account of age or of length of experience in the work. Among those professed on the 25th February was M. St. Borgia, first companion of the Foundress at Picrres Plantees on the 5th October 1818; Mothers St. Xavier and St. Bruno who followed a few days later, and Mother St. Peter. This last had entered the Congregation when she was already in her fifty-sixth year, and although she had only been in it for a single year, she had gained the trust of the Servant of God by her maturity and other circumstances, on account of which important offices were quickly confided to her. After the events of Monistrol, namely, the profession of the 25th and the elections of the 26th February, M. St. Ignatius returned to Lyon, made arrangements for three others of her first companions to make profession, and remained with M. St. Xavier to govern the house of Fourviere. She sent to Monistrol M. St. Andrew, who, since the end of 1816, had been a member of the Association of the Sacred Heart, and M. St. Stanislaus who, like M. Gonzaga, came from Belleville for the occasion and had entered in Pierres-Plantees. All three were young in age.

On the very day of this ceremony in Monistrol M. St. Andrew was elected first Assistant General. The Servant of God and M.St. Xavier sent their votes in writing from Lyon and M. St. Borgia sent hers from Belleville.

This act also, contained in Register I, and drawn up by Fr. Coindre, is signed by those present, and later, by the Servant of God.

In the year eighteen hundred and twenty-three on the sixteenth of March, we the undersigned, assembled in Chapter, after collecting the votes of Mothers St. Ignatius, Borgia, Xavier, who had sent their votes by post, and those of Mothers St. Peter, Bruno, Stanislaus and Gonzaga here present, have counted the votes and have declared that Madame St. Andrew has been elected by an absolute majority of votes to the office of First Assistant General, in witness whereof we have signed the present act on the above-mentioned date.

Mother St. PeterMother St. BainoMother StanislausMother GonzagaMother St. Ignatius, nee ThevenetFather Coindre, Sup.

## 3

Act of appointment of the first Provincial Superioresses, 16th March 1823.

From the first years of development of the Congregation, it was considered well to name a Provincial Superioress for each of the dioceses in which it was established. The Servant of God named M. St. Andrew Provincial Superioress of Lyon and M. St. Peter of Le Puy.

The document is written and signed by Fr. Coindre.

In the year eighteen hundred and twenty-three, on the sixteenth of March, we the undersigned, have received by letter from Madame Si. Ignatius the appointment of Madame Andrew as Mother Superioress Provincial of the Sisters of the Heart of Jesus and Mary for the diocese of Lyon and that of Madame St. Peter as Mother Provincial of the same sisters for the diocese of Le Puy, in witness whereof we have signed the present act in the year and on the day mentioned above.

Mother St. Bruno Mother Stanislaus Mother Gonzaga

Father Coindre, Sup.

## DOC. XIII

NORMS for the pupils of the Providence, 27th June 1823. -From the copy kept in A. G. Roma, Register III.

We are including here a document which demonstrates the care of M. St. Ignatius for the efficient running of the *Providence* of Fourviere and for the order and discipline of the novices.

As is clear from what has been said, the Servant of God had a particular predilection for poor girls, in order to preserve them from the moral danger of the factories and to procure for them the greatest possible good (Docs. III, p. 28; IV, 2, p. 122; XVII, 5, p. 356). From 1823 her efforts were intensified and the *Histoire* gives interesting information on this (Doc. XXVII, pp. 573-580). Undoubtedly the Foundress was very interested in the development of the three boarding schools which by 1823 she had organised for the upper class girls, at Fourviere, Belleville and Monistrol, but her predilection was for poor and abandoned children.

In the minutes of the meeting of the 27th June 1823, which we present here, it appears that the Council meeting was presided over by Fr. Coindre. Although the name of the Servant of God does not appear, because habitually the minutes report only the name of the one who presided over the meeting, there is no doubt that the Servant of God was present; she presided over the meetings before and after that of the 27th June at which Fr. Coindre was not present. On one occasion, on the 16th March 1823, when the Servant of God was absent, the minutes confirm that she had sent her vote in writing.

At this meeting of the 27th June the council treated:

1. of some norms observed in the *Providence*. As this had been established for the greater moral and material good of young working girls, it was decided that not only would they be allowed to remain there until they were 21 years old, but that, when the conduct of these young girls was entirely satisfactory, they could continue to remain in the house indefinitely. There is

the case of a certain Genevieve Delorme, born in Sourcieux (Rhone); the mother, Marguerite Chollet, a widow, left her young daughter in the care of the Servant of God. Genevieve remained in the *Providence* as mistress of a workroom and died there on the 20th July 1834 at the age of 27 years. The Servant of God took care to have 15 holy Masses said for the repose of her soul, as can be seen from the books of administration: "21st July, Paidfor the expenses incurred on the death of Genevieve, 45.85 fr. 30th July: Paid for 15 Masses for Genevieve, 18.75 fr." (*A. G. Roma*).

Regarding those who left the *Providence*, it was arranged that they would always follow up what happened to these girls, until they had found a post where they could be sure of their spiritual good.

2. Some general norms were established for the efficient running of the novitiate, and in particular the case of admission of girls of the *Providence* was discussed.

These minutes are found in Register III, which presents some peculiarities, as we shall see in Doc. XVI, A, *intr.*, and *Appendix*, p. 289.

## Meeting of the 27th June 1823

The Council was presided over by Fr. Coindre, our very Reverend Father Superior.

When the children of the *Providence* have finished the time of their apprenticeship and if it would not be a burden to the house to keep them, they may, if people are satisfied with them, be kept indefinitely in the house. The departure of the girls will always be arranged so that they leave only when a place has been found for them where their moral safety is ensured. Consequently the departure of Vidalin, of Marie Goi, of FanchetteBesson who have finished their time, is put off indefinitely.

Girls of the *Providence* will never be received as choir religious, especially in houses where they have been brought up.

If any children of the *Providence* are received, they will not be admitted to the first probation until they have finished their time.

Nobody will be admitted to the exercises of the postulants without first being made to undergo a period of trial which shall last for three weeks, or a month according as is judged proper.

If a novice, after her entry to the novitiate, neglects either her studies or manual work, or fails to try to correct her faults, without, however, deserving to be sent away, she may be excluded from the exercises of the novitiate during the time that is judged appropriate, and if after three months she does not deserve to be admitted, she shall be sent away.

M(ar)ie Andre

## DOC. XIV

APPROBATION OFTHE STATUTES OFTHE CONGREGATION by the Archbishop Jean P. Gaston de Pins, Apostolic Administrator of Lyon, granted on the 18th July, 1825.

On the arrival of Mgr de Pins at Lyon, on the 18th February, 1824, M. St. Ignatius together with Fr. Coindre, repeated the steps required to obtain the approbation of the Constitutions of the Congregation, which the Apostolic Administrator granted without difficulty. Already on the 2nd March of the same year he had authorised, for Fourviere, ceremonies of clothing and profession, in the acts of which we find the formula: "... according to the Rule of St. Augustine and the Constitutions of St. Ignatius" which shows the direction of the two founders.

These first constitutions have disappeared, but they are referred to in the minutes of the meetings of the 15th August 1826 and the 10th October 1827, with regard to art. 2 of the elections; of the 23rd June 1829, referring to art. 12; and of the 15th December 1831, to art. 17 of the Statutes; these minutes are copied in Register III (cf. Doc. XVI, A, pp. 272-278).

In 1822, Fr. Coindre wrote some Constitutions also for the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Le Puy (cf. Gen. Arch, of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Rome). These Constitutions are divided under seven headings: the first explains the end of the Congregation; the others treat of norms relative to the foundation of houses, the reception of subjects, the government of the association, and the powers of the General. Title seven treats of the means for preventing abuses in the congregation, and of those for the sanctification of all the members, and it ends with a paragaph containing an idea which is found also in other writings of Fr. Coindre, and which doubtless reflects his own spirit and that of M. St. Ignatius: "Above all, the study and imitation of the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ in his hidden and public life, all conformably to the summary of the Constitutions of St. Ignatius in all that is not contrary to the present Constitutions." Certainly this idea must have been present also in the Constitutions approved by Mgr de Pins.

The Council of the Archbishop of Lyon, at the request of Fr. Coindre, deliberated on the approbation of the Constitutions of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary on the 13th July 1825 (*infra*, 1), and on the 25th of the same month the Apostolic Administrator signed the decree of approbation (*infra*, 2). However, his attempt to obtain from the king legal approbation of the Congregation, already attempted by the Servant of God in 1823 (*infra*, 3), was in vain.