

DOC. VII

OF THE TRANSFER OF THE HOME OF THE INSTITUTE to a country estate in the place commonly called "Fourviere" — *From documents examined below.*

In this document, the character of which is principally administrative, we have assembled a series of legal deeds, bills, extracts of accounts, etc., which present an aspect of the Servant of God which, though seeming of secondary importance, is not without value for the complete knowledge of her character, her psychology and her virtue.

In addition, through these figures and notes is seen the progressive development of the work happily begun. The new property acquired at Fourviere became, from November 1820, the Mother House of the new Congregation.

The work begun by the Servant of God in 1818 at Pierres Plantees (Doc. VI) with such zeal for the glory of God and the good of the workers of Lyon, but with such insufficient human means, attained such an unexpected development (Doc. XIX, 4, p. 417) that in 1820 the house rented near the "Tour Pitrat" was already inadequate. It became necessary therefore to acquire a more spacious and permanent residence, suitable for the needs of both works: the organization of the religious institute and the development of the *Providence*. Claudine began to look first in the same district of Croix-Rousse, where her small work seemed well rooted; but God had other designs.

The *Histoire de la Congregation* (Doc. XXVII, p. 550) tells in detail how Pauline Jaricot had informed the Servant of God of the project of selling a fine property situated on the hill of Fourviere, suitable for all the present and even future needs of her work and rendered still more attractive to the Marian piety of Claudine by the proximity of Our Lady's Sanctuary.

The property, which some called *l'Angelique* and others *Maison Piron*, belonged to Paul Jaricot, brother and godfather of Pauline, who had acquired it the year before.

Pauline, with the determination that characterized her, set to work immediately, and, acting as intermediary between her brother and Claudine, succeeded before long in having drawn up the deed of acquisition of the property on which the Mother House of the Congregation of Jesus and Mary was to arise later.

On this occasion the Servant of God gave proof of her uncommon natural qualities and of her virtue. The documents which have come down to us relative to the purchase and establishment of Fourviere are not numerous, and most of them consist of legal deeds, bills and account books, but through the dryness of the figures is seen the 'woman with a good head' as those who

knew her called her, organizing and overcoming the difficulties, prudent in her administration, just and generous towards her creditors, adding gifts and alms, rising above embarrassing economic situations and placing her trust in God.

According to the documents which it has been possible to put together, the acquisition of the property, the work of adapting the house and the construction of a new building which was rendered necessary almost immediately, amounted to a total sum of more than 212,000 frs., an enormous amount of money for that time. The Servant of God counted on the help of God; there was little human aid, on the contrary, she was even deprived of her principal support, Catherine Laporte (cf. Doc. IX, 2, and 3, pp. 221-227); yet notwithstanding this in 1833 all was paid for, and Mother St. Ignatius had undertaken the construction of a new chapel.

In that same year, 1820, Madame Marie Antoinette Guyot de Pravieux, the widow Thevenet, mother of Claudine, died.

The Mayet family, who were relatives of the Thevenet, kept all the legal documents relative to the succession: handwritten will of the 12th June 1819, identity papers, inventories, power of attorney, etc., photocopies of which are found in *A. G. Roma*. Two characteristics of the Servant of God are highlighted from these: her accurate and prudent administration and the confidence which she inspired in those who knew her, and in this particular case, the members of her own family.

Elizabeth Francoise Thevenet, the sister of Claudine, a religious of the Daughters of St. Thomas, was then living at Montcontour, department of Calvados. On the 19th June, 1820, in the presence of the notary of Caen, Mr. Macaire, she "appoints and constitutes as her general and special procurator Mile Claudine Thevenet, her sister, directress of the House of the Providence of Lyon, to whom she gives the power to act on her behalf and in her name..." to carry out all necessary procedures, all that circumstances will require and all that "the said lady procurator believes the most suitable for the interests of the principal, this latter relying entirely on the wisdom and prudence of her procurator". On the 29th May 1820, the day after the death of Madame Thevenet, the magistrate, at the request of J. B. Mayet, put a seal on the house. On the 8th July in the presence of the notary, of the three children of Madame Thevenet, Claudine, Jeanne Marie Francoise Elizabeth and Louis, of J. B. Mayet and of Antoine Germain, he proceeded to identify and break the seal and to compile a general inventory of the furniture, belongings, deeds, documents, depending on the succession.

When the inventory was finished, the document says, "We put back and left all the objects mentioned above and listed, leaving them in the power of Mile Claudine Thevenet, with the consent of all parties. She is responsible, as trustee, to produce them at the right time and to the proper authority."

Once again we have the confirmation of the ascendancy that the Servant of God exercised over her brothers and sisters who always had unlimited confidence in her.

We are adding two other examples:

On the 5th May 1813 the widow of Antoine Burdet died in her own house at Croix Rousse; she was the godmother of Claudine. Like the Thevenet she came from Seyssel and was related to them. M. Burdet had married Jeanne-Marie Françoise Millot, daughter of a trader of Artois and herself in business in Lyon. Their only son died at the age of eighteen years, three years after his father. Remaining alone, the widow continued to manage the business which had always been prosperous, building up more capital from skilful though somewhat original trading. On the 29th January 1813 she made her will in favour of two business men. Besides a good number of legacies, she left three thousand francs to Claudine and as much again to a sister of Claudine, her god-daughter, without remembering her brother and other sisters at all.

The widow Steinman, maternal aunt of the Servant of God (cf. Docs I p. 4 and III, p. 18) in her turn, in her will made on the 11th November 1823 left one thousand francs to Claudine and five hundred to each of her three other nieces.

Such favours appear as an indication of the sympathy and admiration which the works of charity to which the Servant of God dedicated herself inspired.

1.

Legal deeds of the sale on the part of M. and Mme Jaricot to Miles Thevenet and Laporte, of a property situated at Fourviere, 12th July 1820. - From the original kept in A. G. Roma.

On the 28th August 1819, Paul Jaricot had acquired from the Piron family a property situated at Fourviere. It covered an area of 36,000 sq. metres, with a family house and a cottage. In the following year, some months after contracting a second marriage with Felicite Gabrielle Aimee Richond, the couple sold the property, on the 12th July "to Mile Claudine Thevenet and Mile Catherine Louise Laurence Laporte, spinsters of mature age and independent means, living in Lyon, the first at No 9 rue Pierres Plantees, and the second at No 6, rue Basse Grenette".

Catherine Laporte, "the saintly Miss Laporte" as Fr. Mayet calls her (cf. Doc. XXV, 2, p. 486), who appears as the co-proprietor with Claudine, of the new acquisition, was one of the first Associates in the work of the Servant of God, who supported her with her dedication and her fortune (cf. Docs. III, 4, p. 37; IX, 2, p. 221).

The sale, according to the present document, was made officially at the price of 30,000 francs, but the real price was 55,000. In fact it appears from a statement and from a receipt signed by Paul Jaricot on the 20th November 1820, a supplement of 25,000 francs was added to the price declared in the deed of sale, as was agreed in a friendly way with the purchaser! They obliged themselves to pay over a period of three years, together with the interest at 5% per annum, payable every six months from the given date.

In another document of the 28th October 1833, Paul Jaricot acknowledged the receipt of 15,000 francs in full settlement of the real price of the property.

The deed of sale bears four signatures: Claudine Thevenet, Felicite Jaricot nee Richond, Catherine Laporte and Paul Jaricot, "eldest son". We give the text of this document according to the original spelling

The three documents which are quoted here are preserved in I G, Roma.

The undersigned M. Paul Jaricot, eldest son, business man, and, with his authorisation, Mad. Felicite Gabrielle Aimee Richond, his wife, living in Lyon, rue Puit Gallot, no 23, on the one hand, Mile Claudine Thevenet and Mile Catherine Louise Laurence Laporte, spinsters, of mature age, persons of independent means, living in Lyon, the first at rue Pierres Plantees, no 9, and the second at rue Basse Grenette, no 16, on the other hand, have made an agreement as follows: M. Jaricot and his wife sell, and alienate and promise jointly, with all renunciations required, *to maintain and guarantee from all evictions the petitioner and the possessor, against all comers,* to Miles Thevenet and Laporte who accept jointly and severally, the ownership whole and entire, to remain and to belong to the survivor of the two as if she had been the sole acquirer, a small property situated in Lyon, in the district of Fourviere, having its principal entrance by a gate on the Square of that name, composed of a large building *forming a right angle on the corner of the said Square, with a courtyard enclosed by an iron railing, another farm building, a large terrace partly planted with trees, a piece of ground forming a garden, and some vine, and land, the whole comprising about three hundred and sixty ares, enclosed by walls on all sides.*

¹ The words in italics are found in the margin, signed by the contracting parties, Claudine Thevenet, Felicite Jaricot nee Richond, Catherine Laporte, P. Jaricot eldest son.

This property is well known to Miles Thevenet and Laporte who declare they have seen, visited and examined it all. It belongs to Mr. Jaricot who acquired it from Madame Jeanne Marie Arcis, widow of Mr. Jean Pierre Piron; from Madame Jeanne Francoise Piron, widow of Mr. Jean Pierre Dulin, wife of Mr. Louis Devignes, lawyer at Lyon; from Madame Jeanne Virginie Piron, wife of Mr. Joseph Olph Galliard, business man at Lyon and from Madame Marie Louise Josephine Piron, wife of Mr. Claude Marie Gruat, Cavalry Officer, living at Chambery, by contract concluded before Maitre Bonnetain, notary at Lyon, on the twenty-eighth of August last, registered on the thirtieth, legalised on the following third of September.

It is sold just as it is here and now, without any reserve or exception, with all its rights of entry, rights of way, and easements, to be contested at the risk of the contestor.

Miles Thevenet and Laporte and the survivor of the two, are from this moment declared incontestable proprietors of the said domain and all its buildings. They became the owners a moment ago as they took possession of the keys which have just been handed over to them; they shall enjoy right of tenure just as Mr. Jaricot and all his forbears had the right to do; they shall pay all the taxes from the beginning of this month; they shall collect, for their own benefit all the produce and revenues, but on the express condition that they take possession from today in the place of Mr. Jaricot, and that they shall pay him for his property independently of the real price, as follows: 1. the sum of six hundred francs in payment for his warranty until the next feast of St. Martin; 2. that of one hundred and twenty francs to the caretaker also for his wages until St. Martin's day; 3. what is due to the Government regarding the ten hectolitres of wine as set forth in the warehouse Bulletin on the 12th October last under article 4; 4. what may be owing up to the present to the blacksmith; 5. all that may be owing for furniture and the work of masons and carpenters for replastering walls and for the reconstruction of the farm building and the stable. Mr. Jaricot and his wife declare and certify that the said domain is free from all mortgages, rents, annuities and inscriptions.

In this sale are comprised: 1 the same objects, in furniture and what are known as fixtures, which were sold to Mr. Jaricot and which are listed in detail on the paper appended to his contract of acquisition,

with the exception, nevertheless, of a billiard table, a clock and a kneading trough which were removed and which will not be returned; 2. a mule with its pack saddle and harness; 3. a goat and kid; 4. the ten hectolitres of wine in five casks, according to the Bulletin; 5. all the bottles of red wine, except the fifty-three which are owing to the head man-servant, but without the bottles; 6. and finally, all the other objects which are at present in the buildings and on the estate.

The present sale has been carried out and agreed for the sum of thirty thousand francs, which Miles Thevenet and Laporte promise and bind themselves, in joint responsibility, to pay to Mr. Jaricot, within three years, with interest at five per cent per annum without reductions, the whole amount from today, *the said interest payable*² every six months. It will be open to Miles Thevenet and Laporte to pay in advance and in several payments of even less than five hundred francs; interest is not due on what has been paid.

All payments, both capital and interest, may only be made in gold or silver coins, at their present value and quality, under pain of nullity.

Saving the privileges of sleeping partners, the vendors make over to the advantage of Miles Thevenet and Laporte, and the survivor of the two, all renuncements of property and livery of seizin required and necessary; they have here and now given over the original contract of purchase, the copy of the receipt for the price paid, signed in the presence of Maitre Bonnetain, notary, on the fourth December last, with the tax sheets and all the ancient property deeds.

In the case of the death of Mile Thevenet or Mile Laporte, while they are co-proprietors, and because of the clause of reversion, it is expressly agreed that the rights of the heirs of the deceased will only extend to the movable property, and that they must restrict themselves to claiming only what has been paid by their relative, without, in any case, their being able to demand more than the sum often thousand francs, in such a way that the survivor would have possession of the whole property on payment of the said sum often thousand francs, if the deceased has really paid this amount, and has not disposed otherwise.

² In the original these words in italics are written in the margin, and are signed by the four contracting parties.

These documents will be drawn up as a public contract at the first request, and at the cost of Miles Thevenet and Laporte, who will provide M. Jaricot with a copy of the public contract with an abstract of the official registration.

Agreed, reciprocally accepted, made in duplicate in Lyon, on the twelfth of July eighteen hundred and twenty.

In this sale are also understood by name all the objects known as fixtures, even those not in the inventory.

I have read and approve Claudine Thevenet
Felicite Jaricot nee Richond

I have read and approve Catherine Laporte

I have read and approve P. Jaricot, eldest son.

2

Extract from "Cash book begun on the 15th October 1819 and ending on the 3rd March 1831." f. 1. — From the original preserved in A. G. Roma.

We present the extract from page 1 of this book of accounts, the first of the Congregation.

We note that the book, written in great part by the Servant of God herself, begins on the 15th October 1819, one year after the establishment of the Congregation at Pierres Plantees. But the first entries, show the total credits and debits, from the 5th October 1818.

At the end of 1822, Fr. Coindre examined the book and wrote the following note: "Inspected the accounts above and found them accurate, with a balance of one hundred and thirteen thousand six hundred and eleven francs, for expenditure and receipts for the year eighteen hundred and twenty two, Coindre, Sup."

Up to this point the credits and debits appear to be reported in summary, but from then on they are more detailed and the smallest particulars are indicated: alms received and given, earnings from the work of the Sisters, and of the children, small sums distributed to the workers, presents and prizes for the orphans, small donations, as for example — to the Community of Belleville on the occasion of the feast of its Superioress.

There are annotations on agreements made with some dependent or other, in order not to forget, or to pass on the information to someone who might come after, such as "Silvester came to the house on the 15th February

1831. I agreed with him that he should be paid a wage of 350 francs for this year."

Mother St. Ignatius' preoccupation for justice and good administration can be seen in everything. Indeed, the Servant of God had begun her foundation from nothing, but overcoming difficulties that were far from trivial, she knew how to give her work a vigorous thrust, thanks, without doubt, to her administrative ability, in which, however, the constant practice of virtues based on trust in God is revealed.

DEBIT

1819 Oct.	15	40	Received from different persons of the house from 5th Oct. 1818 until today		728.40
		80	Received from Mile Laporte until 29th November 1819.		3,063.25
	"	47	Received for the children of the Providence from 26th Oct. 1818 to the end of 1819.		2,863.50
		23	Received for the produce of the workroom until the end of 1819.		5,401.30
		33	<i>Cutting out</i> for the work until the end of 1819.		635.10
		31	<i>Lace</i> for the work until the end of 1819.		311
		29	<i>Linen</i> for the work until the end of 1819.	13,187.10	184.55
1820		80	Mile Laporte, in cash, 2 March.	600	600
		85	<i>Alms</i> from the community of Brislat.	100	100
		40	Rose Guyon	482	482
		40	Mme Thevenet	260	260
		85	Alms from an unknown source.	100	100
		40	Mme Ferrand	7	7
		40	Mile Lavire	200	200
		40	Miles Planu and Chipicr	84	84
	"	40	Mottorgue and Mr. Dravet for a loan	91.70	91.70
		47	<i>Providence</i> received from diverse sources.		1,229.20
	"	23	<i>Workshop</i> net proceeds of work		5,625
	"	33	<i>Cutting out</i> , net proceeds of work	8,200.20	466
	"	29	<i>Linen</i> net proceeds of work		602
	"	31	<i>Lace</i> net proceeds of work		278
		81	<i>Fruit</i> , proceeds of various sales	258.35	258.35
		35	<i>Furniture and utensils</i> , mirror sold	164	164
	..	39	Mr. Papillion — deposit for his life annuity 14th June 1820		8,027
		40	Mme Thevenet received on 2nd October		3,000
		40	Mme Thevenet received on 2nd October	5,448	828
	"	42	Mile Jubost Th. ⁸⁰ her deposit 8th November 1820		1,620

CREDIT

1819	13	31	Housekeeping expenses from 5th Oct 1818 until today		7,401.45
Dec.	13		House, rent for 15 months	8,617.45	1,216
	35		<i>Furniture and utensils</i> , those paid for until the end of 1819		2,108.30
	83		<i>Maintenance</i> and uniform of the children and adults	13,827.75	
	40	:	<i>Paid to Madeleine</i> when leaving, on account, for 100 fr. that she had paid at her entry, included in the 728.40 from another source.	70	70
1820	13	„	Housekeeping, for expenditure of the year.	6,688.70	6,688.70
	13	„	House. Rent.	1,050	1,050
	35		<i>Furniture and utensils</i> , those paid for this year.		527
	83	„	Upkeep of the house.	2,740	2,740
	81	„	<i>Property</i> cost of deeds to M. Papillion.	115	
	39	„	<i>To M. Papillion</i> for proceedings.	183	298
	11		<i>Property</i> , registration fee and the right of ownership Fees	1,900	
			<i>Fees</i> to Mr. Lecourt	215	
	81	»	<i>Taxes</i> on doors and windows.	234.50	2,349.50
	13		House. For duty on wine left by Mr. Jaricot	120	120
	11		<i>Property</i> , gifts to workmen		30
1821	38	„	<i>Jaricot</i> , payment of interest		325
	11	»	<i>Property</i> , paid Jaricot for a wall	300	

3.

Bill regarding the transport of furniture and horns from Plerrvs Plantfa to Fourvlere, IH20; and a now written by the Servant of God on another account. - From the original preserved in i C Roma

We present: a) the note on the removal of the furniture and loom, which makes known the date of the transfer from Pierres Plantccs lo Foitrvli n because it suggests some observations. According to the document I In transfer was made from the 2nd to the 11th November.

The acquisition of the property was stipulated for the 12th July 1820, accounts of masons and carpenters who carried out work already finished in the month of August are preserved. This means that the Servant of God lost no time, and at the end of October the house was already fit to receive the forty people who made up the newly formed community and the first small group of orphans of the Providence, although at the time of the installation all was not as one would have desired, because there was insufficient space, as the *Histoire de la Congregation* says. Therefore, not only was the work continued of enlarging the house, which was destined for the community and for a boarding school for children of wealthy families, inaugurated in 1821, but the construction of a much larger building, more suitable for the looms of the Providence, was begun.

b) Preserved on various bills for the work done in 1820 and successive years, are notes made in the hand of the Servant of God, which demonstrate her care to pay everyone with exactitude, in instalments when she was unable to pay all at once, noting always the dates of payments. This is illustrated in document b) of this number, in which we give an example of such particularly detailed annotations.

Finally, it is noted as characteristic of the honesty of the Servant of God that when a bill was not complete, she made it a duty to point out the omissions, as is seen from different bills completed in her own hand.

a)

1820 Note on the vehicles provided for the transport of furniture and machines of the establishment of the Ladies of the Providence.

The said objects were transported from the old premises of Pierres Plantees to the new house situated on the Place de Notre Dame de Fourviere.

		1	s
2nd November.	Made one journey and paid for the same	12.	5
4th	„ Idem	12.	5

6.	Id	Idem	12.	5
9.	Id	Idem	10.	
10.	Id	Idem	16.	
11.	Id	Idem	12.	

From 6th to 11th eight shifts of carpenters to help the carriers to load and unload the said objects; as also to dismantle the furniture and looms and reassemble them in the new house. 32. ,,

Total . . . 106. 15

Received with thanks at Lyon, 5th January 1822 Piraud

b)

Mr. Chabert, I am returning the present account to you. Give me a general account for the parlours and for all that I owe you. I shall pay you the money at once, deducting the 1,200 francs that I have already given you.

Lyon. 14th January 1824.

Ignatius nee Thevenet

4

Extracts from a letter of Pauline Marie Jaricot to Cardinal de Bonald, 1857. - From "Writings of Pauline Jaricot" Vol 11, pp. 220-227, Arch. S.C. of Rites.

In this letter of 1857 Pauline Jaricot addresses herself to Cardinal de Bonald in order to obtain justice and she gives the history of the attempts she made to preserve the hill of Fourviere from occupation by speculators. In confirmation of what we have said we give an extract from which it is possible to conjecture her intervention in the business of the purchase of the property of Fourviere by the Servant of God. We advise that the text of this long letter is reported in its entirety in *Inquisitio super scriptis* cit., pp. 75-80.

. . . The labourers chosen to work on the famous Fourviere road were, for the most part, the same ones who, during the first three days

of the Republic burnt the looms in the orphanages of Jesus and Mary, the Holy Family, Marie Therese, etc. [...].

I state now [...] that I do not know that any religious community existed at Fourviere when my elder brother, who had, only a short time previously, bought the house now occupied by the Religious of Jesus and Mary, sold it to the ladies Thevenet and Ramier, foundresses of that institution.

5

Extracts from the "Census" 1821, 1822, 1823. — From the originals preserved in the Municipal Archives of Lyon.

The *Memorial* written by one of the first companions of the Servant of God (Doc. XXIII), tells of the installation at Fourviere, towards the end of 1820. It says "Besides the intention of bringing up working class children, there was also that of working for the education of young ladies to form them in virtue... Therefore a boarding school was opened in 1821." This document and the *Histoire* make known a new work which the Servant of God began at Fourviere in 1821. Proof of the existence of the boarding school at that date is seen also in the account books and in the documents which we present here, which are found in the Municipal and Departmental Archives of Lyon. From these documents we see three works developing side by side, in spite of great difficulties: the *Providence*, the boarding school, and the Religious Congregation.

We give the corresponding extracts from the census of the years 1821, 1822, 1823, which refer to the works of Claudine Thevenet.

The progressive increase in the number of persons and of looms is noted. The total number of individuals during these first three years increased from 83 to 120, the number of looms increased from 25 to 30.

a)

1821, Census, Place de Fourviere, no 3. "Institution of the Providence" Proprietor, Mile Thevenet, Rent, impos. 605.

<i>Floors</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Profession</i>	<i>Rental Value</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
B 1	Mile. Thevenet	Superioress of the Providence	750		17

Servants	Other individuals	Total population	Looms		
			Plain	Jacquard	Idle
4	62	83	22	3	0

b)

1822, Census. Place de Fourviere no 3. "Institution of the Providence". Proprietor, Mile Thevenet, Rent, impos. 605.

Floors	Name	Profession	Rental value	Men	Women
B 1	Mile Thevenet	Superioress of the Providence	1,250		30
B	Jean	Gardener		1	

Other Individuals	Total population	Looms	
		Plain	Idle
52	82 1	24	6

c)

1823 Census, Place de Fourviere no 3 "Institution of the Providence" Proprietor, Mile Thevenet, Rent, impos. 605.

Floors	Name	Profession	Rental Value	Men	Women
B 1	Mile Thevenet	Superioress of the Providence	1,250		30 26
B	Jean 28 years	Gardener		1	

Other individuals	Total population	Looms	
		Plain	Idle
64	120	24	6

Floors

Large building under construction on the Square

d)

List of the Religious Communities of women. 1823. From the original preserved in A. D. Lyon, V. 257.

In this document we have a complete picture of the work of the Servant of God. It appears officially as a religious community under the name of "Ladies of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary", dedicated to teaching; it comprises 15 professed choir sisters, 20 novices, 10 postulants and 5 auxiliary sisters. The Providence numbers 60 free pupils and the boarding school reaches the number of 20 pupils. The means of support, according to what one reads in the observations, are provided from the work, and from the fees of the pupils in the boarding school.

It should be noted that the community appears dependent on a Superioress General residing in Monistrol.

List of Religious Communities of women established in the city of Lyon.

Names of Communities	Date of Decree	Purpose of their Institutions		Number of Resident members				Number of Pupils	
		Hosp.	Teaching	Professed	Novices	Postulants	Auxiliary	Free	Paying
Community of Ladies of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. In Fourviere	Not authorised, but is seeking authorisation.		Teaching	15	20	10	5	60	20

Does the community depend on a Superioress General and a head house? Where is the head house?

The head house is in Monistrol (Haute-Loire).

Observations: This Community is especially engaged in work with pupils making silk materials, and its means of subsistence come from the proceeds of the work and the fees from paying pupils.

The present statement was drawn up by us — the Mayor of the City of Lyon.

At the Town Hall 18th November 1823

Mayor of the City of Lyon

Baron Rambeaud

DOC. VIII

FIRST RULE OF THE CONGREGATION founded by Claudine Thevenet, 1821. —*From the handwritten copy preserved in Arch. Gen. Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Rome.*

The Congregation founded by Claudine Thevenet at Pierres Plantees (Doc. VI, p. 182), originated from the Association of the Sacred Heart, preserving its spirit and Rule. (Doc. IV, 1, p. 50). Installed in the new property of Fourviere (Doc. VII, p. 186), the work begun could develop with greater facility. Zeal for the glory of God and the good of souls, determined the Servant of God to bring to reality in 1821, the project, already under consideration for some time, of opening a boarding school for the children of wealthier families. In the mind of the Foundress, the boarding school would be for the benefit of the *Providence*; for the Servant of God this was the principal work to be done in the circumstances which existed throughout Lyon in that post-revolutionary period (Doc. XIX, 4, p. 417). Therefore she began the construction of a building suitable for the *Providence*. It was already finished in 1822. The boarding school and the community were installed in the old house, which had been extended and adapted as much as possible.

All these material activities did not make the Foundress lose sight of the internal organisation of the Religious Congregation which was developing at the same time. In vain she requested the approval of the ecclesiastical authorities of Lyon; then she turned to the Episcopal Administrator of le Puy in whose diocese a third house of the new Institute was established (the second had been opened in 1822 at Belleville), and she obtained what she desired in 1823. The Institute was recognised under the title of *Congregation of the*

Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and its members were called *Ladies of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary* (Doc. X, 2, p. 247).

The rules, which were to govern the Congregation were developed progressively, with practice and experience; they were based on the rule of St. Augustine and the constitutions of St. Ignatius, as appears from documents of the period. In fact, in *Register I* (cf. Doc. X, 2, p. 248), on the 10th day of October 1822, we read the following note "Having adopted the Rule of St. Augustine and the Constitutions of St. Ignatius, with the modifications necessitated by the difference which must exist between the employments". The same idea recurs in the *Memorial* (cf. Doc. XXIII, p. 463), speaking of the early days of the Congregation: "We practised the religious virtues according to the Rule of St. Augustine and the Constitutions of St. Ignatius." Meanwhile, for the good direction of the new religious family, Fr. Coindre prepared provisional general norms which disappeared later. Fortunately it has been possible to reconstruct them thanks to a manuscript kept in the archives of the Generalate of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, in Rome.

Time. It is not possible to establish with precision the year of the composition of the legislative text published here. Certainly it was before the 30th September 1821, the date of the foundation by Fr. Coindre, of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, to whom it was given by the founder himself, after he had prepared it for the use of the religious women. It does not seem risky to propose as the approximate date, the years 1818-1820, because these were the two years of the first communitarian experiences of the Congregation. This can also be deduced from what the author of the *Memorial* affirms when she describes the ceremony of the first profession which took place on the 25th February 1823. "We had been tested for several years in the house of Lyon, where we had practised and observed the rules which the Fr. Founder had given at the beginning; thus on the 25th of the same month of February [1823] the first vows were pronounced (cf. Doc. XXII, p. 466), in Monistrol."

The text. In the General Archives of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, which were also founded by Fr. Coindre (cf. *Les Freres du Sacre Coeur. Historique de l'Institut 1821-1956*, Rome 1956) is preserved an exercise book (28 pages) written by a brother, in 1821, containing what appears to be a rule of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart which was published in 1943, attributed to Fr. Vincent Coindre (cf. *Annuaire de l'Institut des Freres du Sacre Coeur*, 1942-1943, pp. 9-21). In 1956, Fr. Bernadine Llorca S.J., who worked for us, made an attentive study of this rule together with the brother Archivist, and both of them recognized that it had been prepared for an institute of religious women; in fact, many directives concern women only, and the copyist, in his hurry, had left in the feminine some words, *superieures locales, inferieures, maitresse* etc., which should have been in the masculine. Sometimes, the copyist used the pronoun *elles*, which he crossed out and continued with the masculine *Us*, and soon. In the same year, in the appendix to the volume *Les Freres du Sacre*