reward. When we labour for God He alone can be our reward, so we need not feel ourselves robbed unjustly. If a poor peasant is a saint she will soon be sufficiently mortified to behave like a lady, and to “clean her teeth and nails” as an Act of mortification and

to keep her habit clean according to Rule.

You could not expect that we should send the pick and choice of the Order out to places less in need than ourselves!

I will only add that your fate is in your own hands, and if you are faithful to God and your own Order He will be faithful to you, and will protect you to the end.

Let us know as soon as possible what you want to do with Rome & the Bishops.

Ever yours affectionately in J C

C.C.