CIVIL WAR DIARY
(1862-1865)

BISHOP WILLIAM HENRY ELDER
BISHOP OF NATCHEZ
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Published by
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Bishop of Natchez-Jackson
FOREWORD

In the archives of Woodstock College, Woodstock, Maryland, are the original pages of a wartime (1862-65) Diary penned by the hand of Bishop Elder, at that time Bishop of Natchez. Through the courtesy of Woodstock College photostat copies of the pages of this Diary have been supplied to the archives of the Diocese of Natchez-Jackson.

The following pages have been copied from these photostats.

In the Diary manuscript Bishop Elder left many blank spaces, particularly when the name of a person would normally appear there. Evidently Bishop Elder left these blanks either to show that he did not know the name of the person or perhaps with the hope that he might later learn the name and write it in. In this copy we have left these blanks.

When these photostat copies were sent to me I found that some of the pages were not in the proper sequence as concerns the dates. For instance, the 8 pages dated Jan 1 to Feb 23, 1863, were found after October 17 of that year - and yet in numbering the pages instead of being numbered 11 to 18 as they should have been they were numbered 53 to 60. (Oct 17 was numbered 52). This seems to be convincing evidence that the numbering of the pages was made long after the Diary had been made and after these pages had been misplaced from their proper order. I am convinced that the page numbers were not put in by Bishop Elder but by some other person at a later date. Therefore, I have arranged these pages in order of dates - as they should be - and am omitting the page numbers as they appear on the photostats. I am numbering the pages in the space at the bottom so that my numbers will not be considered part of the copy.

There is an undated page following the page dated October 17. This page begins: "Started about 2 PM with Michael Maher" - - - - this undated page is left where it is found.

Page numbered "69" in the photostat copies ends with date Oct 23, 1863. Following it is an unnumbered page ending with entry of Oct 25. Then follows immediately, in the photostats, a page numbered "71" beginning with date Dec 22, 1863. What about Oct 26 to Dec 21? I find no pages covering these dates - and the consecutive numbering in the photostat copies, seems to indicate that pages covering Oct 26 to Dec 21 are not amongst the original in the Woodstock Archives. Was this period covered by Bishop Elder and the pages lost, or was this period left unwritten because of absence from Natchez, or illness, or for some other reason? Investigation has definitely convinced me that this period was left unwritten. The following reasons have so convinced me:

1 - Bishop Elder's Letter Book No. 9 in our archives containing exact copies of letters which he wrote in 1863 contains no copies of letters dated between October 27 and Christmas of that year. In a
letter written on Christmas Day to Archbishop Oden he mentions that he had invited the churches to pray for peace and says: "Along the Gulf Coast I assisted at them myself - - - - - . The majority of those whom I confirmed along the Coast were grown men and women."

And writing to Archbishop Purcell at Cincinnati on Dec 30 he says: "The Sunday before Christmas I spent at Woodville." (Woodville would be on a logical route from the Coast to Natchez). From this data I would conclude that Bishop Elder was travelling in the southern part of the Diocese during that period from the end of October to near Christmas and probably found it inconvenient to continue his Diary during that time.

2 - I have written to the archivist of Woodstock College who has replied as follows:

"Our investigations show that there was no entry in Bishop Elder's diary from October 26-December 21, 1863 inclusive; and a careful examination of the pages indicates that there could have been no entry which was lost in the course of time, for the loose pages join one another perfectly."

In reference to the page numbering of the sheets of the Diary, Father Edward A. Ryan, S.J., the archivist of Woodstock College writes:

"Your theory that the pagination was not done by Bishop Elder seems to be correct. The numbers were made in a firm hand, and in pencil. The penciled numbers do not even approximate Bishop Elder's formation of numbers."

[Signature]
Bishop of Natchez, Jackson.
1862 Octr. 26th Sunday - V. Rev. Mr. Grignon preached on False Conscience. - Heavy storm of wind without rain last night - thermom. this morning at 24° Farenheit McGary told me.

29th Rev. Mr. Finucane started for Woodville to keep the engagement made by Rev. Mr. Huber in September. - Fr. Huber went from here in September after returning from Woodville - to visit the camps & Hospitals at Brookhaven & elsewhere - to attend to the spiritual wants of the soldiers, & at the same time to obtain some money for paying the debts of his church at Port Gibson. The congregation at Port Gibson is scarcely more than half a dozen persons. Mr. Moore's Plantation has a much more numerous congregation, but I consented he should leave them a while for the sake of the soldiers & of his debts. - Fr. Huber writes me from Jackson that he has reasons for wishing not to return to Port Gibson at all, wh. he could explain orally.

The 28th I received a deposite from John Casey going to war. I was willing to keep it for him at his own risk - He preferred that I would take it on a loan & give him gold for it after the war. I enquired of some persons the price of Gold - & was told that there was no regular dealing in it - consequently no established price: - I heard of persons having offered 75 per ct. premium - equivalent to 43 per ct. discount & being refused. - I told Casey if he desired I would take the paper at 30 per ct. discount - the price of which a merchant gave me some in the summer. - He accepted it gladly. - I gave my note payable six mos. after the war so as to reserve to myself time to communicate with Europe & get my allocations from Paris. He gave with the paper $100 in gold, which is included in my note.

Same day had a letter from Miss Marcilly announcing that Frank Arrighi was at her house in Frederick - wounded at South Mountain Sept. 17th. Doing well.
Revd. Mr. Picherit is still sick at Bahalar.

Received yesterday word from Fr. Leray that the Hospital at Holly Springs is to be closed soon. - I gave him permission to take the Sisters to Sulphur Springs, if they are not needed in some other hospital. It is not prudent for them to return to Vicksburg yet, as there will probably be another bombardment this winter. - Proposed to them to take Sulphur Springs if they find it will be useful: - only paying what is due to the Sisters of St. Joseph for improvements: $1783.40.

Octr. 30th, Thursday, Paid Mr. Quegles an instalment on purchase money of school lot $1000. & took up & cancelled my note payable Apr. 24th, 1863. - This completes the purchase of Mahlin Davis’ part of the lot $3000. - I still owe for the rest, Mr. Whitecomb’s $2,120-30/100

Novr. 1st All Saints - Pontifical Mass at 10 A.M. Preached on the Festival. Evidence of Divinity of Church - her Communion with the Saints - she claims them - the Apostles her founders - the Martyrs - her Popes &c. - Fabian & Cyprian - her children gathered their blood and venerated their relics. The Doctors - her writers Gregory and Augustine teaching her truths now denied by a = Catholics. - The confessors & Virgins - made vows in her Orders - sanctified themselves with her Sacraments & practices of penance & piety. (This was what I aimed at tho’ I did not express it clearly, because the thought comes to me too late, to be matured.) She is still the same Church - wishing to make Saints now - ’tis her whole business - and we are the material - just like the other Saints - to be perfected by the same means if we will use them. - Medaille’s Meditation for the Octave Day gives good matter for a Sermon.

Plain vespers - & no instruction in the afternoon to give time for confessions.
1862 Novr. 2 Sunday. The Societies all received Holy Communion today. The number of Hosts used yesterday & today over 240 probably 260.

In the afternoon went to the Cemetery. At 3 1/2 began to sing De Profundis—Magnificat—Procession to new Cemetery singing Litany of Saints. Fr. Guillou rode out - but took no part in the ceremonies. - Bp. preached.

Beautiful afternoon but very dusty. - Mrs. Perrault & Mrs. O'Canagh took up collection for orphans - at outer gate. They stopped all the carriages. Collected $135.15.

Novr. 3rd. Pontifical Requiem at 9 A.M. A short exhortation to pray for the dead.

Rode down to see Mrs. Reardon & the Horton family at the Cotton Press.

Novr. 5th. Solemn Requiem at 6 A.M. for members of Propagation. Not as many persons present as I expected. Heavy wind storm in afternoon & all night. Quite cold again.

Novr. 6th Mrs. Perrault sent us a handsome present - a whole set of white chinaware: - in the original box from France, unopened.

Novr. 7th. Examination of large school in Catechism, Grammar Spelling, History, Reading, Geography, Latin. Miss Kate's school, one class of Spelling. Very manifest improvement in every class except one of Geography which failed entirely. - The Grammar & History showed most improvement. Mr. Quegles helped to examine - about a dozen ladies were present. Lasted from 8 1/2 A.M. till nearly 12 M. - Visited Dr. Holcombe after supper.

Novr. 8th. Solemn Requiem for soldiers at 9 A.M.

Novr. 9th. Preached on Detraction from Bourdaloue. In the Afternoon Apostolicity in Doctrine.

Novr. 10th. Rev. Mr. Huber arrived on a visit. He has been chosen Chaplain
of the 10th Regt. of Tennessee. His Commission has not been received. He came to Port Gibson, to pay some of what he owed - & thence to Natchez to get some winter clothes. - His health has been excellent, he looks fat & his color is dark & healthy. - He has left off shaving. - He gave me some account of his trials at Port Gibson, & his reasons for wishing not to return. - I acquiesced in them - so far as to relieve him at present of his Pastoral responsibilities, towards Port Gibson & his missions. Also gave him dispensation from obligation of offering Mass for his charge on suppressed festivals.

Novr. 11th. A very interesting visit from Lieut. Hart of the Natchez Southrons. He gave an account of march into Kentucky & back again. The retreat from Kentucky seems to have been necessitated by Van Dorn's failure at Corinth. - Van Dorn was expected to defeat the Federals there & then march to Nashville, thus obliging the Federals in Kentucky to go to its relief. - The cause of retiring after the battle at Perrysville, - was that Buel, Federal, was reinforced during the night, by McCook. - Withers had been sent to intercept McCook, but he failed: apparently from want of vigilance & activity. He has been relieved of his command. - Hart has come to get clothes for his company. - Much of what had been purchased & gathered in Kentucky was destroyed for want of time. Sister sent money to Fr. Elia, to get shoes &c for the orphans from Memphis.

Nov 12th. Wednesday - Yesterday afternoon the weather grew warm & cloudy. It cleared off at night. This morning at 9 1/2 it began to rain. - Fr. Huber started at 5 1/2. - Fr. Grignon went out to see Preston Thomason, one of our school boys - a Protestant - who was dangerously hurt last week by a fall from a tree.

Nov 16th Sunday - Revd. Mr. Finucane preached on learning to love God from all things we see around us. - In the afternoon no instruction - It was cloudy & dark.

Nov 18th. Anniversary of Parents’ Marriage.

19. St. Elizabeth’s day. A visit to Mrs. Perrault in the evening. Frank Arrighi arrived home.

21st. Presentation. Did not say Mass for the Sisters! A visit from Frank Arrighi & his Sister Margaret. He was wounded in the head at Sharpsburg, Sept. 17th. Spent two weeks in Baltimore on Parole (was present at Margaretta’s marriage with Henry_______ ale. Ephraim Baldwin was there (a mistake - another Baldwin). He escaped the draft by going to N. Orleans. - Tonight Edw. Reynolds had his ankle broken by the accidental discharge of his pistol.

22 Visited the Miss Nevins - nieces of Mr. Kenny.

23 Fr. Grignon preached on the Judgment (Last Sunday after Pentecost.) No instruction in the afternoon. - A visit from Mary Holden & Agnes Haggerty - now staying near Fort Adams: - Afternoon one from Edward Holden. - Genl. Chambers staying with us since yesterday. He brought in this morning Judge Dixon from Memphis a refugee now residing at Canton.

25th Sent to Fr. Miller at D’Evereux Asylum, some of our carpets to make blankets - advising him to turn his blankets into jackets & pants for his boys. - Some of the boys have the chicken pox.

26th. A visit from Mr. Elijah Smith

27th. Dempsey Jackson, Esq.r called for Genl. Chambers & Mr. Stone -
likewise called, bringing Mrs. Chambers with him. The Genl. & his wife dined with us. - We visited the Asylum. Mr. Stone called again in the afternoon. I lent him Spalding's Reformation.

Mr. Baker offered to send a letter to N. Orleans for me. Sister also wrote me. I wrote to Charles.

Nov. 28th Friday -

Nov. 29th Saturday. Received a commission for Rev. J. B. Mouton as Chaplain of Hospitals - dated from Aug. 4th - directing him to report to Hospitals on the Mobile & Ohio Rail Road. - I sent it to the care of Fr. Orlandi at Jackson - & wrote directly to Fr. Mouton.

I wrote also to Rev. Mr. Georget at Biloxi to come up & help our Soldiers, if his health permitted.

Nov. 30th 1st Sunday of Advent. Bishop preached: I Point. Stating what was known of our Lord before His coming, - taken from Beca’s Analogia. II Point what were the sentiments of the Patriarchs & Prophets - desire - prayer - preparation by fasting & alms & confession of sins.

Decr. 2d. Began exercises for Advent - 7 1/2 P.M. Some say 7 wd. be better in the winter, when it gets dark so early. Lecture on the relation figures of our Lord - Adam - especially in his union with Eve - a type our Lord united with His Church. Rainy & cold.

Decr. 3rd. Mr. O’Brien arrived from Jackson. Brought a letter from Fr. Orlandi begging me to send a Priest to assist some of the Soldiers who are dying in such numbers & in so many places. - Deliberated a good deal whether to send Fr. Finucane or to go myself. Concluded at length to let him go. He did not get off however till Monday the 8th.

Sold 5000 fr of my French Exchange to Mr. F. Pille at 100 pr. ct. prem. for Confed. notes - taking par value to be fr 5.33 to the Dollar. In Richmond sterling is selling at 150 pr. ct. In N. Orleans in April Francs were selling at 2.70:
Decr. 4th Lecture - on Abel & Noah. Biddy King died at Asylum about 9 P.M.

Decr. 5th. Friday - A letter from Mr. Flanery at Jackson. He has sold a house of Mr. Curran's Estate - & has $1,500 subject to my order on acct. of the Legacy to St. Mary's Asylum.

Decided to send Revd. Mr. Finucane to the hospitals.

Decr. 7th Sunday. Mr. F. was disappointed about starting yesterday morning. He preached: - an argument on the Incarnation - After vespers went to see Mrs. Catherine Kenny - called for by her. She has been out of the Church for more than 20 years. Glad to be reconciled - Recd. the Last Sacrts. with fervor.

Decr. 8th Fr. Finucane started at 10 1/2 A.M. in our buggy: Henry driving. He goes to Brookhaven - thence to the hospitals down the road - afterwards up as far as Jackson & thence to whatever place he is most needed.

We had no especial service in Church for the festival. I shd. be glad to have a late Mass - but it interferes with the School. - Perhaps another year we can have High Mass at 6 A.M. This morning Fr. Grignon went to the Asylum. The Bp. gave Benediction there in the afternoon.

Decr. 9th Lecture on Isaac & Ismael, & the Sacrifice of Isaac. Today I have been attending a good deal to the school: teaching Latin &c in Fr. Finucane's place.

Decr 10th Mrs. Kenny died about 4 A.M. - Her case has been a remarkable one. She was said to be very bitter against the Church, & to have hindered her nieces Norah & Mary Nevin from coming to Church for several years. Her Prot. husband & Prot. daughters are all away from home - No one was left to attend to her but these nieces, one of whom is now a practical Catholic. She sent for me Sunday afternoon. On my first visit, there were others present, & she seemed only disposed to talk in a general way. She appeared so strong that at her own hint I left her - intending to see her in the morning by herself. After supper learning that she was worse, I went over & had no difficulty in bringing her to prepare for
the Sacraments. I asked her aloud in the presence of several persons, including Dr. Willey & his Sister - & she expressed her desire to receive them at my hands.

After 11 P.M. I went over again & gave her the last blessing & read the departing prayers. Immediately after that she fell into a doze; & she never again recovered herself enough to attend well to anything. A great part of the time she lay sleeping or silent & often when she did speak her mind was wandering. Sometimes she had her full senses but only for a little time. It must have especial prayers of her Mother in heaven, - that obtained for her to receive the Sacramts. just when she did. - What a happy thing is a good religious education. It kept the faith alive under all those cold embers of 25 years. And she had a distinct remembrance of the truths of her religion. She understood all about the Sacraments & the way to prepare for them. Blessed are the mysterious ways of God!

Decr. 10th Mr. Quegles got hurt this morning, jumping from his buggy while the horse was kicking. He staved both ankles without breaking anything.

Decr. 11th Thursday. Lecture on Joseph till his entrance into Egypt.

Decr. 12th - A call from Dr. Holcombe & his Sister-in-law.

Decr. 13th Gave Holy Communion to Mrs. Reardon. She is sitting up & getting better. In the afternoon Mr. Kenny came home very angry at his wife's reconciliation with the Church - scolded &c &c &c.

The previous evening Mr. Kenny expressed his willingness that his wife should be buried with the rites of the Church. Funeral at 2 P.M. Mr. Kenny came to the door. Bp. preached - giving the circumstances of her preparation for death her profession of faith her begging pardon for the scandal of neglecting her religion. Explained why people wish to die in the Cath. Church, because only there they have the helps & consolations wh. God has appointed - & taught in His Holy Scrp. The Sacrts - Penance - Eucharist - Extreme Unction - Communion of Saints.

The family of Kane came down from a distance of 35 miles - in Louisiana. A girl of seven years was to be baptized - & a young man & woman to be prepared for First Communion & Confirmation.

They told of a black man living two miles from them, who was raised a Catholic. He had submitted to several severe whippings, for refusing to work on Sunday. He sent for beads & a crucifix. I sent him beads. I had no crucifix. - Baptized the child Mary Elizabeth before Vespers. - Instructed the others & heard their confessions during Vespers. After Vespers instructed them on the Holy Eucharist.

Decr. 15th Monday. Gave First Communion to Patrick & Bridget (?) Kane. - Then instructed them on Confirmation & administered that Sacrt. to them.

Decr. 16th Lecture on the remainder of Joseph’s life.

Dec. 18th Lecture on Moses, to the vision of the Burning Bush.
Decr. 25th Christmas Pontifical Mass at 4 A.M. & again at 10 A.M. - I preached at the first. Fr. Grignon at the 2d. He preached on the dogma of the Incarnation introducing an answer to objections against the B. Eucharist. Very interesting - I felt very little fatigue. I see nothing to hinder my singing two Masses another Christmas. - Pontifical Vespers.

Dr. Willey, Mr. Grant & Mr. Owens were to dine with us. They were all hindered. Genl. Chambers came. He moved into Natchez last Monday. - Took a drive with Fr. Guillou on the Woodville road.

Decr. 26th Mass at 9 A.M.

Decr 27th Fr. Huber arrived. He left the 10th Tenn. Regt. for fear of winter rains. spent Xmas in Port Gibson. He looks very well. Spent an hour at Asylum - enjoy Xmas.

Decr. 28th Sunday. Preached on the Holy Innocents.

Decr. 29th Said Mass at the Asylum.

Decr. 30th Got news of battles near Vicksburg, & skirmish below Port Hudson. Resolved to go to Port Hudson, where there is no Priest. Many Creoles there who speak no English. Directed Fr. Huber to go to Vicksburg - Expecting a general engagement at both places.

Decr. 31st. Started with Jimmy Hart, in the mail buggy for Woodville. Arrived there about 7 P.M. - Stopped at Edward Elder's. Miss Carr was there.
January 1st Thursday at 6 AM took the cars for Bayou Sara. Mr. Leake got me a buggy to go to Port Hudson 12 miles $8 - walked through the burnt town, while the buggy was getting ready. Four blocks back from the river all burned - several fine brick houses - elegant gardens lying waste. All done by the Yankees last August.

Reached Port Hudson at mid-day: & was kindly received by Lieut. Jas O’Neil of Miles’ Legion. - Genl. Miles also received me kindly and offered me a bed in his quarters - prepared for Capt Stewart of his cavalry - who was wounded in the late fight. He is not well enough to be brought to camp.

In the afternoon began to hear confessions in O’Neil’s tent. A good many Creoles who speak no English - from Ft. Landry Paris & the neighborhood - conscripts - poor men - of good will.


Jan. 2 continued hearing confessions. After dinner walked out with Lieut. O’Neil to see the fortifications - & the lower battery on the river commanded by Col. DeGourney. - Got a severe headache.

Jany 3d Said Mass in front of O’Neil’s tent & gave Holy Communion to a considerable number. Continued to hear confessions.

Jany 4th Sunday - Same as yesterday. - My Brother John came today to the camp & inquired for me - & he was directed to the river batteries. He did not find me. I was told of it today.

Jan 5th 6th same as yesterday. Rev. Mr. Finucane arrived, having business with me.

Jany. 7th Rev. Mr. Scollard of Jackson, La arrived. Beads & sermon in the evening on the parade ground. I was hearing confessions. I said a few words in the end.
Jany 8th Thursday. - Fr. Huber arrived last night, having joined again the 10th Tennessee Regt. at Vicksburg. This with two other regts. came down last night. Fr. H. joined them having understood from a dispatch that they had sent for him - but it was a mistake.

This morning gave 1st Comm. to Mr. Gardner of Louisiana - of a Maryland family - Catholic but never instructed. He belongs to Capt. Calvitt's Co.

A Creole died suddenly in the hospital during the night. I gave him Communion yesterday.

In the afternoon visited Capt. Powers, Quartermaster of Miles' Legion. Very kind - offered me a conveyance for to-morrow. - Fr. Huber buried the Creole. Fr. Scollard and Fr. Finucane left at midday. - Rain in afternoon.


At the depot found Fr. Huber in bed with sore throat & high fever. English's Co. gave me $150 for the Orphans.

Started for Jackson, La. Creeks too high to go to Bayou Sara. - Called on General Gardner to get my pass endorsed. - Passed four lines of pickets. Dined at Mr. . Found Fr. Finucane at Jackson.

Jan 10th Creeks too high to go to Woodville. Visited the hospital in the Centenary College. Fr. Scollard tells me this College - a beautiful building with extensive grounds - was built by the State -. Sold to the Methodists for $10,000 not half its cost - they were afterwards released from paying - & granted a donation besides.

Met M. Roman whom I met 18 mos. ago at Pascagoula.
Heard some confessions & returned in the afternoon - Some Creoles whom Fr. Scollard cannot converse with.

Jany 11th Sunday - Was to have given Confirmation at Woodville today. As Providence keeps me here I do the best I can. - Preached a long sermon on the observance of Sunday. - In the afternoon recited the Beads with an instruction on the devotion & heard confessions at Fr. Scollard’s request.

Mrs. Ray dined with us - she knew me at St. Joseph’s (Margaret Regan?) Mr. Thompson of the La. Legislature came in. Told us of the new militia law just passed: exempting clergyman, only if they have been in service 7 years. - But there was a very liberal volunteer law passed which may make the militia unnecessary.

Saw Mrs. Gleason - Mr. Pryor & the McKennas.

Jan 12th Started at 8 AM with Fr. Finucane for Woodville. Nearly upset in crossing the second creek. Had to jump into water up to shoe tops.

Reached Woodville about 2 1/2 PM. (Have had a diarrhea since Wednesday last. - Edwd. Elder gave me medicine & I ate very little of the plainest food.

Mr. and Mrs. Torras arrived on their way to Natchez.

Jan 13th. Mass at 8 AM - with instruction & singing. In the afternoon Catechism & some confessions.


Fr. Finucane suffering all the time with a bad cold.

Jany 17th Started for Natchez about 11 AM. Dave Connor driving. Pretty tight at first. Drove well.

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Reached Natchez 7 PM. Found Fr. Guillou still weaker than before.

Jany 18th Sunday - Preached on the Holy Name from the Panorama des Predicateur

Fr. Georget arrived during dinner. Read telegram that Fr. Huber was in Woodville, with diarrhea.

Jany 19th A visit from young Mr. Perry Episcopalian Deacon.

Jany 20th Fr. Georget started for Port Hudson going first to Vicksburg, to get his trunk.

Jany 22d Oratorio of Sacred Music at the Episcopal Church. They began with prayers & we came away. - I had asked Mr. Perry on Monday if there were to be any prayers & he said he knew nothing about the arrangements. I told him if there were to be, it should be made public beforehand. - When they came to borrow our copy of Lambillotte’s Magnificat, they assured Fr. Grignon that there was not to be any religious services, but only a concert of Music. He told them that if it were otherwise he could not lend this music.

Jany 23d Fr. Finucane started for Brookhaven to get his certificate of exemption from Military Service. The Cavalry were here hunting conscripts & compelling even clerks of Court to go to Brookhaven.

Jany 25th Sunday - A sick call at the Poor House. Fr. Grignon said 6 o’clock Mass & went leaving me to say the late Mass & preach. - I made a mistake in singing the Asperges, & going around with Holy Water. I think it would have been more suitable either to omit it or to sprinkle

After dinner took a drive with Fr. Guillou, around the town. He was too weak to talk. Had to rest several times before he got up to his room.

Feby 1st Sunday Septuagesima - Preached on Preparation for Communion - from Bourdaloue: - "Cum fide, cum timore, cum dilectione."

Feb 2d Candlemas - Mass at 9 AM Preached on the Laws fulfilled - & the Prophecies accomplished in the festival & the meaning of the Candles.

Feb 4th Fr. Guillou worse. Mr. Harding has been sleeping in his room - but it is necessary to have some one sitting up. Fr. Grignon undertook it himself.

Feb 5th Fr. Guillou better on acct of his good night. In the afternoon he signed his will. Revd. Finucane sat up till 2 AM - then I got up & staid with him.

Feb 6th Last day of a private Novena for Fr. Guillou. He sat in the chair a good part of the day. Gave some fervent admoni-
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tions to those around him. Dr. Stone came in the afternoon. - Fr. Grignon & Henry sat up. He received Viaticum & Extreme Unction after supper.

Febry 7th Saturday. - In the morning gave Fr. Guillou the Indulgence in articulo mortis. He suffered a great deal from difficulty of breathing gasping for air for a quarter of an hour at a time.

Fr. Guillou expired at 6 PM just while the Angelus was ringing. I was not expecting it. They called me from the confessional & he was speechless when I got to the room.

Febry 8th Preached on Thanksgiving after Communion.

Febry 9th Funeral of Fr. Guillou at 9 AM Pontifical Mass of Requiem. Funeral procession on foot chanting the Miserere & the Litany - & reciting beads & litanies. - The Processional Cross with acolytes then the school boys - school girls - orphans & Sisters - young Ladies' Society - young Men's Society of St. Aloysius - clergy - Hearse - the congregation in procession.

The Young Men's Society acted as Marshals. St. Michael's Society with others - as Pall Bearers - walked on either side of the clergy - Reached home again about 2 PM.

Fr. Guillou's death is a sad calamity for the Diocese. Without injury to any one - I can truly say he was the best missionary in the Diocese - so active, so zealous, so discreet - so disinterested. He was also a favorite with all the other Priests - & a true friend & wise counsellor for them - zealous also for his own perfection & for that of his Brother Priests. I feel as if his death was a judgment upon myself. God grant I may do better hereafter.
Febry 12th Thursday - Mr. Le Blanc & Mr. Martin from S.W. Louisiana called on me to ask hospitality. They are from our Army in Virginia. They have been sick for several months & they are now going home on a sick furlough.

Febry 14th Mass for Fr. Guillou - My nephew Basil Joseph Elder arrived on foot from Trinity. He has been sick at Pine Bluff since October. He lost all his clothes. The stage driver from Trinity undertook to leave them at the Vidalia hotel. He says he did do so. They say he did not.

Febry 15th Quinquagesima - Fr. Grignon preached. In the afternoon I resumed Instructions. Subject Sacraments.

Febry 18th Ash Wednesday - Ashes & Mass at 9 AM. In the evening Instruction on Baptism. - We have service at 7 1/2 Monday, Wednesday & Friday in Lent. Benediction of the B. Sacrt. each evening - Monday begin with beads - Wednesday with Instruction - Friday with the Way of the Cross.

Febry 20th Anniversary of Mother’s death.
Febry 22d Sunday. Rev. Mr. Finucane preached. Instruction on Baptism in the afternoon.

Febry. 23d In the afternoon our little fleet reached here in pursuit of the Federal Ironclad Gunboat Indianola - which ran the Vicksburg batteries last week, passed down the river & went up again yesterday. Capt. W. W. Wood brought some of the officers into the house. Capt. Hutton who commanded the battery on Red River who captured the Queen of the West, is now commanding her. He was at St. Mary's College in Baltimore with my bro. Thomas. - With him came Capt Mongin & some others. - I treated them to a bottle of wine - very precious now. - They knelt to receive a blessing before they left. - Fr. Grignon & I walked down afterwards to see the boats & we went aboard the Queen of the West. She has one 32 pound Parrot gun on the bow & four smaller brass guns on the upperdeck all forward. - Bales of cotton protect the engine room; but there is only a plank bulwark around the gun deck. The walls of the engine room are of solid blocks, & about two feet thick. She was one of the best of the Federal boats last year. She was captured only by the accident of having her connection pipe cut by a ball.

Coming off I was spoken to by Lieut. Col. Bra - - - d, whom I saw sick at Port Hudson. He commands the expedition. I did not know till afterwards that a large number of the men on the Dr. Beatty, belonged to Miles' Legion.
Febry 25th Wednesday - Continued the Instruction on Baptism. A great deal of rain lately - especially this afternoon.

Febry 26th Dry in the morning - but raining almost continually & quite hard all the afternoon. Last night the fleet passed down having disabled & captured the Indianola at New Carthage.

Febry. 27th Cloudy but not rainy. Anniversary of Sr. Juliana's death.

Febry. 28th Cleared up bright & windy - introducing March.

March 1st. II Sunday of Lent. Fr. Grignon preached. Danl. McGill & Julius Barndel made their 1st Communion. They are going to the army in Virginia next Tuesday.

After Mass Mr. Quegles brought in Mr. Keller of N. Orleans, belonging to 30th La. Regt., Col. Breaux. He helped to capture & afterwards to destroy the Indianola. He says the men wanted to hold her, but the Lieut. in command ordered her to be destroyed. The men had straggled away, until there were only 40 left. Bad management somewhere.

After Vespers Miss Laura Edward called. She has just got home from N. Orleans, where she was at the occupation by the Yankees.

Beautiful bright day. Cool in the evening.

March 2d Drove out with Fr. Grignon to see Mrs. Dr. Carter. Called at Mr. Jno. Lambert's. - In the afternoon Frank Arrighi called to take leave - going to rejoin his company in Virginia.

March 3d Arrighi left about 9 AM. - Mrs came from Trinity, La to put her children in the Asylum. Letter from Fr. Elia saying that he is in Memphis. Holly Springs has been burned in great part - but the Church & house of Priest are safe. - Letter from Fr. Georget dated Jackson, La. He is on his way to Biloxi. Too sick to stay in Camp. -
March 4th Wednesday. Still bright & somewhat cool weather. Farewell visit from Saml. Perrault going back to the army.

March 5th. A visit from Mrs. O’Ferrall & her daughter - to talk about taking her sons from our School. Fr. Finucane was called in. We talked it over.

Just before midday - Mr. Cockerell’s house took fire in the roof. I helped for a while to carry water to the roof of Mr. Kelly’s. - But there were no sparks probably because the burning house had a slate roof. The fire was subdued - after greater injury to house & furniture. The largest engine came late - & then required a good deal of fixing. After it got into operation the hose burst.

It seems that Miss Kate dismissed her school, & Mrs. Corbett’s boys went off during recess & did not return. I saw Mr. Corbett standing looking at the fire. - Such a manifest want of judgment or ability coupled with the conversation of this morning disheartens me entirely.

Visit from Paul Botto, going to war. A dispatch from Fr. Elia. He has reached Oxford, but left his trunks in Memphis.

A note & visit from Mr. Nashee. He very kindly offered to write up my account books, & attend to them while he is here.

March 6th Mr. Daniel Foley came from Port Gibson. He has been finishing the Church there. His son was with him. We talked over the Church - & the day of blessing - & the need of a Pastor. - A verbal message from Mrs. Moore about the support of a Pastor. I Requested a definite answer & an early one. - In the afternoon we went up into the tower, & examined the Spire. - He advised the opening of holes at two or three different heights in it, to give a draft that would dry up the dampness. With that - he said there was no danger of its rotting for many years to come. - He showed how the openings could be made ornamental, & secured against the rain.

He also suggested the strengthening of the windows by lining the frame.
with half inch stuff breaking the joints of the present frames, both below & up at the curve: - & adding a cross piece over the middle of the sash, broad enough to be curved into Gothic headings, so as to be ornamental to the windows. He thought that would strengthen them for many years. - Mr. Popkins & Wm. O'Connell called - & left $500 as a conditional deposit for O'Connell - if accepted as substitute. Mrs. Mary Turner also called to see about her boy at Capt. Nevitt's.

March 7th Saturday. Month's Mind of Fr. Guillou. Basil's horse was sent here from Monroe. In the afternoon a visit from Dr. George Stone of Washington. - Mr. Florence Crowley came to consult about notes & bills of J. Brady who lately died among the Natchez Southrons. He left all to the Sisters.


Afternoon lecture on Confirmation proved from S. Scripture.

Incidentally noticed a good argument against Baptists claiming an especial descent from S. John the Baptist: - see Acts XIX. 4. 5.

Before Mass Mr. Keller called in again. He has been up & helped to get off two cannon & much ammunition from the Indianola. He is going up for the remainder. He says the boat can be raised & repaired without great difficulty.


March 9th Mr. Nashee began to look at my acct. books to put them in order. He & Genl. Chambers dined with us. - Cloudy, & cool. Raining a little at times. Finished the Ordo for April.


March 11th Wednesday, Instruction on Confirmation concluded. Thos. Burke of Missouri came in after Mass & promised to come again tomorrow for instruction.
March 12th Thursday, Burke came again & received instruction. He gave a contribution of $200 for D’Evereux Hall Asylum, & $100 for the Church.

In the afternoon Francis Reilly came to get letters for Monroe, Louisiana. Made a large deposite - & a liberal distribution of it.

March 14th Arranged for Revd. Mr. Finucane to undertake the teaching of the school, & Mr. Corbett to teach for three hours a day for $25 per mo.

Mr. Flanagan of St. Louis came in. He belongs to Gen. Price’s Body Guard, now on their way to Missouri. He staid all night with us.

March 15th Raining: Rev. Mr. Finucane preached on Time - Momentary - Inestimable in value - Irreparable when lost. - News that a Gun boat had passed Port Hudson. Mr. Flanagan left about 3 PM. - No instruction on acct. of the rain. - Fr. Grignon began the Girls’s Retreat at the Asylum.

March 16th Gave 1st Comm. & Confirmation to Thomas Joseph Burke. - Visited the colored woman, Eliza again. Fr. Finucane took immediate charge of the school. Mr. Corbett teaches 3 hours a day. Usual salary to the end of this month - then $25 per mo.

March 17th - St. Patrick’s Day - Bishop said Mass at 9 AM & preached from “Non est inventus similis illi &c” Sketch of St. Patrick’s life & virtues: “Fecit illum Dmus crescere in plebe sua.” Faith & Religion are the true glory of Irishmen. Their enemies have robbed them of the riches of the soil, of their literature & their military glory & statesmanship but even their enemies acknowledge their steadfastness in the faith. Let them be true Sons of St. Patrick, & this glory shall adhere to them - & they shall be His crown in heaven.

After Mass a call from Mrs. Dr. Page. - Went to the Asylum to
hear confessions for the Retreat. - Dined at Mr. John Lambert’s with his son James, the Capt. - with Col. E. S. Baker, Lieut. Ducie & others. - Returned to the Asylum. - Baptism of Gen’l Chambers’ son Edward at 4 PM. Bp. & Mrs. Perrault, Sponsors. Thos Burke made me a present of a pony & of $40.

March 18th At the Asylum the most of the day. Visit from Miss Whitehurst of Washington & the Miss Farrells from near Port Gibson.

March 19th Thursday. St. Joseph’s Day. Mass at 6 AM at St. Joseph’s Altar. Singing. A short exhortation. - In the afternoon at 3 PM Benediction of the B. Sacrt. at the Asylum. Visited the colored girl Eliza. After supper went with Basil to Dr. Stone’s. In the afternoon called at Mr. Botto’s & saw Mrs. Phipps.

March 20th Went to Asylum to finish confessions of children who have not made their 1st Comm. - Visit from Miss Hackett & Miss Hughes. - Called on Eliza

March 21st went again to the Asylum. In the afternoon called again on Mrs. Phipps. Edward Elder arrived from Woodville with little Mary Thompson for the Asylum.


March 23rd Very hard rain last night & this morning. After Mass Mr. Richard Dale came in. He was here last April, & stood Sponsor for his brother-in-law Mr. Freeman who was baptized April 4th. Mr. F. has since died in the Army. He had his children baptized before he died; & his wife, Mr. Dale’s Sister promised to get instruction. Her address is Mrs. Catherine Freeman, Tooley’s P.O. Concordia Parish, La. Mrs. Love wife of the butcher, is a sister of Mr. Dale’s. He took breakfast, & sat for some time. He has been home on a sick furlough. He is going to join the Army in Tennessee. -
He belongs to Capt. Scott's Co. from Concordia of the 16th & 25
La. Regts. consolidated. Scott is now dead.

March 24th Tuesday. Baptized Eliza Gray, the colored woman on
the bluff. In the afternoon went to the Asylum for the Sisters' review.

March 25th. The Annunciation. Bright & cool. Said Mass at the
Asylum, & gave a little exhortation to the girls: "'Intende, prospere
procede, & regna, propter veritatem & mansuetudinem & justitiam.'"
Recommended the B. Virgin's example in these virtues - & the re-
ward given to her intende etc & regna."

High Mass at 9 AM celebrated by Fr. Grignon. Fr. Finucane called
out to see Mrs. Roach. Bp. preached on the Mystery & on devotion
in saying the Angelus. - Gave blessing from the Altar, with stole,
mitre & crozier but very awkwardly done. Must have more foresight
about the ceremonies, & the persons necessary for performing them.
- In the evening Instruction on the Sacrt. of Penance, explaining the
qualities of contrition. - After the devotions had a talk with Rev.
Mr. Finucane.

March 28th. Paid a short visit to Mrs. Dr. Page. She has been very
kind & attentive to us, sending us very often really substantial
presents for our table, - & doing it in the most cordial manner.

March 27th. Friday in Passion Week. Seven Sorrows. Day appointed
by Prest. Davis for supplication. High Mass at 10 AM. Sermon on
Sorrows of B.V. - the occasion of her being appointed our Mother.
Our happiness in having this Feast as our Titular. Others have her
glories - We have her for Mother just as we need her - suited to this
vale of tears - encouraging us to bear pains - and teaching us to turn
them to good acct. (II Cor. IV. 17)
At 7 1/2 PM. Sermon - I. Peter II. 21. This is Man's vocation to follow footsteps of Christ. To know God, & love Him & serve Him & be happy with Him, we must follow Him Who is the Way, the Truth & the Life. This is true especially in sufferings - for they were the means by which He saved us - the Royal Road of the Cross. Hence in our public and private troubles we invite you to the Devotion of the Way of the Cross. - We wish today to humble ourselves. Christ gives here the greatest lesson of humility appearing as a Sinner. - To accept our sufferings from God. Christ sees not the malice of men - but the decree of God for His own glory - & for men's happiness. So we must look beyond our enemies - to God's honor & our profit - winning us back from Sin. - We come to Rejoice in God's protection. Christ in His sorrows was filled with joy at the good that was to result. - (Omitted chief point to detest & abandon sin. Christ teaches us in His Way of the Cross that Sin is the most dreadful of evils - worse than the death of the Son of God - wh. was the remedy for it. Also - "Weep not for me, but for yourselves")

Collection for Orphans as a work of religion to give power to prayer (Daniel IV. 24.) (Tobias IV.) Bp. read the Way of the Cross out of Golden Manual - the first formula - omitting the Act of Contrition. (Collection $93.05) Mr. Chiesa brought three girls & two boys for our Orphan Asylums, from Jackson, Miss.

March 28th. Saturday. A dreadful storm of thunder and lightning about 9 PM.

March 29th. Palm Sunday. Pontifical Mass - Turned quite cold after midday. Functions began about 10 1/4 AM - & ended at 1. & 25 min. P.M.

Thomas Hogan came to leave me a note wh. he has from M. J. Maher for Five Thousand Dollars. He wishes me to take $1,000 & use it as I please. For fear all might not be paid, I am to take one fifth part, as it is paid. - My purpose is to give one half for the Semy.
& divide the other half equally between the two Asylums.

No instruction in the afternoon.

April 1st. Wednesday in Holy Week. Tenebra at 5 PM. Lasted till 6 3/4. No evening service this week. There might have been on Monday evening: as the Church is cleared of encumbrances for the morning’s Mass.


April 3rd. Good Friday. Pontifical functions. Ended about 11 1/2 A.M. At the Way of the Cross a large number present. Next year we shd. have greater solemnity. One year we gave benediction with the Relic of the True Cross.


April 5th. Easter Sunday. Procession & Pontifical Mass. Preached - from Challoner. I. Rejoicing in Limbo: II. Frustration of enemies designs on earth. III. Triumph in heaven. The battle won by Michael in heaven renewed by devil on earth - now ended by our Lord, on earth - & even in death - the dominion of sin. In the afternoon Pontifical Vespers - Preached on the wisdom of the Church, in celebrating these mysteries with outward pomp - & in teaching the necessity of sufferings to gain the resurrection.
Basil went to help in the school. Fr. Finucane has been spitting blood & he feels a pain in his left breast. Dr. Willey says he cannot continue his teaching.

April 7th. Anxiety about school. Basil would help but the conscript law does not exempt a teacher unless he has been engaged in teaching for two years.

April 8th. Midderhoff thinks Basil can claim freedom from conscription as a Marylander.

April 9th. Said Mass at the Asylum. Gave a little instruction on the blessing enjoyed by penitents - with Peter & St. Mary Magdalen - in the Resurrection - contrasted with the miserable feelings of Judas, the selfish - Pilate the cowardly - Herod the proud - & the Scribes &c - filled with violence & malice. A caution to avoid imitating them. - Fr. Grignon & I drove out to Mrs. Hazlip's. Found at home - the Mother - her son William & his wife - her daughter Mrs. D'Aigle, Virginia & Emma. After dinner saw the servants who have been learning catechism about 20 women & children. - The most of them recited well their prayers, & answered the questions of Bp. David's smaller catechism to the end of Baptism. - Returning home, I found Fr. Huber arrived from Woodville. He is going to take charge of Canton & Sulphur Springs. - Our horse was taken sick on our return.

April 10th. Birthday of Brother Charles.

April 11th. Telegram from Rev. Orlandi announcing death of Revd. Basil Elia at Memphis, the 3rd.

April 12th. Low Sunday. - Fr. Grignon preached on Peace. I gave instruction in the afternoon on Purpose of Amendment.
April 14 Tuesday - Requested Mr. Corbett to resume his full hours of teaching. Revd. Mr. Finucane has been spitting blood since Wednesday of Holy Week. The conversation with Mr. Corbett was one of great interest & gave me both fears & hopes concerning collateral subjects. - Pontifical Requiem this morning at 6 AM. for Fr. Elia. Called immediately after Mass to see Alonzo, colored man; hemorrhage.

April 15th. Mr. Corbett consented to teach from 9 AM. - receiving $100 per month. He represents & I believe correctly that he wd. be able to make $300 per mo. with a select pay school. He seems to be very earnest in his desire to promote the interests of the school & of religion. I feel under great obligations to him. Capt. Lambert & Mr. Nashee dined with us - Jos. Byrne of Illinois, bro. of Rev. Jno. Byrne called to see me.

April 16th. Miss O'Rourke & her sister Mrs. O'Cavanagh tell me the Dr. says she must give up teaching at once. Her Sister Miss Maria is willing to take her place till the vacation beginning next Monday.

April 17

April 18th. Basil J. Elder left about 7 AM for Mobile. Capt. Lambert, Col. Baker, Lieut Ducie & others were with him. Reed. letters from the Archbp. of N. Orleans - from Rev. Wm. McCloskey in Rome & from C.D.G. Litany of Jesus is approved. Mgr. Dubuis is consecrated Bp. of Galveston. 5 students on their way.

April 19th. Bishop preached on the Good Shepherd. In the afternoon instruction on Purpose of Amendment & Confession.

Mr. John Hunter, Mayor, died very suddenly Saturday evening. He was of Baltimore, A Catholic formerly - but married to a Methodist & not professing any Catholicity - though very friendly with me. Mr. J. B. Q. tells me that a short time ago he was admonishing him about attending to his religious duties & he answered that he knew he ought, & he would do so soon. He was stricken while at his store - & lived scarcely half an hour. He was buried this afternoon at 4 from the Methodist Church - a large crowd, - but no testimony to his Office of Mayor, except the attendance.
of the City Council. - Mr. Wm. Dix was appointed Mayor until an election shall be held.

April 23rd. Started for Port Gibson to bless the Church just finished. V. Rev. Grignon accompanied me - In our own buggy. Heavy load - travelled slowly. Took a lunch on the other side of _____ Creek, where Fr. Grignon thought there was a spring, but we found only a small stream with water very palatable.

Stopped for a moment in Fayette & spoke to Mr. & Mrs. Davenport. We had also spoken to Mr. Klein in Washington.

Arrived just at dark at Mr. Farley's - 13 miles this side of Port Gibson. I met Mrs. F. & her two daughters at Nazareth in July 1860. The two eldest became Catholics there. One was married recently to Mr. Melton of Alabama. They were married by a Protestant Minister. It seems to have been done in good faith. They have no Catholic acquaintances: they are young in the faith & far from Church. We saw the family at supper, & the two daughters after supper.

April 24th. Left Mr. Farley's about 8 AM. Reached Port Gibson about 11 AM. Sent for Mr. Foley, & saw Mr. Moore. - Made arrangements - & went out to Mr. Moore's. Found there several officers & other soldiers of Genl. Bowen's army, quartered at Grand Gulf: - one Catholic Lieutenant wounded. - Young Dr. McDowell of St. Louis. Revd. Fr. Bannon also came in. - There was likewise old Mr. Black from Missouri. - Found all the family well, & among them Miss Maggie O'Driscoll of Mobile, sister to Sr. Gonzaga of the Visitation.

April 25th. Said Mass in Mr. Moore's chapel at 6 1/2 AM. - After breakfast Fr. Grignon went to Port Gibson to prepare for to-morrow. I went to my room to prepare my sermon better
April 26th. Ill S. after Easter, Patronage of St. Joseph. Said Mass at 6 1/2 at Mr. Moore's. After breakfast drove in to Port Gibson. - At 9 AM. blessed the Church, under the invocation of St. Joseph. Fr. Bannon said the Mass. - I preached - sermon altered from the one I preached at the Consecration of St. Alphonsus Church, New Orleans, April 1858.

This Church has been very beautifully finished by Mr. Daniel Foley, who gives however all the credit to his young son Daniel, just 18 years of age. The wood carving of the Altar & of the Sanctuary Railing form the chief part of the decorations. - The Corner Stone of this Church was laid on this same festival, April 19th, 1849, by Rev. Mr. Raho, assisted by Rev. Messrs. Guillou & Babonneau. It was laid originally on the lot now occupied by Dr. Wharton, & removed with Bp. Van de Velde's approbation to this site, being much more desirable. - The First Mass was said in it on low Sunday 1857, by Rev. Mr. Grignon.

The Cemetery was blessed - - - 1854 by Rev. Mr. Grignon, assisted by Rev. Mr. Alyward.

Fr. Bannon & I dined at Mr. Ryans. Afternoon 4 PM. Sermon on the Authority of the Church - Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Methodists lent us their melodeon today & benches. At Mass some hymns were sung - Mrs. Kinder, Miss Louisa Barbaroux assisted. - After Benediction Mrs. Rankin came to see me - Drove out to Mr. Moore's again - some rain. Fr. Bannon promises to preach every Sunday afternoon, while the army is here. Mr. Dohan brought an iron railing for the front of the Church yard. Heard of Grierson's cavalry raid at Hazelhurst.

April 27th. (Drove into town & said Mass at 7 AM.) Had a long talk with Mrs. Rankin. Dined with Mr. Shanahan. Was introduced to Dr. Kennedy. Went out to Mr. Moore's to see the colored people. Saw them after supper.

April 28th. Said Mass in town at 7 AM. Breakfasted with Mrs. Barrot. Visited several of the Catholics. - About 11 AM. we started on the Rodney road. - Reached Mr. Daniel Dohan's about 3 PM. He received us very kindly. - Got somewhat better acquainted with the family.

Cannonading going on toward the river.
April 29th. Left Mr. Dohan's at 8 1/2 AM. Met Dr. Goldsmith &
stopped at his house near Oakland College, to baptize two of his chil-
dren. Cannonading heard all the morning. - As we approached Rodney
we heard that the Yankee Cavalry were at Union Church, & probably
marching towards Natchez. - We had intended going to Mr. Hinds' this
evening, but this intelligence determined us to hurry. - Dined at
Mr. Schroeder's & left at 3 PM. - About 7 PM. we reached Capt.
Johnston's at Churchhill. Took tea there. The Capt. has just gone
to assist in repelling the Yankee Cavalry.

Left at 8 PM. & reached Natchez about 2 AM.

April 30th. Thursday - Found at Natchez that there had been dreadful
consternation on Tuesday, expecting the Yankee Cavalry. - But they
had been reassured Wednesday. Rev. Mr. Finucane had taken the
best measures he could for saving things.

In the afternoon we began the Devotions of the Month of May at
6 1/2 PM., but we changed it Monday for 6 PM.

May 2d. Genl. Blanchard & all his family arrived from Monroe with
Lieut. Holland, & Jerry Kennedy, & Frank Reilly. The Genl. has his
wife, his son Dawson, & wife recently converted - & the Genl's. two
children. The Genl. is ordered to report at Richmond.

May 3rd. Sunday - Anniversary of my consecration. Pontifical Mass -
Quite a gathering after Mass - Schools & Societies & Congregation.

May 4th. Capt. Powell, Quartermaster, called with Mrs. Powell.


May 10th Sunday - Preached on the Rogation Days. Little Katey Beltzhoover died of croup.

May 12th. A colored boy, Merriman Howard brought me a message from Mr. Jno. Taylor Moore. After the battle of Port Gibson on last Friday, Genl. Bowen retreated. The Yankees occupied the town & all the country. Our Church silver was secreted successfully. They hunted Mr. Moore, to hang him - as he was charged with burning the suspension bridge at Port Gibson. - He had escaped after five days concealment; & was now out at his Sister-in-law's, Mrs. Robert Moore, 18 miles from town. - I resolved to go out to see him. - Mr. Grant kindly agreed to go with me. - We started about 12 M. - our two horses in his buggy. - Reached Mrs. Moore's about 4 PM. & learned that Mr. M. was at Mr. Wade Harrison's. - (Saw Mrs. Moore & her brother Mr. Nichols.) - Drove over to Mr. Harrison's. Were very kindly received & had a long talk with Mr. Moore & old Mr. Black about their adventures & their escape. - Mr. Henry O'Kelly came in from Port Gibson. He said there were many of our wounded dying there - & he had no doubt there were Catholics among them. - I proposed to Mr. Grant to go up & he consented. Wrote a telegram to Fr. Grignon & a letter to the Archbp. of N. Orleans.

May 13th. Early breakfast. Started at 5 1/2. Old Mr. Black in company. Reached Port Gibson about __________. Drove to Mr. Shanahan's & went at once to the hospitals. Found not many Catholics. - As all the Church ornaments are at Mr. Moore's, I resolved to say Mass there in the morning. - Reached there - - - - Found all the family in excellent spirits & sat up till late talking over their experience of Yankee affection & zeal for union. Old Mrs. Bowie was the heroine of the occasion. - Really they all conducted themselves with admirable self-possession, courage & discretion.
May 14th Ascension Thursday - Said Mass in Mr. Moore’s Chapel. Several of the family received Holy Communion. Drove into Port Gibson. Arrived there we heard that the Yankee Cavalry were at the Bayou below town & making a circuit to come in. - Mr. Grant & Mr. Black drove off immediately to save Mr. Black & also our horses. They went out to Mr. Farley’s. - I visited all the hospitals. Found very few Catholics. Many of the sick are in private houses. I visited all I ed. find. Every where I was very well received both by patients & by the families with which they were staying. The large hospital was at the college building, at the corner diagonal from the Presbytery.

There are not many men nurses left: but the ladies seem to be very attentive. It is said that there were forty killed & 180 wounded.

At Mr. Coleman’s house I met a young Catholic from Selma, Alabama. Among the others that I saw - not Catholics - were Capt. Stokely, Col. Hundley - Mr. Woodsworth.

In the afternoon it rained hard. I heard confessions in the Church. Slept at Mr. Foley’s.

May 15th - Said Mass at 5 AM - Several received Holy Communion. I gave the Plenary Indulgence which elsewhere I gave on the 3d May. - Breakfasted at Mr. Ryan’s - & started on horseback to visit the hospital out on the battlefield - four miles from town. Some broken artillery waggons along the road & fragments of other things - waggons, boxes - haversacks - knapsacks - all torn however. I suppose everything serviceable has been picked up. - A great deal of torn writing paper scattered along: - a few carcasses of horses & mules. Two miles from town just at a little branch, behind a tree to the left was a body very badly buried: indeed not buried, but left lying on the surface, with some dirt thrown over it - & that so thinly that a hand or a portion of the arm were entirely exposed. - I was told that the Federals buried in this manner the most of our killed. - I mentioned it on my return, to the Mayor, Mr. Baldwin - & urged him to send some one to bury it properly.
Stopped a moment at a small frame meeting house which had been occupied either as hospital or barracks. The doors stood open. The pews were mostly torn out - the floor was strewn with fragments of clothes & knapsacks - & crumbs of bread &c. A little farther I came to the hospital, a small farm house. There were some sixteen patients all lying on the galleries. I talked with them & with the Doctor for an hour or so. Two expressed a desire to know something about the Church. I explained it to them, but as in many other cases, the desire seemed to arise more from curiosity than from any better spirit. I exhorted them at least to make an offering to God that they wd. search for the truth & embrace it - & also to make an act of Contrition.

Thence I went through the fields to visit some wounded in two other houses. Here I passed through a part of the field of battle. - There was a brass cannon, with one wheel knocked off, & a number of carcases of horses lying around it. - Near it was a small overseer's house; - fragments of chairs &c. were lying in the yard, the fence was torn down - the front step was knocked to pieces - inside the house torn by several balls that had passed through the walls, & some through the floor. - Two hounds came running from under the house to be caressed. - They seemed lost for want their master. - I saw only a few graves - some little distance from this house.

Returned to Port Gibson. Met Mr. Grant who came back from Mr. Farley's for me. Dined with Mr. Foley & started at 2 PM. - Stopped sometime at Mr. Farley's. Saw Mrs. F. & the two eldest daughters & Miss Fanny Killingsworth. Urged them to come to Natchez for Corpus Christi. - Drove on - got benighted beyond Greenville, & had to return & get Ann Davis to guide us. She is an Irish Protestant. The little boy who came with her is the son of a Catholic Father now dead. - Reached Mr. Howell Hinds's at 9 PM. Miss Mary Lassi received us.

May 16th. Saturday. Saw Mrs. Hinds & all the family. Started about 9 AM. Called at Mr. Wade Harrison's. Saw Mr.
Moore & Mr. Black again, Mr. Henry O'Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Harrison & Miss January who lives with them.

Reached Natchez about 4 PM, Found Revd. Mr. Pont arrived from France - whither he went last May to attend to family business. He is well and fat. Brings letters from Archbp. of N. Orleans; & from France. News of death Rev. Mr. Ferrett, super. of Sem. of Nantes.

May 17th. Sunday - Rev. Mr. Finucane preached. Dispensed from abstinence not from fast on Saturday. During this & following week wrote to Priests that they might dispense from abstinence even on Fridays & Fast days if they found it necessary.

May 19th. Mr. John Taylor Moore paid us a visit.

May 21st. Mr. O'Cavanagh arrived from Jackson. The Church, School, & Presbytery were all burned to the ground last Saturday about 9 AM. There was some tar in the old shed just beyond the Church, & when the Yankees began to retreat they sent orders to burn the tar. Fr. Orlandi begged for fifteen minutes to roll the barrels into the street, where they wd. burn with less danger to the Church, but the officer wd. allow of no delay - & the shed was so close that there was no possibility of saving the Church &c. - All the ornaments & furniture however were removed in safety. - Dr. Hewet, surgeon in the Federal Army, bro. to Rev. Mr. Hewet of the Paulists, himself a convert, endeavored also to obtain the respite, & when he cd. not succeed, he helped to save the things.

May 24th. WhitSunday. Pontifical Mass & Vespers. In the afternoon spoke of the Feast of the "Help of Christians" & gave acct. of Pope Pius VII & Napol. to show the divinity of the Church, & the protection God gives especially thro' the B. Virgin to them who pray to Him. Dispensed from Abstinence on the Ember Days, Wednesday & Saturday, not Friday.

During these days - had visits from Lieut. Van Phal of St. Louis, & Capt. Jos. E. Byrne of St. Louis. - Capt. Elisha Wathers of Union County Kentucky staid with us two or three days. Cap. Thos. Wathers his cousin called several times. Mr. Thos. Divine, school teacher from Texas.
staid some days here. Before he left I began to be pleased with him better than when he arrived - & to think that he will probably prove an efficient teacher. He goes to the neighborhood of Woodville to collect some money. He brings no papers.

June 2d Tuesday. Fr. Pont returned. He went toward Port Hudson last Wednesday to get his trunk. Did not succeed. The place is invested by the Yankees & they refused him access. Capt. Wathers left this morning.

June 4th. Corpus Christi - Exposition of B. Sacrament from 6 AM till Benediction in the afternoon. Pontifical Mass & Vespers. Procession of the B. Sacrt. in after Vespers. The first time that we keep this festival as of precept, in consequence of the vow made at the 40 Hours, last September.


During the Octave - Bishop & Rev. Finucane preached alternately - about 15 minutes each evening. Bp. explained the Types of the Sacr. of the Mass - The Benediction of the B. Sacrament is not well attended. There is however a considerable number of persons at Mass every morning - including an unusual number of men. Many are at the Mass of 5 AM.
June 7th Sunday - Bishop preached on Frequent Communion - from Bourdaloue.

June 9th - A gun boat - John O'Connell tried to get off in the yawl, was put out & confined. - Gunboat came down again about 4 PM & carried off the flats & skiffs they cd. find & burned them.

June 11th - Sister M. Thomas started for Monroe. Gunboats came back, & threatened to shell the town - if John O'Connell had been hung as they heard. They were satisfied with the answer.

Called on Mrs. Dr. Page in the morning. Offered Capt. Jos. E. Byrne lodging as I had already invited him to use our table.

June 12th Strange proceeding of Episcopalians, - a concert by our Natchez Minstrels - (Negro imitators) for the benefit of Bishop Green, who lost his clothes & provisions by the Yankee raid into Jackson. - A portrait of the Bp. on the stage, I am told. Little James Grillo badly hurt by a kick from his horse.

June 13th. A call from Miss Martha Johnston.


June 16th. Called at Mr. Hughes’s. Passed Capt. Carlin in the street.

June 17th called to see Mrs. English & the Miss Nevins. The paper states that the price of flour in Jackson has fallen from $125 per barrell to $65. A call from Mrs. Fagan of State Street.
Young Dan Foley called & took supper with us. He is out on a Cavalry expedition - now returning toward Woodville. He says all the Negroes on Mr. Moore's Woodlawn place and about twenty of those on the Fairview place had gone off with the Yankees - The Yankees have abandoned Grand Gulf carrying off about 4,000 Negroes young & old. Many plantations have not a single servant neither for field nor house. Mr. Patrick Grant came over from Brookhaven - Fr. Picherit has just returned after six weeks absence - went to New Orleans - Church roofed - not floored nor ceiled. Two kegs of nails lost in Jackson $200.

June 18th Thursday. Wrote to Rev. Wm. McCloskey, Rome.


June 21st. Sunday. St. Aloysius. Young Ladies' Society appeared in a body 6 o'clock Mass reed. Holy Communion. The young men's - not in a body only a few three or four approached. Banner of St. A. at the pillar. - Rev. Finucane preached a homily on the Gospel. - Next year we must make more of St. Aloysius. It wd. be well to celebrate it on the following Sunday: have sermon on his virtues - purity - prayer - devotion to B. Sacrt. - preparation for Communion. After vespers we had a little cake &c - in the basement. After Mass Capt. Ducayet - formerly of Pascagoula, called for a short time. He belongs to the Staff of Kirby Smith. He is staying with his cousin Richard Chotard. Talked a little about Mrs. Henry C. He will try to see her & speak to her seriously.
June 25th Thursday - St. William - Drove out to see Mrs. Carter. Fr. Grignon in company. In the afternoon went to the Sisters; & saw the girls & gave a little holiday. Sr. M. Thomas has just got home from Monroe, Louisiana. - The Sisters there are well & busy. More than a thousand sick & wounded: - wounded at Milliken's Bend & by Negroes. Nearly all who die are reconciled to the Church, chiefly by baptism. - Went to the Schools this morning for a little while. - Sr. M. Thomas found a letter waiting for her from Mrs. E. M. Phillips at Hard Times, begging for a Priest.

June 26th. Fr. Pont started to see Mrs. Phillips. She has gone 16 miles back from Hard Times towards the Tensas. This morning I urged the school boys to prepare for Holy Communion for next Sunday or the Sunday after - the Precious Blood. Mr. Perrault called with letters. He has just got home from Richmond & Fredericksburg - where he went to see his son Saml. who was slightly wounded at Chancellorsville.

June 27

June 28th. Bp. preached on the Faith of St. Peter a portion of the first point of Bourdaloue’s sermon. Immediately after the sermon called out to see Mr. Patrick Murray under the Hill. Found him recovering from a fit - perhaps a sunstroke. Fr. Pont returned in the afternoon. He went six miles back from St. Joseph & found it utterly impossible to go on. The roads are grown up in grass & briars & brush so that they cannot be traced. The few Negroes who are left are afraid to be seen off their own plantations - as there is a strict patrol - & then the bridges have been washed away - so that many of the bayous & creeks are impassable. He was hospitably entertained at Waterproof by Dr. Miller & at St. Joseph by Dr. Meng.

June 29th - St. Peter & St. Paul - Beads & Benediction at 16 PM & pray for Vicksburg & Port Hudson. - Mr. Lancaster of N. Orleans took supper with us. He & Mr. O'Cavanagh sat with us on the gallery after supper. He is going to Monroe with goods. - A visit from Mr. Kenny. Also from Mr. A. L. Routh & Martin Fitzgerald on business. Mrs. Culhane gave the story of her travels to see her son at Fredericksburg, Va. Adelaide Perrault & Mary Signaigo also called but I was not with them long.
June 30th Sunday. Visited Rev. Fr. Miller. He has had a sore throat since Saturday. He is better. Mr. Lancaster & Mr. O'Cavanagh dined with us. In the afternoon was called to see P. Murray again. Still out of his senses. Frequent spasms. He died at 9 PM.

July 1st. A visit from Mrs. Perrault. Called to See Rose Arrighi & her bro. John both sick.

July 2d. Visitation of B.V.M. Visited Mrs. Gahan & Mrs. W. Lambert. - & In the evening Capt. Powell, Quarter Master, & Mr. Commander called and sat for some time. Benediction at 6 PM. & Beads for Vicksburg.

(See the small leaves here inserted - from July 7th to 20th incl.)

July 20th continued. Sent Fr. Orlandi to Mr. Lucy's to get some dinner. Went there myself for supper, & lodging & breakfast. Too much out of spirits to talk. Read Catholic Papers - Slept little - Visited Mr. Julienne in the afternoon.

July 21st Tuesday - The sight of Jackson is indeed saddening. Perhaps one fourth of the town is in ashes. - Some entire blocks & many single houses. All the stores are broken open & sacked. They were carrying off boxes that seem to contain books of the State House Library. Some of the people of Jackson are still in the woods where they took refuge during the bombardment. Many have gone away - Strong Southerners toward Alabama - others to Vicksburg & Memphis &c. Others intend going. Many probably most of the people are living on rations from the Federal Army. The Army is going back to the Big Black to-morrow. There is nothing in town to eat: all the neighborhood is desolated: - from a distance nothing can be brought. There are no teams & no roads - no bridges. The policy seems to make Jackson untenable, for soldiers or civilians.

Dined with Mr. Angelo in his little crowded room. His house & saloon & furniture all burned. So likewise Mr. Julienne's store & saloon. I insisted on Fr. Orlandi's living with some of the Catholic families till he shd. be otherwise provided for. He promised to do so. Also arranged to fit up a neat storeroom rented by Angelo for a chapel.
July 7th Tuesday Started at 7 1/2 AM for Brookhaven. Fr. Pont & Mr. Harding & Mr. Nelson in Compy. Stopped for the night at Mr. Harris's about 32 miles from Natchez - lower road. Heard of the fall of Vicksburg.

July 8th Started at 5 1/2 AM. Fall of Vicksburg contradicted - remains uncertain. Reached Brookhaven about 4 PM. Very warmly received by Mr. and Mrs. St - - - of the Mansion House. Fr. Picherit looks well. Fr. Pont & his company got a conveyance to Monticello - whence they expect to go on down Pearl River in a skiff. Fr. Picherit's Church is almost finished - 40 ft x 20: quite plain. It will give more room for the people - be much more becoming for the Holy Sacrifice & it will leave Fr. P. the whole of his small house for himself.

July 9th Started at 7 1/2 for Jackson. At Hazelhurst we were stopped by an order from Genl. Johnston: returned to Brookhaven at 4 PM.
Mr. Kenny & his company were with us.

July 10th 11th Friday & Saturday remained in Brookhaven.

July 12th Sunday Said Mass & preached at 10 AM in Brookhaven in the new Church fitted up temporarily. Announced that it shd. be under the patronage of St. Francis of Assisium as Fr. P. & I agreed on: A Saint whose virtues are suited to the people & whose life is calculated to awaken their devotion.

4 PM. Beads & Confirmation - Five confirmed - three of them married women. Very important to call publicly for grown persons not confirmed to announce themselves. The Pastor did not know before that these women were not confirmed.

On Thursday last I spoke at Mass about subscribing for the support of the Pastor. I appointed Mr. Grant & Mr. Jennings a Committee to attend to it. They obtained a subscription of $70 per month & collected the 1st month’s paymt. in cash.
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Arranged also that Fr. Picherit should board at Mr. Stern's - sleeping in his own house. This will be much more comfortable for him & less troublesome to Mr. Grant, who is not well prepared to keep a boarder.

The Congregation here is very small - only five or six families. Fr. P. begins to teach catechism next Sunday at 4 PM.

All the furniture of house and Altar Fr. P. says belongs to himself unless some little pieces. The supply for the Altar is very scanty.

It appears certain that Vicksburg is captured.

July 14th Tuesday - Started again to try to reach Jackson. Beyond Crystal Springs the road was blocked by earth washed over it. We returned to Crystal Springs. After a good deal of running about & some disappointments agreed with a Mr. Gilmore to ride his horse to Brandon & let him take my valise in his wagon. Charge $25 1/- for 35 miles. Stopped at the May House - walked out - said office - ate lunch. Met several Creole prisoners paroled from Vicksburg. Gave them my letter to Francis I. Elder.
Wednesday - July 15th - Started about 6 AM - rough saddle. Folded my overcoat and sat on it. Crossed Pearl River at Deer's Ferry, about 9 1/2 AM. About twelve overtook a large body of paroled prisoners from Vicksburg going towards the Camp at Enterprise or other point eastward. Walked for some distance & let a sick man ride.

They give a sad acct. of their sufferings in Vicksbg. - 47 days in the trenches without relief - quarter rations. Mule meat was eaten by some. They found no objection to it but the name. All seemed cheerful. A good deal of complaint of Genl. Pemberton. Reached Brandon about 5 PM. Mr. Meadows takes no boarders. Mr. Henry Kernaghan received me very kindly. Met there Capt. Owen of the 22d Mississippi - son well. Town crowded with paroled prisoners.

Walked to the hospitals & found there were no cases of immediate danger. - Met Quigley in the Street: & sent word to Fr. Bannon I shd. like to see him. - Lieut. Brown, a German & his wife, at Mr. Kernaghan's.
July 16th Thursday. Mr. Gilmore came & delivered my valise. Fr. Bannon came over & staid for breakfast. Told me much that was interesting about Vicksburg. Advised that if possible some of the Sisters shd. go to take possession of their house. - He left to follow the Army eastward. - Concluded to buy a horse or a horse & buggy. Between looking for these & visiting some of the patients, the day passed. - I bought a horse & buggy - both good. High prices $600 for horse, & $400 for buggy. But Confederate money is much depreciated just now & I have no doubt I can get the same amt. for my purchase if I wish to sell at Natchez.

The cars run no more to Jackson - & no one will hire a conveyance nor a horse for fear of impressment or stealing. So a purchase is necessary.

Took tea at Rev. Mr. Elwell's - Episcopalian Minister; his wife & daughters Catholics.

July 17th Town and roads crowded with Genl. Johnson's Army retiring from Jackson. -

Dr. F. G. DeRoche, Surgeon of the 16th S. Car. Regt. spent the night at Mr. Kernaghan's. He told me I
shd. probably find the Sisters of Mercy in the Field Hospital this side of Jackson.

July 18th Saturday. Genl. Crosby, Commanding the Rear Guard first refused to let me go to Jackson. When I explained that I wanted to see about the Sisters, he agreed to let me go this afternoon.

Left Brandon at 4 PM for Jackson. Some cotton burned along the road - & some burning. Federal Pickets allowed me to go the Hospital - the field hospital of the Confederates during the siege of Jackson: attended still by Confed. Surgeons - tho' in the Federal Lines. Dr. Hinckley - son of Lawyer Hinckley of Balt. has charge.

The Sisters are gone to Lauderdale Springs. No Priest here. I resolved to stop & attend the sick. Young Egan of N. Orleans met me & took me around part of the hospital. - I anointed one who is shot thro' the head - & ascertained that there were no other Catholics in immediate danger.

Dr. Hinckley kept supper waiting for me till I returned to his quarters 9 PM & sent me to sleep in a vacant tent.
July 19th Sunday - No Mass. Spent the day visiting the hospital. The Federal Soldiers wounded here, & captured by the Confederates were moved - nearly all of them to town today.

July 20th Continued in the hospitals till dinner time. The Doctors here have been very polite to me. Dr. Pugh - &

After dinner drove into Jackson - Trestle work burning - rails torn up - crossed river on the pontoon bridge of the Federals. In the warm ashes - & ruins at every step. Melancholy desolation. Crowds of Federal soldiers, on foot or horse & mules. Found Fr. Orlandi at Mrs. O'Connor's house. Sad meeting. The chapel he had fitted up with so much labor - in the Spengler's Saloon - has been burned - the chalice and crucifix stolen - though recovered broken - bought up by a Catholic soldier & brought back to Fr. O. - The soldiers were using the chalice for a drinking cup! - Fr. Orlandi's house was robbed of all his clothes & the provisions wh. he had laid up. He is now living on Army rations - he has no
place to cook them. Today he has eaten only some crackers. -
We went to Genl. Ewing's quarters to find a safe place for my
horse and buggy. Genl. E. is a Catholic from Ohio. He promised
to see that the Sisters' Convent in Vicksburg wd. be preserved
unhurt for them. - I cd. not talk much. I felt myself choak with
sadness & indignation. - Saw also Rev. Mr. Carrier C.SS.Cr.
Chaplain of Gen. Ewing's Brigade. He was kind & wished to do
all that he could to make me comfortable. Sent to Genl. F. Blain
for a pass to Canton: afterwards went to him with Fr. Carrier.
The Genl. seemed in a very bad humor because I had sent instead
of going: & he showed it very coarsely by ill manners. He gave
the pass. - Fr. Carrier invited me to lodge & eat at Gen. Ewing's
quarters - but when our poor flock is in such distress I thought
it would be unfeeling. I had rather share their fare. Fr. Carrier
says Mass in the Senate Chamber. Tho' I have not said Mass for
a week - yet I did not like to say it there in the present cir-
cumstances.
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Started about 2 1/2 PM for Canton. Fortifications across the road. Tried to get out in the east side - but the brush cut down - & the woods & undergrowth baffled me for half an hour. Then tried the west side - got through had to go through two plantations to get back to the Canton road. On both the houses were burned down - soldiers about the grounds. Met soldiers with horses and mules & all sorts of conveyances. Fr. Orlandi said he ed. buy a good horse & buggy for $25 Federal money. Called at the Insane Asylum - paid Dr. Kells the money given to me - but had not time to see any of the patients.

After fifteen miles was hailed by a lady on the upper gallery of a large house, who made many enquiries about Jackson. - Rain threatening & I stopped five miles out from Canton with a family from Louisiana. Clever little boys, very attentive to my horse.

July 22d Wednesday - Reached Canton about 9 1/2 AM found Fr. Huber at Oliver Luckett's in sole possession. Mr. L. gone to Alabama. Fr. H. is awkwardly situated for want of a man to attend to the work. Otherwise he is very comfortable: - house, garden & provisions. The Federals were here last Saturday. By kind words & dignity he saved the place from all injury. After dinner we visited Mr. Frank Smith's - Mr. Ewing's - Mr. & then drove out to Mrs. Nancy Luckett's & Mrs. Thos. Semmes'. Mrs Luckett lost all the provisions, horses, mules & carriages by the Federals last Saturday. Her son, Dr. Sherrod L. lost his horse, taken out of his buggy tho' he claimed the privilege of a physician. - It is the first time I have seen Mrs. L. since the death of her daughter Emily. - At Mrs. Semmes I found a large collection of ladies: among them Mrs. (Joseph) Jorantha Semmes of Memphis.

July 23d Said Mass in the accustomed chapel. I had intended telling the family to use their dining room for Mass rather than this very rough outhouse. But they have so many refugees & other visitors, that the dining room is now a dormitory. The chapel was better prepared than formerly, with hangings to cover the rough wall back of the Altar.
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It seems Father Huber's salary has been collected & paid to him $350. Besides this they agreed to pay $25 per mo. for his board at Oliver Luckett's. But as he is really & fully entitled to his board at present for taking care of the house - & especially for having saved the house & premises from the depredations of the Federals - I advised that the $25 be applied rather to the hiring of a man to stay at the house & do the work - unless perhaps one of Mr. L.'s servants can be brought from the plantation. - Fr. Huber has been suffering from diarrhea but by dieting & good care he is become nearly well.

Mrs. Semmes promised that if he attended Canton three Sundays in the month instead of two, they would raise $500 per ann. & that if the Confederate money shd. fail, they will still keep him at least supplied with board and clothing.

Started about 11 AM. to visit Dr. Michael O'Reilly. Took the road to Madisonville. Cut off a mile or two by going through two plantations instead of going through Madisonville. Followed the "Robinson Road" - & reached the Drs. 7 miles beyond Madisonville: about 2 PM - The good Doctor much out of spirits. All his negroes are going away. I could not give him much advice that was practicable in the circumstances. Delayed by a thundergust. Started after 4 PM - difficult road to find, & contradictory directions. Got astray only once - & lost about 3 miles. Reached Canton at John Cretin's about 8 PM. His house full of paroled soldiers. Drove to Judge Luckett's. All in bed. Welcomed me & got supper for me. Richard L. & his wife (Sally Brooke) living with his Father.

July 24th. Drove up to the Church & spread word that I wd. say Mass at 7 AM. - Could not get the press doors open - & I had brought no Altar breads. Said the Litany of the Saints & some other prayers.

Took breakfast at Mrs. Reynold's of Vicksburg. Cap. Hughes on a visit here. Met also Mrs. McLeod - Virginia Miles of Yazoo. Called on old Mr. Ward. - After breakfast conference at Squire Brooke's with the Judge & John Cretin. - John undertook to collect the salary of Fr. Huber - one quarter in advance.
Began to take an inventory of Fr. Guillou's effects. Difference between Mrs. Wright & Mrs. Brooke as to what belongs to him & what to the congregation. I think one hundred dollars will cover the value of his property beyond the books. - Of these I counted 400 vols, an average of 1 dol. per vol. will make just the amount which he himself assigned $400. - Mr. Jas. Ward opened the presses for me.

Took tea at Mr. McLeod's. Slept in Fr. Guillou's room.

July 25th Saturday. Mass at 6 AM. Continued today the inventory & the examination of the house. I scarcely began it yesterday, as I was behind in all my office. - In the afternoon, heard confessions. Meals at Squire Brooke's.

July 26th Sunday - 1st Mass at 7 AM. 2d at 10 1/2. Preached on the repentance for sins. - Beads and Benediction at 2 PM. Tremendous storm of wind & rain just when were going to begin - Instructions to the colored people after Benediction. - John Kraft & John Wright served in the Sanctuary. Mrs. Furlong asked for a lady teacher to help her.

July 27th. Mass at 6 AM - Talk with Frank Luckett about fences, pastures, etc., & about Mrs. Wright's closing the gate. Concluded to leave Mrs. Wright in possession of the whole place - but she agreed to open the gate & leave it open as long as it is not too much misused. I see we need new fences all around the outside. - Engaged Mr. Mullen to make the necessary repairs about the convent and outbuildings, to keep them from dilapidation. All recommended him as faithful and moderate. Settled Fr. Guillou's accounts as far as I could - except that by some strange oversight I forgot the notes or due bills of Mr. C. O'Leary (now deceased) in his favor. They are in the pocket of Fr. Guillou's pocket book wh. is marked "Receipts", one for $70 the other for $12.58. There is a small amount of his salary - I believe about $15. wh. Squire Brooke expects to collect.

Dined at Mr. McLeod's & baptized his baby Alexander Joseph, born this morning.
July 28th Tuesday - Started about 8 1/2 AM. Thomas Carroll
wants to go to Vicksburg & he accompanies me. - Passed by
the Artesian Springs. No one there but a few black servts. Missed
the road & got a mile too far north. Returned & got on the
road to Pickens's or Botts Ferry. No corn for the horse last
night. - At the Ferry we overtook a train of servts. with wagons
& cattle - returning to their home in Yazoo County, for want
of provisions where they had gone to. - Got some corn & fed
the horse. - Farther on bought some cold corn bread & fat bacon
for 50 cts & got some peaches. - Reached Benton about dark. At
the hotel they refused to take any lodgers. - After a good deal
of perplexity we concluded to feed the horse, eat the balance
of our bread & bacon & go on to Yazoo. - Reached there about 2 AM.
Spent an hour in the streets looking for the Church. - Fr. LeCorre
suffering from a cramp cholic.

July 29th Wednesday. - Said Mass at 6 1/2 AM. Fr. LeC. getting
better. He has just bought the house & lot adjoining his own.
Price $5000 in Confed. States Notes. The congreg. contributed
$1200. The remainder is loaned by Mr. George Rocco, who is to
be paid in specie at the rate of one dollar for seven after the war.
- The deed was already executed & acknowledged in favor of
William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez & his successors and I
gave my note to Mr. Rocco for the amt. (about $500) bearing
interest at 6 pr. cent. from the end of the war. I gave him also
a mortgage on the property to secure the note. - The house is
a good one - better than Mr. LeC. 's actual residence. - He acquires
with a considerable amt. of furniture which Mr. a
cabinet maker, one of the Trustees, says will be worth $400
in specie, when the present confusion will be passed. - I advised
that what Fr. LeCorre does not need should be locked up where
it will be kept safe.

July 30th Thursday. Started about 1 PM. for Vicksburg. Best
road we can learn of is through Mechanicsburg. - A good many
on the road. Were hailed & asked the news by
J. W. Thompson, who used to live adjoining Jno. Taylor Moore
near Port Gibson. Reached Mechanicsburg
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about 9 PM. Tried to sleep at Mr. Rosenberg's, but the fleas compelled us to get up & sit in the buggy all night. Carroll said it was the first time he had undertaken to sleep with a Bishop & he did not seem much encouraged by the experience.

July 31st Friday. Made our breakfast on the corn bread that Carroll had brought from Yazoo. Got some peaches. Learned that the direct road to Vicksburg was so blocked up with trees that for two miles it was hard to get along on foot. We turned off toward Snyder's Bluff. Exceedingly rough road - hilly and badly washed.

Got a drink of water from Mr. __________. His house and all his furniture were burned while he & his family were away, because of fighting around their house. All his servts - 40 - gone. Every horse & mule taken - possibly ten pigs might be found of 300 - Not one left of 150 head of cattle - not a vegetable nor a piece of fruit. All the clothes of the family destroyed save what they wore: - himself, wife, & children were sheltered in a very poor Negro cabin, of which the shingles were all split & curled up. They had nothing to eat but rations from the army at Snyder's Bluff - while it remained there. The poor man was telling it all apparently with cheerfulness - but at last his voice choked - & he said - "If crying would do any good, I could cry all day." - I hardly knew what to say for comfort or counsel - but I advised him to go to the camp & ask the general to give him a mule, to plough some ground & try to raise something to eat.

Reached Mr. Ben Roach's about 2 PM. Mr. R. gone to another plantation near Yazoo. His brother Wilkins a paroled prisoner at home, not well. Mr. R. too is living on army rations since all their provisions have been taken by the Federals. The Negroes are not gone - but worse they are on the place doing no work, & eating up what the soldiers have left - the corn & fruit & cattle. They kill the cattle wh. they find in the woods - eat what they want, & sell the rest to the soldiers. Occasionally a good natured servant will send a piece to the white family, as a compliment. Mrs. R. told me they could make no distinction between Fridays & other days. And I told
her of the power already given to the Priests to dispense with the abstinence where they found it expedient: & I extended the dispensation to her family. - I baptized her daughter Eugenia 14 weeks old. Arranged to stay all night but found there was no safety for the horse. One of the servants said he would hide him in the swamp: - but I did not like that security. - Mr. Roach had to borrow a horse from one of his servts. to go to the other plantation.

Drove on to the Federal Camp. Got a pass from Genl. Parker & started for Mrs. Blake’s plantation. Got benighted in the camp, & threw myself on the hospitality of Capt. of the U. S. regular Artillery: - a student of West Point. Met at his tent Capt. Benjamin said to be the best artillerist in either service.

Slept in tent of Lieut. ___________ blankets on the grass - good mosquito bars. - Slept well

Aug. 1st Saturday. Drove back to Genl. Potter to offer to visit the hospitals - as I learn there are a good many sick. Lieut. Col. Mitchell of the 41st ? New York was in the Genl.’s tent & he requested me to remain to-morrow & give the Catholics of his regt. an opportunity to avail themselves of my services.

Found few Catholics in the hospitals. - Dined with Col. Mitchell - saw Major Harris & Dr. ___________ Visited also Genl. Parks commander of the whole corps - 9th Heard confessions in the tent of the Adjt. Saw Col. ___________ French. Slept in the tent of Capt. Harris bro. of the Major. - Before lying down walked up on the ridge & to the level on top of the hill: beautiful moonlight. Something reminded me of Italy - the hills & valleys - the light - the balmy air.

Aug 2d No chalice nor vestmts. to say Mass. Heard confessions all the morning. After dinner a storm. - The officers here are very pleasant in conversation. - Strong for the Union, but gentlemanly in expressing themselves. They denounce much of the plundering that has been practiced. They tell me that their corps - the 9th, was the first to enter Jackson on the 17th
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July: & that they extinguished the fire which had been made by the Confederates - & set many guards to preserve the town. But another corps came in, & the town was given up to them the 9th being ordered out. They did not want to believe that the Federals were carrying off books from the Jackson State Library.

Started about 4 PM. Dangerous crossing at the first bayou. On Mrs. Blake’s plantation the gin house &c. are completely occupied by negroes who seem to have gathered from other plantations. Those that we spoke to, to enquire the road & answered very civilly. Passed over the battle ground of Chickasaw Bluff. - Reached Vicksburg about 8 PM. Put up the horse & buggy at the Convent. Found Fr. Heuze well. He has been robbed of all his clothes - by some person who entered his house one afternoon in his absence.

Aug. 3rd Went with Fr. Heuze to see Genl. Grant. The guard stopped us, & told us to go the Provost Marshall for passes. Fr. Heuze said we might wait an hour in the crowd at the Courthouse, for our turn to see the Provost Marshall. He led through a broken fence - & across two or three yards - & so around the guards. Stopped to see Mr. Donovan whose arm was cut off by a parrot shell at the door of the Church during the siege. He was not in. His little son has very sore eyes. I told him to wash them in Holy Water, & say the Litany of Jesus every day. - At Genl. Grant’s the Sergeant required that I send a written communication stating the nature of my business, that the Genl. might judge whether to see me or not. - I wrote it there under a tree - with lead pencil on a leaf of my memor. book - The Genl. sent for me. - I had but little general conversation with him. He attended to the business at once & favorably. Told me to see Genl. McPherson about the Sisters’ Convent Building. Gave an order for Fr. Heuze to get a horse & buggy & forage: & told him to ask Genl. McPherson for an order for provisions for himself - as he is attending the Soldiers without pay. He also gave me a permit & free transportation to Natchez, for self & servt. horse & buggy.

Genl. McPherson also received us pleasantly. Referred me to Col.
Bingham as having care of all the houses: but assured me the Sisters' Convent shd. be taken care of & given to them when they shd. return. He gave Fr. Heuze the order for provisions - which was liberally filled. He stated in the order that Fr. H. was entitled to them for his services to the Soldiers. - In the afternoon went out to Major I. Reese Cook's. Mrs. C. met me in town. Servants here as at Mr. Roach's. Sammy Cook suffering great pain in his bowels. Willie suffering from a foot cut with glass.

Aug 4th Tuesday - Said Mass at the Sisters' Altar in Mr. Cook's parlor. The Altar has been here since the first bombardmt. of Vicksburg, May 1862 - & the parlor has been reserved as a Chapel all the time. The Sisters articles upstairs were ransacked by the Federal Soldiers, their writing desks broken open & emptied, many of the writings strewn on the floor - many of their books tossed about. In the Chapel nothing was injured. One man took some ornament to send home, but put it back because he said he could not send it without breaking.

Dr. Hewit - Surgeon & Major on Genl. Grant's Staff & bro. to Revd. Mr. Hewit of the Paulists of New York, came out after breakfast with old Mrs. Lum - in whose house Genl. Grant has his quarters. - Dr. H. is a Catholic. Mrs. L. was a Catholic, but she dropped off after she went to N. Orleans, when there was no Priest to speak English. She expressed a disposition to return to the Church - & we talked together for a while. I do not know when her good inclinations will mature. - Had a serious conversation with Major Cook. He is a good deal depressed with the state of things but still he bears all patiently.

The negroes are dying in the streets of Vicksburg. The Federal Army expresses a willingness to feed all of them - but there is such a multiplicity of offices in the town that some of the Negroes can hardly find out who to apply to. But those who have plenty are exposed to sickness from change of place, & diet - & water & from want of some one to look after them. No exercise - no occupation - separated from old associations - naturally wanting in energy - no cleanliness - no foresight - no comforts - no medicines - Dr. Hewit says they
suffer from homesickness, depression of spirits - & just give themselves up to sink. - I have asked several Federal Officers what are the intentions or what is the policy of the govt. in regard to the negroes. Everyone whom I have asked has lamented that he thinks there is no policy in their regard, except to deprive the masters of their services & their belief is that as far as the Fed. Govt. & Army prevail, the race will die out like that of the Indians. They throw the blame on the South. Returned to Vicksburg on the afternoon in the two horse buggy with Dr. Hewit, Mrs. Lum & her little grand daughter. The Doctor's orderly rode my horse. - Talked about Brownson &c - Stopped at a hospital on the road & heard one confession.

My buggy was broken yesterday afternoon, by a heavy wagon running against while hitched in the street, an army wagon. Hind wheel had all the spokes broken. - Clement Guidici got it mended - $7 Federal money.

Wanted a hat but nothing sold except by sutler & no citizen allowed to buy without a permit. Supper & lodging at Mr. Genella's. Mrs. Genella was sick in bed when I arrived - but she is up now.

August 5th - Wednesday - Examined the Sisters' Convent. The front portico is supported by two of the columns being knocked down. The front room upstairs west side has been damaged by a shell that came thro' the window passed through the partition wall into the hall, & there up into the ceiling. The philosophical apparatus left there seems uninjured. Genl. Dennis was there for a while, & Mrs. Odell says his servts. carried off various things belonging to the Sisters & to Mrs. who is with them - plates, dishes, tables &c. - Some man calling himself a Major Genl. took the keys last week, & has not returned.

The church has some nine holes through the walls & windows - all small - except the big one over the sacristy window, made in May 1862. - One Parrot shell burst over the altar of the B. Virgin while the people were waiting for 6 o'clock Mass Sunday morning. Fr. Bannon was vesting in the Sacristy. The same day I believe Mr. Donovan lost his arm at the Church door: - a shot passed thro' the Presbytery cutting off the leg of the chair on wh. a soldier was sitting talking to Fr. Heuztearing his coattail to ribbons. The people thought they aimed at the Church on Sundays.
Aug. 6th Thursday - At 6 AM started on the D. G. Taylor Capt. Carlile. Horse & buggy along. Capt. very kind & sociable. Camp of Colored people on Louisana shore & a great crowd of them on the shore. Painted regulations - that a boat must carry officers for 3/4 of a cent a mile, & privates for 1/2 cent: meals extra, but not over .50 cts. a piece.

Boat laden with 1000 tons - commissary stores - under care of Capt. Rockwood of Wisconsin. Found several officers quite sociable. A poor black man lying sick - no breakfast. Came from Mr. Shields' plantation in Louisana: worked three weeks for government, & could not find out who ought to pay him. Came off without a cent. Going to see his wife. I gave him something to get breakfast - & he was soon well enough.

Grand Gulf totally destroyed. Scarcely any of the chimneys standing. Met many steamboats - & several gunboats. Reached the landing about 5 1/2 PM. Got to the house about 7 1/2 PM. Mr. Grillo & Mr. Grant met me on the boat - & Mr. Grant drove up with me. All well. Mr. Hesney of Miles's Legion - at the house.


Aug. 9th. Sunday - Preached - "He hath done all things well." Taken from old sermon preached at St. John's, Baltimore. Gayoso called - & dined with us. Miss Parker called. Dispensation to use meat on Fridays & Fast days - published before by Fr. Grignon.

Aug. 10th Wrote to Bro. Facile of New York, for the Christian Brothers. Called on Genl. Ransom: - very young, even girlish in his looks - light silken hair, fair & smooth face. Met there young Mr. Claiborne (Willis H. ?) son of Col. J. F. H. Claiborne of Bay St. Louis. Annoyed by various reports that I had brought important news. Called on D. G. Duncan confined in chains - only allowed to see him in the presence of the Deputy Provost Marshall, Lieut. Mason. I know nothing about his case. Lent him Lingard's England Vol. 3 (1st out & 2d wanted) & Think well on it.

Aug 13th. Rode out to Dr. Carter's. His little son Robert has broken his thigh bone. Doing well now.

Aug. 15th. Assumption - M. Jean Charles Capedeville arrived from Texas.
He is originally from (the Diocese of Agen) Lot et Garonne, France. He says he has studied all his theology.

Fr. Grignon preached on the festival. After Mass Dr. Hewit came in & staid for dinner. He came down this morning from Vicksburg with Genl. Grant. He says the negroes in Vicksburg are suffering badly with scurvy. He has written to the Fathers of the Holy Cross to suggest their sending persons to Vicksburg to open an asylum for abandoned negro children. He spoke to me about it at Major Cook’s. I told him I should put no obstacle to it, but from the very nature of the case, it was necessary that it should be conducted entirely by the people of the North & connected with the Army, without any positive co-operation on my part.

Aug. 16th Sunday - About 5 1/2 AM arrived Mr. P. P. O’Connor, theological student of the Diocese, almost prepared for immediate ordination. Revd. Mr. Finucane preached on the Love of God. - Collections taken up yesterday and today for the Orphans. Confederate money Specie. Federal money Another collection has been made by the 17th Regt. of Wisconsin, amounting to. Confederate money is of little or no use here now. The chief things to be bought are sold by govt. officers or sutlers, who will take nothing by federal money: & the people of the town or country who have goods or labor to dispose of, want to get Federal Money to buy other things with.

After dinner I sent Revd. Mr. Finucane to the Negro camp or corral as it is called, to see what was to be done for the souls of the poor people especially the dying, infants & others. He baptized he said some thirty infants. Mrs. E. Owens gave me a silver Soup Ladle - her contribution to the Ostensory in com- memoration of the 40 Hours of September 1862.

Aug. 17 - Went down with Fr. Finucane to the Negro camp on the old Cotton Press grounds, back to the hills. Met three or four gangs of Negro men marching under white officers - probably going to work. Negro sentinels at the gate. There seem to be some thousands. They have made shelters of boards - forming rows of rough cabins, with plank roofs. The roof generally very low. Sometimes high enough: generally floored.
For window, one plank is left out on one side of the Cabin. Rough & dirty enough. Most of the men are gone out to drill or to work. Only the sick & feeble left - but crowds of women & children. - Great numbers of the children sick, & they say of those that sicken seriously - very few get well. The cabins are in rows of some regularity. They seem to have enough of meat & flour furnished by the Fed. army but no vegetables nor fruit. Diarrhea & Dysentery prevailing. Some say they saw a Doctor this morning - I suspect it was Fr. Finucane - for we separated to do more work. No medicine. I baptized twenty-four infants. Found two or three Catholics; Celestine Craig from Point Coupe & her mother, both baptized - but they never went to confession. & Frank Evans who lived at Calvary, Kentucky till he was 22 years old, & went to the Sacraments frequently. Since he came South, he was not permitted to go. He promised to come to the house for confession. Baptized 23 infants in danger of death.

Aug. 18th Tuesday - Fr. Finucane & Mr. O'Connor went to the Negro Camp. I went early to give Holy Communion to Margaret Dunne at Mr. Saml. Davis's. - Went afterwards to D'Evereux Hall. - In the afternoon our fine horse Gentle took a cholic. Two Federal soldiers worked with him till 10 PM & one slept here all night.

Fr. Finucane complains of pains in back & limbs. Dr. Willey visited him. Dr. McGraw seriously ill.

Aug. 19th. The horse died at 12M. I visited asylum & Genl. Chambers. Mrs. C. not well. Confederate money of no use to them. Called on Dr. McGraw in the morning; & again in the afternoon. Fr. Finucane doing well. - Heavy storm in the evening. Mr. Jno. Botto came to ask me to inform old Mrs. Culhane of the death of her last son, Martin, killed at Gettysburg. - Went to see her after supper.

Aug. 20th. Sr. Mary Thomas arrived home from N. Orleans. Archbp. writes that he cannot get a pass for me to return from N. O. without taking the oath of allegiance. - He sends me his Pastoral Letter to the Clergy on his return from Rome - & his Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of N. Orleans about the censures of M. Maistre. - I see from the papers that M. Maistre officiated at the funeral of that colored captain. Genl. Chambers took dinner with us. Fr. Finucane worse in the evening. - Requested Mr. Hesney to give lessons in English to Mr. Capedeville. - Mr. O'Connor will begin his retreat for Ordination to c morrow under direction of V. Rev. Grignon. - Rained most of the day.
Aug. 21st Friday, M. Capedeville taken sick. Mr. O'Connor went again to the colored Camp. People generally getting better. In the evening Fr. Finucane much worse - vomiting. The sore on his leg also worse.

Aug. 22d Mr. Murray, Pilot of the Gunboat Benton called - with Mr. Wm. Lambert: brought a box of Sparkling Catawba. Sat a good while with Fr. Finucane. This morning I advised Fr. Miller to ask the Provost Marshall to supply his orphans with provisions. It is the presence of the Federal Army wh. causes their present destitution, by making the money of the community unavailable, & depriving the people of servants, teams & other means of furnishing provisions.

Aug. 23d Sunday - Preached on Leprosy & its cleansing as a figure of Sin & Confession. After Mass Mr. Murray called again with Lieut. executive officer of the Benton. Mr. Wm. Lambert & Mr. O'Cavanaugh accompanied them.

Aug. 24 - Fixing Church windows by transverse bars. The moveable sashes are too light - the glasses are working loose. Some of them were fixed in this manner a year ago by Mr. Wells. He is finishing them now. Paid Mrs. Casey $200 in Federal Notes, on acct. of what I owe her in specie after the war. The difference in value between specie & Federal Notes, she is willing to give me, for discount.

Aug. 25th Called in the afternoon to Marine Hospital. Several Catholics sick - all of the 1st Regt. of Kansas. Fr. Grignon went over the river to see both soldiers & colored people.

Aug. 26th Visited Marine Hospital. Was called away to see Dr. McGraw. Found Fr. Finucane already administering the Last Sacraments to him. The Dr. received them with great favor - Visited Harry Harrison - very ill with dysentery. Mrs. Murphy moving from Rose Hill. The Col. wants to take the house for a hospital. He consented to let Mr. Waldron occupy it.
Aug 28th - Friday - Mrs. Foley & her two children arrived from Port Gibson in the afternoon. Terrible rain - the streets flooded - the water of our little drain in the front yard was backed up by the street water, till it poured in through the basement windows & flooded the whole basement about 6 inches deep. After the rain I went again to the Marine Hospital - & left all hands engaged in bailing out the water.

Aug. 29th Gave Viaticum to Patrick Bowen at Marine Hospital. Was so unfortunate as to drop the Holy Oil Stocks in the street. Two little children, - Protestants - picked them up at the gate & brought them to Fr. Grignon.

Aug. 30th Bowen died this morning before I reached the hospital. Met Lieut. O'Neil, the same whom I met in the Confederate Hospital near Jackson. - Preached on the Gospel - Confession & Evil of Sin. Began the Retreat of the Sisters after Vespers.

Sept. 1st - During this week I visited frequently the colored camp beyond Brown's Garden - baptized a number of children & gave Baptism & other Sacraments according to the circumstances to several grown persons. - Gave Viaticum & Extreme Unction to Shea on 1st. - He died the 2d.

This afternoon 1st I gave Viaticum to Capt. John McLeod Murphy of the Gun boat Carondelet. He was lying sick in the Benton. The next afternoon Sep. 2d I was sent for to give the last Sacraments to O'Reilly a soldier in Vidalia. Rev. II. Picherit of Brookhaven is to collect contrib. for his Church &c.

Sept. 4th For the first time I learned that there was a Hospital belonging to the Colored Camp. It was the two story frame house at the gate of the Camp near the Furnace & Mill. On the floor behind the door lay the corpse of a man with the hands tied. In the middle lay a boy breathing hard - apparently dying. - He had no covering but a shirt - nothing to lie on but some coats & rags, under his head & a part of his body. - I talked with
him. He seemed to understand & answer affirmatively. At a risk I baptized him & gave him absolution. An old man of 92 years lying on a bundle of rags in a corner, called to me to "Come & pray for him." I instructed him briefly - & had no hesitation about baptizing him. He accepted explicitly the Catholic Church, & promised to follow it if he shd. recover. The next day I gave him Extreme Unction & the Scapular wh. he received with sensible devotion. Baptized three infants, & four adults in danger of death.

Septr. 5th Saturday - Learned with certainty that the fortifications will pass right over the sight of the house at Rose Hill. Saw the Engineer (Capt. Haynes?) at Mr. Fleming's house. He promises teams to haul away the materials. He says he thinks a board of appraisers will fix damages - & compensation will be given to loyal citizens. He remarked himself that "the Church had never been disloyal."

Called on the Doctor at the Colored Camp - Dr. Brady - a Catholic. He went with me to the camp & pointed out some of the most sick, infants & adults. Baptized fourteen infants & two over seven years.

Septr. 6th Fr. Picherit sang Mass. He has collected over $1000 Confederate Notes. Rev. Mr. Finucane preached on the Gospel.

Septr. 7th Fr. Picherit left for home.

Septr. 8th Nativity. Retreat of Sisters closed. Fr. Finucane started to take charge of Paulding & the neighborhood. Mr. Elisha Boyd goes with him to Brandon - to meet the cars. - I gave Fr. Finucane an especial message to V. Rev. Mr. Gautrelet, S.J. of Spring Hill College, Mobile. At the colored camp, baptized eight infants & two over seven years.

Sep. 9th Published notices of the Schools opening next Monday. Mr. Corbett, Principal - V. Rev. Grignon, as Pastor having general charge of them. Fr. Grignon got a horse from the 17th Wisconsin Regt.
Sept. 10th - Went over to Vidalia. Not many sick. Administered to one colored man - Isaac Star.

Septr. 12th Saturday - Visited the colored Camp under the Hill. Prepared five for death. - This morning, gave Tonsure & Minor Orders to Mr. Patrick O'Connor. Baptized five infants, & six over seven years of age.

Septr. 13th Preached on the greatness of the Priesthood - as connected with the elevation of all men - shown chiefly in Teaching & Administering the Sacraments.- Announced the 40 Hours Devotion. Read the Pope's Letter to the Archbishop of New Orleans. The Archbp. writes me that he is going to publish the 40 Hours for his Diocese.

Septr 14th Ordained Mr. O'Connor Subdeacon. The Schools opened. Very small attendance. Mr. Divine left abruptly.

Sep. 16th. Ember Wednesday. Ordained Mr. O'Connor Deacon. - Visited the Colored Camp again. - In the afternoon called on Mr. Forbes and agreed that he should fix a mark at each of the posts which mark the end of our division line — between Rose Hill & his place - one on Union St. & the other on the Pine Ridge Road. - A slight rain in the afternoon. I find the colored people very easily prepared for Baptism &c: little difficulty about accepting the Church & promising to adhere to the Church. Bapt. 1 infant, & 12 adults.

Septr. 17th. Called at Mrs. Malloy's. A very heavy rain. Saw Col. Farrar a student of the Mountain in 1841 &c: - also (Lieut.) Col. Sehatz - both of the 30th Missouri Regt., Federal Service. Col. F. is raising a regt. of negroes. He is much pleased with them. Some talk about the deplorable state of the negro hospital. He promised to speak to Genl. Gresham about it. Some discussion about negroes in general. - Went to the hospital. - Became very cold during the night. Baptized seven infants & nine over seven years.

Septr. 18th. Friday - Visited the part of the Colored Camp along the river bank. Met more Baptists - & more indisposition to accept the teaching of the Church. Still I found several well disposed. Baptized 7 infants & 6 adults.
Saturday Sep. 19th. Ember Saturday. Ordained Rev. Mr. O'Connor to the Sacred Priesthood. - Captn. Ryder - of St. Mary's (Piquet's) settlement, Illinois took breakfast with us. He undertook to see Genl. Crocker about our getting the wood wh. is cut down on Rose Hill.

Sister M. Thomas went to Genl. Gresham for provisions for the Orphans. He endorsed her list, & sent it to the Commissary, & told her to send him also Fr. Miller's list for the boys. He would not promise any clothing. - Col. Schatz of the 30th Missouri promises to get the boys a suit of clothes. - Capt. Ryder went with me yesterday to see Fr. Miller - & he aided Sister this morning in her application to Genl. Gresham. - I was called down to see Mrs. Wade's serv't., Margaret, sick of measles - at old Mrs. Fallon's. Gave her last Sacrts. &c. - Afterwards found reason to doubt her Baptism. Baptized three sick persons over Buntura's stable.

Sep. 20th. Rev. Mr. O'Connor sang High Mass - Seven Dolors. - Preached on the festival. Rev. Mr. O'Connor baptized conditionally Margaret - in consequence of a doubt that arose this morning.

Seprtr. 21st. Monday. Visited the colored Camp with Revd. Mr. O'Connor. A call from Col. Shaw to get the pickets of the fence of Rose Hill.

Seprtr. 22d. Margaret Dunne called to take leave, & withdraw her deposite of Confederate Notes. - As I purchased Bonds with it last April I paid her the interest since that time. She was to return the money, to her employer - having obtained other money, tho' at great sacrifice. Went to the Colored Camp in the afternoon. Went to Capt. Ryder (32d. Illinois) who got a team to haul wood from Rose Hill to the Sisters - & loaded it himself. Called on Col. Shaw. He promises to try to get a fine oil painting of St. Fras. of Sales for the Cathedral.

Seprtr. 23rd. Again by some mistake Henry missed the team at Rose Hill & Capt. Ryder loaded it again. Henry met him afterwards. Rose Hill barn was torn to pieces yesterday by Colored People, to make shanties under the hill: & the hay was taken away by soldiers. I called this morning on the Provost Marshall, who told me to get a statemt. from the Engineer, that the building was not taken down by his order: I got it accordingly from Capt. Haynes. - Took lunch & spent afternoon in colored camp.

Sep. 24th. Gave to Provost Marshall, Capt. Marble, the letter of Cap. Haynes about the barn. He gave me no answer. Went to Colored Camp about 4 PM.
Sep. 25th - Friday - Called twice to see the Provost Marshall. Great crowd in the office both times.

Sep. 27th. Sunday - Revd. Mr. O'Connor preached on Confession. An unusual number of Soldiers in Church. - Announced the 40 Hours Adoration for Octr. 16 - 18th - Bishop gave instruction on the B. Eucharist in the afternoon - chiefly declaratory of the Mystery, & argumentative - the general argument from Scripture. Benediction at Sisters at 2 PM. Anniv. of St. Vincent. - Invited Cap. Rider, Mr. Randolph & Mr. Quigley called at Sisters' - also Mr. Owens.

Septr. 30th. Rain. 

Octr. 2d. Capt'n Rider. Called on him, & then on Genl. Crocker who promised at once to have the Grave Yard Fence repaired. Next I went to Genl. Gresham's who took much interest in what I said about the hospital at the Kraal. He gave me very readily especial passes for myself, Fr. Grignon & Fr. O'Connor, for all roads & all hours of day and night with servant - & to be good until further orders. - He thought also we were fairly entitled to forage for our horses, considering the services we were rendering to the soldiers & he promised to speak to Genl. Crocker about it. He introduced me to Genl. Lorman, formerly of Baltimore.

Octr. 3d. Was called from Kraal to visit a soldier in the 95th Illinois quartered at Mrs. Ogden's - typhoid fever: not much sensibility. The Methodist Chaplain sent for me. He looks quite clerical in his straight collared coat. Returned by Genl. Quitman's.

Octr. 4th. Rosary Sunday. Preached on the B. Eucharist, as the continuation of our Lord's life on earth. - In the afternoon, continuation of the argument.

Octr. 4 & 5th. Rain.

Octr. 6th. Called on Genl. Gresham again. He directed one of his officers (Capt. Norton?) to visit the hospital at the Kraal. He said he ed. not under the regulations supply us with forage, but he wd. send us a load himself. Rev. P. O'Connor started to visit Woodville.

Octr. 7th. Went to the Hospital of the Mississippi Regt. at the Forks of the Road. - (colored). Many have died there. Baptized several. Saw Col. Smith & the Maj.

Octr. 8th. Visited Hospital at the Forks & the sick in the barracks. Saw Dr. Gray.
Oct. 9th. Friday. Revd. P. O'Connor returned from Woodville. Had to swim himself and his horse across the Homochitto.


Oct. 12th. Visited Hospital of colored Soldiers. Met on the road Dr. Jones of Texas. - A call from Mr. Kent from Harrisonburg introduced by Capt. Jas. Blanchard. Called on Mr. Randolph. Mr. O'Cavanagh's little Beatrice very low with diphtheria. Called on Mr. O'Cavanagh's little Beatrice very low with diphtheria. Called to see Fr. Miller. Meeting of Trustees of D'Evereux Hall - to raise some Federal Money for the Asylum. - Dr. McGraw well enough to attend. - Thunderstorm.

Oct. 13th. Baptized a colored man at Mrs. McDougal's: & then went to the Kraal. Not so many sick - but several have died whom I did not expect to die so soon. Mr. O'Cavanagh's little Beatrice died last night.

Oct. 14th. Went to the Kraal about midday, & remained till sun set. Yesterday all tenants of houses were served with notice to pay their rents henceforth to the Quartermaster. - After supper visited Dr. Willey & his Sister. They are going to remove to Kingston, Jamaica. - Report in town, that Genl. Rosecranz & his army have been captured at Chatanooga.


Oct. 16th. Friday - Opened the Devotion of 40 Hours Adoration - to obtain Peace: in compliance with the Letter of the Holy Father to the Arbp. of New Orleans - of Octr. 18th. 1862. Pontifical Mass - V. Rev. Grignon Deacon, Rev. P. O'Connor, Subd., Mr. Capdeville Master of Ceremonies. Only two or three boys. Preached on Processions of B.S. - as profession of Faith, Hope & Charity - the wants of the world around wh. cause its evils. - Afternoon at 4 PM exhortation from Hours before the Altar - "I sleep, but my heart watcheth." After supper called on Dr. Willey & saw Mrs. W., & his sister.

Started about 2 P.M. with Michael Maher. Reached Mr. Friery's about dark. Examined the case of Maher's marriage with Mary Friery. She declares she never did intend to marry him, & that she gave her consent because her Father frightened her by his threats. The marriage was made before a magistrate, Wm. Davis of Camden, about Octr. 7th. 1862. All the parties agree that the marriage was not consummated - that it was expressly agreed it should not be until renewed before a Priest - & even that they did not regard it as a valid marriage before God. - The Council of Trent being of force in the Diocese, the marriage wd. be invalid (both parties being Catholics) by the imped. of clandestivity - except that the distance from a Priest might bring it under the exception of Leo XII (?) But on the other hand as they are only 12 miles from a Church which is visited pretty regularly every month - & as there was no hindrance to have a Priest - since they still intended having one before they shd. consider the marriage good, - it seemed to me that it was invalid for want of intention of contracting a true marriage. Both the parties & the parents made oath that they did not regard it as a valid marriage before God. - Not wishing however, to pronounce a final decision in such informal circumstances, & without consultation - I declared it doubtful - & forbade any attempt to further intimidate the woman or molest her at all about it, until I shd. inform them of the result. The parents agreed both to avoid molesting her & to protect her against others. Maher seemed to give up all hope - and I did not encourage him to hope further. I did not examine the question of intimidation - for fear of engaging the girl in a quarrel with the Father who is very passionate.

Maher then raised a question with Friery about compensation due to him. - No direct appeal was made to me, & I did not care to meddle in the question. After I left the house I was told by Thomas Carroll, that Maher had not only worked for Friery several months, but had left at his disposal some eighty dollars which he had when he came there.
In the afternoon outrage on one of the children of the Asylum. I reported it to the Provost Marshall, Capt. Marble. Benediction. Exhortation from same “Glean not in any other field”.

I doubt the propriety of having Benediction these afternoons. As the Church has none on the day of the Exposition - it seems not to be exactly according to her spirit.

Octr. 18th Sunday. - Saw Lieut. Butler about the case of the little girl. Young Fowler the delinquent called to make explanations, but he told falsehoods. I told him the case was in the hands of the Marshall.

Preached on “Reparation”. - Close of 40 Hours. Visit from Mr. Randolph & Genl. Chambers.

Octr. 19th. Monday - Visited sick colored soldiers at the Forks of the Road. In the afternoon Mr. Austin came from Woodville, & Rev. Mr. O’Connor went down with him to attend Miss McManus who is in danger of death from burning, by her clothes taking fire. - By invitation visited Dr. Willey. He went over some parts of that old Mass, which he presented to me three years ago. It must be very beautiful - or rather grand & solemn when sung in full by two choirs. In morning pd. John Fagan his deposite on f (...)

Octr. 20th. Saw Genl. Crocker. He promised to repair the Cemetery Fence - & to order forage for our horses. I told Fr. Miller he might take the fence of Rose Hill. Visited the Kraal. Number much diminished - sickness also.

Octr. 21st. Miss Eliza Bridges called for the Promissory Note of Brevort Butler in her favor - $900. I had given her a receipt for the note. She did not bring the receipt - as she only wanted to show the note to the Provost Marshall & then bring it back.

Visited Genl. Gresham to speak about various matters. Genl. Crocker came in. Told me he had visited the Cemetery in person, & seen that the fence was gone - & ordered it to be repaired immediately - as soon as lumber cd. be sawed. Col. Robinson told me he found Genl. Crocker quite indignant yesterday at the destruction of the fence. Went to Hospital at Forks of Road. Called on Mrs. Wm. Fagan.

Octr. 22d. Pd. Mrs. Wm. Fagan & Mrs. Britt their deposites.

Octr. 23d Went to Genl. Gresham again to have a private talk about deposites in my hands - & our position in general. I thought it best just to
ask his advice frankly. As they have directed rents to be paid to
govt. - they might soon direct all debtors to pay to govt. I explained
to him how the deposits came into my hands - as a favor to poor
men & their families. He told me not to be uneasy. - He did not think
anything wd. be done to molest me in the case. I explained our gen-
eral position: viz. that we did nothing to bring about the war. When
it was begun, we like many in the North wished our own side to win,
especially when we saw what evils the South wd. suffer from being
subdued. But we had never preached war sermons - nor urged people
to go to war. Our desire was to do good to souls - we labored for all
souls in our reach, from North or South. Personally I was willing to
bear true allegiance to any govt. Russian or Kamchatkan - but I did
not wish to do anything wh. wd. injure my usefulness among my
flock - as taking the oath of allegiance wd. do. He told me he thought
there was no purpose of obliging any to take it.

Mr. Frank Surget proposed sending some of his pictures to Cathedral
for preservation. We were interrupted.

Octr. 24th. Saturday - Very cold but clear. Visited the Kraal near
the river.

Octr. 25th. Preached on Motherhood of B.V. as model for parents.
Still very cold.
Between October 25 and December 22, 1863, we find no entries. Were these pages lost, or were the intervening dates never written in Diary form? I do not know.

Bishop R.O. Gerow
Deer. 22d Tuesday Reached home after 8 weeks absence. Found Rev. Charles Louis Van Queckelberge arrived. He left Louvain two years ago. He has been staying in Michigan - waiting for an opport. to get to the South.


Deer. 27th. - Bishop preached on St. John.

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Jany. 1st. Friday. High Mass at 10 AM. announced - but no choir at the beginning. - Devotions & Benediction at 4 PM. Visited the Small Pox hospital after breakfast, at Mrs. Ogden's country seat. - Nearly all negroes. - Exceedingly cold. - Fr. Grignon preached on New Year.

Jany. 3d. Sunday. Fr. Charles preached on care of children. Saturday I got a letter from the Sisters of Mercy - Fr. Grignon is still looking out for a conveyance, to go & bring them back to Vicksburgh. Still very cold.

Jany. 8th. Visited D'Evereux Hall. All the outside fences are gone. The place is untenable. Meeting of Trustees in the evening.

Jany. 9th. Fr. Orlandi arrived. He wants to go to Genl. Grant to get compensation for the churches of Jackson. - He has bought an addition to the lot in Jackson - giving plenty of room.

11th. Meeting of D'Evereux Hall. Talk about moving site of Asylum. To-day the weather moderated - after intense cold from New Year's morning.


Jan. 15th. Meeting of D'Evereux Hall. Resolved on change of site & appointed Committee to look for a place.

Jan. 17th. Fr. Grignon started in our buggy for Jackson & Shelby Springs to bring back the Sisters. He has been waiting two weeks for a conveyance. - Fr. O'Connor goes on horse back to Jackson, in Fr. Orlandi's absence. - Bishop preached on the Holy Name. - Rained hard in the afternoon.

Jan. 18th. Dined at Mr. Quegles's with Dr. McGraw and Mr. Grant. Fr. Charles Van Queckelberge has resumed his visits to the Small Pox hospital in Mrs. Ogden's house. When I was last there, Jan. 2d. it seemed to me impracticable to accomplish anything. He finds however that he can effect a good deal, by speaking to those who have not reached the worst stage of the disease.

Jan. 19th. Mr. Grant & I walked out to D'Evereux Hall to tell Fr. Miller of the resolution of the Board. - Last night almost all his ducks were stolen.

Jan. 21st. A call from Agnes Haggerty, Mrs. Norton & Mrs. Gordon. In the afternoon visited again Mr. Thos. Harrison - who was sick for a long time in St. Louis. - Began filling up the school lot to level it - to receive grass &c.


Jan. 23d. A call from Miss Hughes.

Jan. 24th. Septuagesima - Fr. Charles sang Mass & preached. - In the afternoon had a talk with Mr. Ryan. Went to see Josephine Dixon, still sick at the Asylum.
Jany. 25th. Monday - At 6 PM. began the Retreat for the girls at the Sisters’. Mr. Patrick Sullivan arrived - staid a few days.

Jany. 26th. Josephine Dixon died just as I was beginning the first instruction to the Girls. I had only time to give her the last blessing. She had received the Sacrts. before. She was the only very bad case of Small Pox: & she has been lingering in a doubtful condition for several weeks. - I dispatched circulars to the Priests recommending them to consult Bishop Quinlan or some other Bishop, if they got into a difficulty about the Conscription laws.

Jany. 27th. Saw Thos. Nulty who was given as authority for the death of Wm. Higgins. (Letter of Rev. Thos. Fitzgerald reed. Jan. 8th.) He says it was James Higgin’s funeral that he attended.

Dispatched a circular to the Clergy, about the conscription Laws.

Jan. 29th. St. Francis of Sales - Patron of Rev. F. Burlando, C.M., Superior of Sisters of Mercy. - Concluded Retreat at Asylum - During day heard confessions of those who had not made their 1st Comm: finished about 4 1/2 PM.

Jany. 30th. Cloudy, rained hard for a little while. Looking over account with Mr. Nashee - About 5 PM. Rev. Mr. Finucane arrived. After supper I had a long conversation with him.


Febry. 1st. Rev. Mr. O’Connor returned from Jackson. Conscripting Offices.

Febry. 2d. Mr. Randolph sick - cramps in bowels.

Febry. 3d. Mr. English called - going to Marksville, Louisiana. His son Capt. Richard E. in great trouble there. In the afternoon called to see Mrs. E. found her sick in bed.
Febry. 4th. Thursday - Call from Mr. Charles Boyle - Another from Mrs. Boyle, both at my invitation. - John May died this morning of Consumption.

Febry. 5th. Revd. Mr. Finucane left, with letters, as recorded. - He purchased a house & lot at Paulding, nearly opposite the Church for $500 Confederate Notes, of which $150 were contributed by the people, & $350 were his own. The people afterwards did some work to fit up the house & place. He made to me a deed of the whole property - as also he gave me an order for clothes & other effects including a silver watch, that he left there. - I furnished him here with $80 Federal Notes - which added to $110 Fed. Notes advanced before make $190. I also furnished him with some clothing & other articles that he needed. Among them my tomut Breviary which I brought from Rome. I regret not giving him some other instead of it.

He left with me Orders for money collected for the Church at Enterprise, about $3,100 besides $100 cash for the same - all in Confederate States Notes: viz $1,900 in Mrs. Shannon's keeping - $800 loaned to Rev. Mr. Donnelly - about $400 in the hands of Mr. Jas. Sampson of Enterprise.

I advised Mr. Finucane to go to a Religious Order. As he has no disposition for that I gave him a letter to Rev. Mr. Lavialle of St. Mary's College, Kentucky, besides a general letter addressed to himself, granting 3 months absence, & authorizing him to accept a place elsewhere.

John May buried at 9 AM - with Mass. I directed the bell to be tolled - a distinction in favor of those who have the funeral with Mass. - Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boyle were here after the funeral & went from here to their home. - The horse Dixie got astray in the afternoon.

Febry. 6th. Issued a large placard offering $10 Reward for Dixie. In a short time the gentleman who keeps the new Cotton Press, came with Dr. McGraw to say the horse was in his yard. A negro had brought him there to hire out. All our horses are getting very thin - they have grown tired of eating Corn & husks.
1864 - April 8th Friday - Started for Vicksburgh - Two little girls from the Asylum in my charge. - Wrote letter to Rev. Geo. McCloskey, to Cincinnati Telegraph - to Dr. Willey's correspondents in Green Bay, Michigan.

April 9th - Reached Vicksburgh about 7 AM. Said Mass there. Conversed with two applicants for Baptism. Mr. _______ was baptized today. Mrs. Hayes ________ Jr. to be baptized tomorrow.

April 10th. Sunday. Preached on the Good Shepherd. In the afternoon baptized Mrs. Hayes solemnly.

April 11th - Cannot get to Yazoo. Resolved to remain in Vicksburgh till next Sunday.

April 12th. Yesterday & to-day finished & copied my letter to the President of the United States, about Genl. Tuttle's directing me to read the Prayer for the Authorities. Enclosed it to Rev. Fr. Early, S.J., President of Georgetown College D.C.

April 16th. During this week I made some arrangements. I assigned to Rev. Fr. Heuze three-fourths of all the casuals received since Rev. Mr. Leray's departure. The other fourth Mr. Leray is to receive, provided he has continued offering the Mass pro populo as Parish Priest. If not, it is to be applied to the supplying of the missions.

I insisted on Fr. Heuze acting as Pastor - tho' I could not draw from him a promise to obey. I left it on his conscience.

April 19th. Missed the boat.

April 20th. Left Vicksburgh about 11 AM. I had called on Genl. McArthur, & asked him to give the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy in possession to a person to be designated by the Pastor, so that it might be rented. - or else pay rent for it, both for the past & future. He told me to make the application in writing. Mr. Whitney accompanied me. I made the written application - & Genl. McArthur promised to submit it to the proper authority. He promised that the Sisters should have the house when they returned.

Also during last week I authorized Revd. Fras. Orlandi to return home giving him a written leave of absence for nine months. I thought I had examined the case as well as I could, & that I was deciding rightly: but after he was gone my conscience reproached me strongly - He represented that the congregation of Jackson was nearly dispersed: that there was no means for supporting a Priest, & no house where they would be willing to keep one: That the place could be attended occasionally from either Brookhaven or Canton, & that the people themselves thought it would be better to be so attended for a while - & in the mean time to have Fr. Orlandi go & collect something for building the Church, when the war should be over. I wanted him to go out as I had before written to him, & receive from the people a written statement of their wish for such an arrangement. He said they had forbidden him to pass out any more.
April 21st. Thursday. Reached Natchez at 2 AM. At 3 PM. started for Port Gibson to visit Mrs. Rankin who is very sick. If all is favorable I purpose going to Jackson & perhaps farther.

Started on horseback. The roads & bridges are often bad for want of hands to repair them. And if a buggy breaks, there is no one to mend it. I saw many buggies and other vehicles abandoned by the road side last summer.

 Reached Mr. Wade Harrison’s at 8 1/2 PM. Found Mr. Henry O’Kelly there.

April 22d. Reached Port Gibson about 12 M. Mrs. Rankin slightly better. Lodged at Mr. Barrot’s. Remained in Port Gibson till Sunday to give all an opportunity of making their Easter. Some neglected to profit by it.

April 26th. Tuesday - Met Mrs. Stevens, (Susan Baker). Baptized her children. - Went out to Mr. John Taylor Moore’s.

April 27th (or 28th) Said Mass at Mr. Moore’s & started for Jackson. - Horseback travelling so far agrees well with me. For the first time I have put on flannel - & it seems to do me good. I am wearing also a cloth coat. Passed through Rocky Springs - Cayuga & Auburn - & stopped at Mr. Dillons beyond 15 Mile Creek. Was questioned by some Scouts - who wanted to see all the papers I had. Was relieved by Mr. Botright of Arkansas who had seen me at the hospitals of Port Gibson.

April 28th (or 29th) Rode on through Raymond - took by mistake the road to Clinton & reached Jackson about 12 M. Stopped at Mrs. O’Connor’s where I met a warm reception from her & her daughter Mrs. McLaughlin. Mr. Barbour of Vicksburgh staying there also: very kind.
1864 May 1st. V. Sunday after Easter. A large congregation. For a chapel they have the room over the Engine House in the Capitol Yard. It is fitted up very tastefully & comfortably.

My uneasiness at allowing Fr. Orlandi to go away, is unhappily confirmed. The people are all in distress - & all eager to have a Pastor. He is welcome to a home at either Mr. McLaughlin’s, Mrs. Spengler’s or Mr. Doughety’s. They will furnish both money & provisions.

I remained here till Saturday; & all the time I was engaged in hearing Confessions, except some time given to preparing for Confirmation those who had made their First Communion.

May 5th. Ascension Day. Gave Confirmation. All the Registers of the Church were destroyed in the last fire.

At the last visit of the Federals in February - under Sherman - the Church lost only the two Statues - of the B.V. & St. Joseph. All the other things were removed. The statues the men broke to pieces & threw out of the window. They used the room as a kind of butcher’s shop.

May 7th. Started for Canton. Called at the Insane Asylum, & saw Miss Howley for a few minutes.

Found Fr. Huber in Canton. We both staid at Mr. Franklin Smith’s. Mr. Smith lost servants & horses at the last raid of Sherman.

Mrs. Smith is preparing to enter the Church. On various subjects she enquired of me - & she took a deep interest in all my explanations.

May 8th. Sunday Very small congregation. Fr. Huber has got Mr. Smith to sell the frame kitchen in the Church lot. He had got $400. in Confed. Notes of $5. I did not at all like the bargain, but the money had been
paid. On consultation I found that while the congregation regretted it - they thought it was well enough: as the house was getting much abused, & it was liable to be burned with great danger to the Church.

Fr. Huber went back to Sulphur Springs Sunday afternoon.

May 10th or 11th. Went up to Dr. Michael O'Reilly's. Had a providential escape. A small bridge broke down under my horse, and we fell about eight feet. I rolled off. No damage done to horse nor rider: only the girth & bridle broken.

Found Dr. O'Reilly all alone - & in low spirits. He sent me to a neighbors for supper & bed.

May 11th. or 12th. Said Mass at Dr. O'Reilly's. Offered it in thanksgiving for my escape yesterday. Left the Dr. in better spirits.

Called at Dr. O'Leary's for a little while.

Went to Oliver Luckett's: to see what he thought about the sale of the kitchen: as he was one of the Committee of building. He approved of it.

About 4 PM. heard that the Federals were marching towards Canton. Mr. Luckett at once prepared to go away with his servants, & stock, & what he could conveniently carry. - I agreed to stay with his children.

May 12th. or 13th. Heard that the Federals were not on this side of the Big Black - I said Mass at Mr. Luckett's & rode on. Took dinner at Mr. John Cretin's. Met there Mr. Barrett of New Orleans, now living near Richland, Holmes Co.
May 15th. Pentecost. - Spent at Sulphur Springs. While here I agreed with Miss Furlong that as Fr. Huber had promised she should have the Convent House rent free for the present year. After that she might continue if her school gave satisfaction to the Pastor & myself: at a rent to be determined on later - according to her success, & to the currency.

Arranged with Fr. Huber that he should take charge of Jackson, & visit Sulphur Springs & Canton every month: until a Priest could be obtained for these places. But the people must provide him with conveyance. I announced this to-day.

While in Jackson I wrote to Richmond for exemption from Conscription for Priests not ordained before the passage of the act. I sent the application to Col. Northrup Commissary General. - I received a favorable answer in June.

Also while in Jackson I telegraphed & wrote to the Sisters then in Shelby Springs, to know when they would come on to Vicksburgh. I approved of their dividing the community & leaving some in the Hospital.

In Canton I got an answer asking me to provide transportation. Genl. Wirt Adams was absent following the Federal Troops that were moving toward Yazoo. Major Sebastian, his Adjutant, said he would give transportation if he should happen to have it at his disposal when needed.

May 18th. Returned to Canton. Genl. Adams gave me a pass for Yazoo City. - (Dined at Dr. O'Leary's).
1864

May 20th. Friday - Started for Yazoo - by way of Mrs. E. C. Wilkinson's. Reached her house after dark. Quite a happy surprise.

May 21st. Started early for Yazoo. Said Mass there at 8 1/2 AM. Fr. LeCorre living in his new house. The Federals were here this week, & burned fourteen houses, including the Court House. - They were here in March & had a street fight. One cannon ball passed entirely through the Church - breaking the stove and cutting one of the posts. - A great number of Minnie Balls penetrated the Church - especially the tower, both below & above.

Fr. LeCorre lost his horse Philip.

May 22d. Trinity Sunday. Preached on Dogmas in general, & the Trinity in particular. - Gave Confirmation.

May 24th. Fr. LeCorre accompanied me to Mrs. Wilkinson's. Instructed several negroes for 1st Com. & Confirm.

May 26th. Corpus Christi - gave 1st Com. & Confirmation at Mrs. W.'s.

Mrs. Wilkinson has been much blessed. She has not been disturbed at all on the plantation. Her house in town was burned. All her servants remain with her. - The family too appear very happy together.

After breakfast started for Canton. Learned that Genl. Adams has sent transportation for the Sisters this morning to take them from Jackson to Vicksburgh. East of Big Black, stopped at Dr. Walker's of Kentucky. Baptized his child.

May 27th. Went to Jackson. Fr. Leray with 4 Sisters
1864 started this morning for Vicksburgh - with a flag of truce.

May 29th Sunday. Spent in Jackson.

May 30 Funded in 4 pr. ct. Bonds the $400 received for the house in Canton: also $200.

Started for Port Gibson. Stopped all night in Raymond. Had hard work to find a place for my horse. As I was going out of Jackson, I met Capt. Harrick.

May 31st. Met with an Irish Catholic family at Raymond. Baptized their children. Parents promised to go to confession in Vicksburgh very soon.

Made a long journey some 43 miles to Mr. Moore's. Reached Bayou Pierre after dark. Horse refused to go into the water until I walked in myself and led him. Reached Mr. Moore's at 10 PM.

June 1st. Said Mass at Mr. Moore's - & went to Port Gibson. Lodged at Mr. Shanahan's.

June 2d. Said Mass. - Visited Mrs. Susan Steven & gave her Extreme Uection.

Rode with Mr. Daniel Dohan to his house. He has lost an immense amount by the war.

June 3rd. Went to Rodney. Stopped at Mr. Lejay's. Spent all the afternoon visiting the people, baptizing & hearing confessions.

June 4th. Confessions & Mass at Mr. Lejay's. Started about 10 AM. toward Natchez. Called at Mr. Edgar Wood's to learn whether Cole's Creek was passable.
Mr. Wood rode down with me to see. To make it safer for me he rode across & drove over some cattle, & then went over again to lead me - changing horses, & carrying my saddle bags on his arm. I never met such extraordinary kindness.

Dined at Capt. Johnston's. - Churchill. Found I could not reach Natchez before the hour for closing the lines: so I resolved to go to Mrs. Hazlip's to-night, & say Mass there to-morrow. Invited Miss Martha Johnston to come.

Stopped for a while in Washington. Learned positively that no one is allowed to come out of Natchez without taking the Oath of Allegiance to the United States. Called at the Poor House & invited a poor man there to come over to Mass. Reached Mrs. Hazlip's about 8 PM. Found Mrs. John C. Brown there.

June 5th. Sunday Said Mass about 8 1/2 AM. Mrs. Perrault came in after Mass was over - seeking news from her boys. I had heard in Jackson of their being wounded. - Several received Holy Communion this morning. In the afternoon I spoke to the servants about Catechism.

In the afternoon Mr. Hazlip & young Benbrook accompanied me to Mr. Perrault's - five miles.

June 6th. Mass at Mr. Perrault's, & some Baptisms. The family all well, but anxious about their boys.

In the afternoon started for Mrs. Nortons 15 miles. As the lines are closed, I had better visit the Catholics around, before I go into Natchez. Lost my way, & went
down the Kingston road to Dr. Enders. Had to come back four miles. Was taken for a Federal Soldier, by some Confederate Scouts. They showed me the road. Called at Mr. Bennet’s to let Mrs. Farraday know I wd. say Mass at Mrs. Norton’s. Mrs. F. was not at home. Called at Mr. Charles Young’s, to let Mrs. Y. know. Reached Mrs. Norton’s about 8 1/2 PM. Tried to frighten them by asking for rebels: & did it so well, that I got frightened myself lest they shd. be injured by it.

Found the whole family well - Mrs. Norton, Sophy (Lena), Maggie , Agnes Haggerty & Felix.

June 7th. Mass at 7 AM. Mrs. Young came over, & Emma Shields, with Mrs. Ashton: also Elizabeth Lawson, living with Mrs. Young.

Resolved to stop here for a little while, till I could hear from Natchez. In the afternoon rode over to Cap. Wilmer Shields’s.

On hearing from Natchez I resolved to go down to Woodville for next Sunday - 12th - go on next week to visit my Brother John near Baton Rouge, & return to Mrs. Norton’s for Sunday 19th.

Capt. Shields lent me his riding mare, as my Dixie had got his back sore, from the pressure of the saddle bags on the hind corner of the saddle.

Received letters & answered some.

June 10th. Started for Woodville. Stopped at Mr. Helms to avoid a shower. Very kindly received by Mr. H’s daughter. - Reached the Ferry & learned that the Swamp was impassable. Returned.

June 11th. Started again for Woodville, via
1864

Kingston. Met some Confederate Soldiers who told me that route also was impassable. - Was recognized by Wm. Kennedy, of N.O. nephew of Wm. Kennedy of Balt. - & by Jos. McNeil of N.O: both old students of the Mountain. Both well.

Returned to Mrs. Norton’s, & resolved to remain there all the week to keep my engagement for the 19th, & then to start for Woodville.

June 12th Sunday - at Mrs. Norton’s.

June 13th Mrs. Perrault & Thomas came over. They started yesterday & were stopped by the rain. They remained till Thursday.

June 19th. During the past week I had visits from Mr. (Marcher), Dr. Scott, Mrs. Dunbar & her daughter-in-law, & Cap. W. Shields - I wrote letters - wrote up a part of my acct. books. - read a little Theology.

It was a very pleasant week, only it passed away too fast. A commodious room - spacious gallery & grounds - every convenience & attention to make me comfortable. Mass every morning. Night prayers.

This morning there was quite a congregation. Mrs. Moreland had been up during the week. Having profited by the occasion to receive the Sacrts. she sent up Mary Farmer. Mrs. Hart came, Mrs. Farraday, Ellen Glennon with Mr. Nelson, Emma Shields, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Young with Lizabeth Lawson - also several Protestants. Mr. Perrault came after Mass. He came because Mrs. Perrault was uneasy; as she met the Federal Cavalry just when she was leaving Mrs. Norton’s last Tuesday. They asked her many questions about the place & she was afraid.
they intended some mischief.

In truth only two came to the house; They wanted to get some colored men & mount them. The only colored man on the place was out after the hogs & the Federals passed on. If they had found him, they would doubtless have taken my horse or Cap. Shields’s, which I was keeping.

June 20th. Started a third time for Woodville. At the Ferry we met some Confederate Soldiers, who had just got a negro to guide them thro’ the swamp & over the river. We joined them. Felix accompanied me. We had ten miles of very ugly riding thro’ the swamp - At one place our horses had to swim a bayou while we walked over a log, & carried our saddles & baggage. - Parted with our guides at Mr. Rogers’s (Dorsey’s?) 14 miles above Woodville.

Reached Woodville at 8 PM. - Found Edward Elder’s family well. - A good deal of excitement from a report that the Federals were coming from about Fort Adams. They did not come.

June 21st. Said Mass - St. Aloysius. They have a new & better room now for a chapel: the house of a Jew, who is gone away, & who offered it to them free - It looks very pretty.

Started for Clinton. Obliged to go there to get a pass from the Provost Marshall. The Confederates do not allow persons to go toward Baton Rouge - for fear of trading with the enemy - circulating green backs &c.

Reached Clinton at night. Lazy people - dirty table - dirtier room. No sleep for mosquitos &c. Mrs. Elder gone to bed.

June 22d. No Mass. Called at Mrs. Elder’s at 6 1/2 AM. Her daughter Eleonora, &
Bro. John's daughter Celeste, started with Cousin J.C.E. to go to Bay St. Louis last week. Celeste got nearly drowned crossing the Tangipahoa; the buggy broke down: there was no one to mend it, & they were told the roads were worse - & no provisions on the way. So they had returned to Clinton. Only last evening they went out to the country, to go down to Bro. John's today.

Got pass. The Adj'n was very friendly. Started about 7 1/2. Passing the pickets, one fellow grumbled sadly at their hard lot, lying out all night to keep people out of Baton Rouge, & yet everyday, men & women getting passes to go in.

Ate blackberries for our dinner. Stopped for the rain. Reached John's about 5 PM. Found all well. The girls had arrived a little before us.

John had had many hard things to go through, during the war: imprisoned, kept & discharged without any accusation - plundered repeatedly. He has no old corn.

June 23rd. Said Mass & spent the day very happily.

June 24th. St. John's Day. All the family approached the Sacraments.

We started about 11 AM. - for Jackson. Stopped at a Creole house. & baptized some children.

Reached Jackson at 8 1/2 PM. went to Fr. Scollard's. Some explanations: a good welcome.

June 25th. St. William's Day. Fr. Scollard told me that Amite Station &c was under his care & I promised to write Fr. Picherit not to go into Louisiana without understanding with Fr. Scollard.
We got completely off the Woodville road & reached the Rail Road some eighteen miles below Woodville. Got to Woodville about 6 PM.

Found letters from Natchez: Also a copy of a Special Order, No. 31, from Col. Farrar, Commanding—who required all Pastors of Churches to read a prayer expressive of a proper spirit toward the President of the U. States.

Fr. Grignon writes that he has told Col. Farrar, of my application to the authorities at Washington, on occasion of Genl. Tuttle's order in March. My. memorial addressed to Mr. Lincoln, was laid before the Secretary of War by the Honble. F. Kernan, M.C. from New York. April 27th. He wrote me that the Secretary said immediately he would send instructions that same day to Genl. Tuttle, not to interfere with us. Mr. Kernan wrote to me, suggesting that I should not give expression to my feelings of triumph over the Commander. I recd. his letter at Mrs. Norton's. I wrote to him, that while it wd. be unworthy of me to express any triumph, yet to avoid similar cases for the future, the instructions ought to be made public in some form or another. -

Fr. Grignon writes me now that Col. Farrar has consented to wait a while till he can see Mr. Kernan's letter, or until my return to Natchez. -

The order was dated June 18th & notified to Fr. Grignon the 19th Sunday, just as he was going to teach Catechism.

June 26th. Sunday at Woodville. In the afternoon Catechism.

June 27th. After Mass went to give Communion to Mrs. Turnbull, still living - very ill - lately confined. Baptized her child, as one also of her brothers-in-law. Heard some Confessions of servants.
June 28th. Tuesday - Remained three days at Woodville - hearing Confessions - preparing for Confirmation &c.

Monday afternoon I went with Mrs. Elder to visit old Mrs. Bradford, sister of Mr. Jefferson Davis. She is a Catholic, mother to Mrs. Miles (Capt. Edwd.) whom I met last November at Meridian. Mrs. Bradford is staying now with Mr. Stamps. She was at Mass & Communion this morning.


June 30th. After Mass started for Mrs. Norton's. Mr. Davis gave me a seat in his buggy, & Felix led my horse. Stopped at Mr. Davis's just south of Homochitto: took dinner with him. Felix stopped at Mrs. Cooper's two miles below. She sent me a very polite note, asking me to return to her house this afternoon & take an early start. Felix says she is expecting me for dinner.

Reached Mrs. Norton's - Learned that the Sisters' horse was stolen out of her stable the night after I left.

July 1st Mass at Mrs. Norton's. Fr. Charles drove out in the buggy. Col. Farrar expects me to see him about the Order & the prayer, before next Sunday. - I resolved to go in at once: & leave Fr. Charles to say Mass here on Sunday. - Reached Natchez about 5 1/2 PM.

July 2d Col. Farrar gone out on expedition. Saw the Adjt. Cap. Montgomery, & agreed to wait till the Col.'s return next week.

July 3rd Sunday - Preached as usual; subject the Precious Blood. Gave an admonition on the nature & obligation of an Oath. - Read it, just as it is written in the book of announcements.
There has been scandal received in the arrest of some Catholics charged with smuggling out goods &c in violation of the oath of allegiance which they had taken to the U.S. And it is said that several Catholics have spoken very lightly of the obligation of that oath.


July 6th. Wednesday. Fr. Grignon & I called on Col. Farrar. He was very polite. We had a long interview in his private room. - When I would show him the unreasonableness of his Special Order requiring prayers for the President, - & remove all his defences of it, he always fell back to the position that the other Churches had done it, & he must therefore require us to do it: - as if the doing of injustice to one person justified the doing of the same injustice to another. - I proposed to him in conclusion that I should write to him a letter explaining my position & the reasons for it: & that he should suffer the letter to be published in my justification. It would at the same time serve him for a justification in revoking the Order. - He said he would consider the proposition - & that I should send for his answer at 2 PM.

I thought it best to go myself for the answer. He told me I could write the letter, & he would submit it to Genl. Slocum: in the meanwhile he expected me to read the prayer. - I then told him definitely - what I had not said before - that I positively declined doing it: - & I would thank him to let me know what the consequences were to be, so as to avoid collision. Finally he consented to let the matter rest, until I shd. give him my letter, & he shd. hear from Genl. Slocum.

July 13th Finished at last my letter to Col. Farrar about the reading of the Prayer. It is a great deal too long, nineteen or twenty pages of foolscap. I saw afterwards how I could have shortened it by several pages. Mr. Jas. O'Cavanagh copied it for me beautifully.

Found Col. Farrar was relieved: & I presented the letter to Brig. Genl. M. Brayman, the new Commander: - an old man - with white hair combed back. He spoke civilly enough: but he seems to have an idea that everybody that opposes him in any thing must be a bitter rebel. He said he did not approve of men being compelled to read prayers against their conscience: but rather "if he found that we (Fr. Grignon & I) were rebels "he should treat us as such." - He laid the paper down & said he would consider it. He enquired about the Prayer: & I promised to send him the Roman Missal in English.

July 16th Saturday During dinner I reed a communication from the Genl. saying that he waived a formal reply to my letter to Col. Farrar - & reminded me that "Military Orders must be obeyed & not discussed." For a while this unnerved me a good deal. I saw the contest was coming to a point - which I had always hoped to avoid. But it was not of my seeking - nor did it concern my private interest - but the interest of religion, the liberty of the Church, & the general liberty of conscience for the whole country. It was clear that I had nothing else to do but oppose a passive resistance, - & leave the consequences to God. - I say
it was clear. It had appeared to me from the beginning that I ought not to consent. The more I had studied the matter over in the light of calm reason, the more I was confirmed in the conviction. I had also made it an especial object of prayer of my intentions in the Holy Sacrifice: & had both consulted the judgment & begged the prayers of those in whom I could best confide. Every light that I could obtain from every quarter had strengthened my conviction of the duty that I owed to God, & to the Church. - Now, I must confess, when the issue was at hand & the prospect of a guard seizing the Cathedral tomorrow or Monday - turning it into a hospital or barracks, - defacing & desecrating everything beautiful & holy - carrying off the most sacred vessels - driving all the Priests out of the house & leaving the people without Sacraments or religious consolation - I must confess the sight of these awful consequences, depending probably on my single word - it did unnerve me. For a few minutes a severe pain shot across the top of my head - & I feared I was going to have a sharp attack of sickness. - Thanks to God however it passed away. - Again I reviewed my conduct & tried to search sincerely into my motives. I tried to balance the consequences of refusing against those of consenting. I recommended it again to God: - I talked it over again with Fr. Grignon. - I could only come again to the same conclusion, that to yield, would be for me to do a grievous injury to religion: - & that the consequences of refusing were in God's own hands - He would not hold me accountable.

I wrote therefore to Genl. B., chiefly to ascertain whether he purposed making any public interruption of Mass to-morrow, - as in that case I should have no High Mass.
I told him, my object was to avoid the indecency & sacrilege of a public disturbance of divine worship which wd. benefit no one.

Mr. O'Cavanagh was kind enough to take down the letter. At first he did not wish to give an answer: but as I had read the letter to Mr. O'C. he pressed for an answer - which the Genl. then promised to give at 8 PM. - Meanwhile he wrote & gave to Mr. O'C. a communication about the Roman Missal, charging me with want of candor, in sending him almost the only book which did not contain the Prayer for the President, while many other authorized books did contain it - I answered this letter on Monday.

At 8 1/2 PM. Mr. O'C. brought the answer to my letter of this afternoon. It was a very strange one. - It implied - in very declamatory language - that I must take part in public worship either with the United States or with the Confederacy: & that my conduct would be accepted as a declaration on wh. side I chose to stand. He declined saying what he shd. do in case of my refusal.

Mr. Quegles & Mr. O'Cavanagh came together, & with them & Fr. Grignon, I deliberated whether in the circumstances it would be well to have no High Mass to-morrow. The deliberation was brief. On reading over my letter & his answer, - we were all persuaded that there was no reason to believe he would make any public interruption. If he shd. disappoint us - the shame would be doubled on him after my having enquired.

Sunday July 17th. Preached on St. Vincent of Paul. I was going to read the Epistle & Gospel of his Feast; but I thought they would elicit curious remarks on my own situation - rather than excite devotion.

In the afternoon many persons called in to enquire into the state of the question & to express their anxiety.
July 18th. Monday. About 9 AM. - several gentlemen met in my Library. I had sent requests to them by name. I wanted not to hold a meeting for the purpose of getting up any feeling: but to explain what had been my conduct, & the motives for it. - Some Catholics & many more Protestants, were under the impression that my refusal to read the Prayer arises from a preference which I give to the Southern Confederacy. - I wanted them to understand that it was not so - but simply from an unwillingness to acknowledge the right in any secular power to direct our religious worship: & my own especial unwillingness to use my sacred ministry in maintaining either power, or in support of any political views. - Among the gentlemen who came - besides a few Catholics were Mr. Wm. Dix, the last elected Mayor, - Judge Thatcher, Dr. Lyle, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Geo. Koontz, also Judge Wm. M. Burnet Treasury Agent.

I explained my position & read the chief part of my letter to Col. Farrar. - I asked no opinions from them. I kept them longer than I had intended.

Judge Burnet stopped for a few minutes after the others were gone. He spoke of Arbp. Purcell & the Clergy of the Cathedral of Cincinnati.

About 11/2 PM. I received a note from Genl. Brayman enquiring whether I had read the Prayer yesterday. -

Said Mass at the Sisters’ - St. Vincent’s day.

July 19th. I called on Genl. Dana: - who is said to be on an inspecting tour. I found Capt. Eustace in his room. - He received me kindly. I told him of my difficulty - of which he was already informed, & asked his advice. - He had no powers in the case. He regretted the occurrence, & said
(I think) that Genl. Brayman regretted that the Order had been published: - but since it was published, he was a strict disciplinarian, & it must be obeyed. - I was struck with the evidence of how entirely the Military spirit has taken possession of these officers, & how thoroughly that spirit abolishes all consideration of any right or claim which may come in conflict with it. - Genl. Dana had nothing to say against the reasons which I gave - but a Military Order must be obeyed. If I had submitted in the first place, & then asked to be relieved, he thought Genl. B. would have been glad to oblige me. When I explained that to do this would be to acknowledge the principle of their right to direct our worship, - he appeared to sympathize with me that my conscience wd. not allow the submission, but he saw no alternative for Genl. B. - He suggested however that besides the letter to Genl. B. which I showed to him, - I should write a very brief request, that the Genl. shd. suspend the penalties under the Order until we shd. hear from Washington. He kindly offered to speak to the Genl. himself, & let him know that he had thus advised me.

Genl. D. was very agreeable. He said he was born in Baltimore (I think) & that his Father became a Catholic on his death bed, & had him baptized: but he had been brought up an Episcopalian.


July 20th. I mailed to the Secretary of War, copies of all the communications which had passed on this subject.

I received another note from Genl. B. enquiring
out of what book I used to read the Prayer for the Authorities.

July 24th. X S. after Pent. No further communication from the Genl. Preached on the Pharisee & the Publican. —

July 25th. Just before 12 o'clock, an officer brought me an official copy of Order no. 11, dated July 22d: the practical conclusion of which was that I must repair to Vidalia within 24 hours, & remain there till further orders. Mr. Quegles was in my room. He walked with me to the Provost Marshall to enquire about the conditions - what I cd. take &c.

The afternoon was spent in such preparation as I could make. Poor good Sisters of Charity,—I could not extort a smile from any of them: - they were entirely downcast. - I saw Fr. Miller. - In the evening we held a meeting of the Trustees of D’Evereux Hall: & made some arrangements about their money, which Mr. Grant had left in my hands last winter. I found afterwards that I made a great mistake, in the hurried statement wh. I gave them. I forgot to credit myself with more that $400.

July 26th. Yesterday & to-day many sympathizing friends called — Catholics & Protestants - some who had never been in the house before. - The Sisters & all the Orphans came. Their sobs unmanned me more than anything else. - Many also were waiting under the Hill & gathered at the Ferry landing to take farewell. - As I was about stepping on to the boat they all
To-day, is the Feast of St. Ann, my monthly Patroness. At Mass I announced a Plenary Indulgence for all who shd. approach the Sacrts. next Sunday.

they all fell on their knees - in the sand & dust, to crave a parting blessing. - God forgive me for not doing my duty better by such a people!

Several gentlemen accompanied me over the river. Col. McCaleb, Commanding received me civilly. He gave no other restrictions but to remain on that side, & within the lines, & not to hold any "written communication" without his permission. He referred me to the Provost Marshall, Capt. Hyatt, for quarters. He had no instructions, but he took me to the hotel, until he cd. make other arrangements.

In the afternoon he called to say that if I staid at the hotel, I must pay my own expenses, & he advised me to do so. I asked what would be the alternative. He said he wd. find a room for me somewhere, & give me soldier's rations. I asked him to state that in writing. He refused. He said I might be lodged in jail if they thought proper. - I told him I was in Genl. Brayman's hands, & I wanted to know what treatment Genl. B. thought suitable to me. - If he ordered me to be sent to jail - he could do so. - I would be glad to have it authenticated in writing - so that it might hereafter be known beyond cavil. - He said he had no idea of confining me in jail - but he could only do for me as much as he had said. - I told him that in the circumstances, I believed it was the General's duty to provide for me what treatment he thought I ought to have. As it appeared now from his statement - tho he wd. not write it - that I was entitled only to soldier's rations, & a room probably less convenient than one in the hotel - I would in that case be thankful if he wd. allow to provide for myself in the private family of Mr. McDowell.

He made some difficulty, & said he wd. see further about it.

Got a very small room, the one over the front hall.
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It was cool however - with the breeze directly from the river. The Landlady, Mrs. Johnson was very kind. She introduced me to a French Lady, Mad. Couvel, from N. Orleans. I slept very comfortably.

July 27th. Wednesday - Fr. Charles came over to see me.

In the afternoon - the Provost Marshall, called & showed me an answer he had received from Genl. Brayman about my case. It ran nearly or exactly thus "The Bishop must provide for himself." Lower down there was another endorsement. "No quarters, no rations." - He told me at the same time that Col. McCaleb desired I should not go to Mr. McDowell’s.

July 28th. Mr. Quegles & Mr. Owens came over. I moved to a larger room, in the Southwestern corner of the house. - Mr. Owens remained till after dinner.

Col. McCaleb told me that perhaps after a day or two he might be willing for me to go to Mr. McDowell’s. There was a charge against Mr. McD. wh. was not yet investigated. -

July 29th. Prepared to say Mass, - & I missed the Altar Stone.

Sister M. Thomas & Sister Rosanna came over. Both in tears. - Mr. Botto also came over with some of the young ladies. - Sister sent over the Altar Stone.

July 30th. Saturday. Offered the Holy Sacrifice. A poor Altar & a poor room for Our Lord. Oh! that I only loved Him as I ought to do for His infinite condescensions.

This afternoon I finished my letter to the Secry.
of war, in answer to Genl. Brayman’s Order, No. 11. - - I wrote also a brief letter to the Genl., asking him to take testimony under oath, from those who knew best my conduct: to ascertain whether I had been an "instigator of Hostilities &c. - I gave both letters to Col. McCaleb.

The Col. told me I cd. go to Mr. McDowell’s to stay.

July 31st. Sunday. - I went to Mr. McDowell’s as soon as I got up. Mrs. McD. had of her own accord covered the Piano, with a table cloth, that it might serve for an altar. - Mad. Couvel & another French lady, & also Mr. McDowell assisted at Mass.

Mr. & Mrs. McDowell are exceedingly kind. They have given me their only parlor to be my room. - During the whole of my stay, more than twelve days, they did everything they could think of to make me comfortable. And I was very comfortable - in body. The room was airy: - most of the time there was a pleasant breeze blowing. - The front gallery was very pleasant. The table was such as to create a relish. - Friends from Natchez brought every day various little comforts in quantity to supply the family, & sometimes the visitors.

But more than bodily comforts, was the kindness of the sympathy shown by the many who came to visit me; & the many others who could not come, but who sent kind messages - & the many others still who did all in their power for me by their fervent prayers; in Natchez, Vicksburgh, New Orleans & every where.

A large number came over to see me in the afternoon. I was glad to learn how many approached to Holy Communion this morning.

At Mass - Fr. Grignon announced to-morrow, as the Feast of St. Peter’s Chains to "commemorate the day when the Apostle St. Peter was kept in prison by Herod: & when
prayer was made without ceasing by the Church for him” - - & an
Angel of the Lord came to deliver him.

This morning I visited the hospitals: - not many sick. To-day - the
installation of Arbp. Spalding in Baltimore.

Aug. 1st. St. Peter’s Chains. - In the afternoon I learned that the
General sent to-day to enquire of Fr. Grignon whether he read the
prayer yesterday.

Aug. 3rd. Fr. Charles came over. He started in the afternoon for
N. Orleans - & the North.

Aug. 5th. Mr. Dix - late Mayor came over. He told me that he &
Mr. O’Cavanagh accompanied Fr. Grignon yesterday when he took
his answer to the Genl. The substance of the answer - written - was
that the Order of June 18th had been suspended by Order of July
22d. - & consequently there was no command to read the prayer. -
Genl. Brayman was polite. - He made no reply to the communication.
Mr. Dix enquired whether Fr. G. wd. be suffered to go on as usual
next Sunday - - & the Genl. said he would answer later.

Yesterday Fr. Grignon was refused a pass to visit a U.S. soldier
at the Marine Hospital, within the fortifications. - He had a pass,
granted originally by Col. Farrar, & renewed by Genl. Brayman,
but now expired. A soldier sent for him: - about 9 AM. Mr. Jos.
Arrighi took the pass to have it renewed again. He explained to
the Officer he met, that it was needed for visiting a sick soldier
who had sent for the Priest. The Officer took it into the Genl.’s room
& returned with this message: “The Genl.
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desires me to say to you that he is neither renewing passes nor giving them.' - & as he spoke he tore up the pass & threw the pieces into the fireplace. - The poor man sent again for the Priest. The wardmaster - who came himself - said the soldier was almost frantic, & declared he wd. jump out of the window, if the Priest did not come. -

Aug. 6th. Saturday. To-day the Surgeon wrote to Headqts. for a Pass for Fr. Grignon to visit the sick soldier. It was granted for one day only; & it was 2 PM. when Fr. G. got it. He found six or seven Catholics in the hospital. He did for them what he could in the short time allowed to him.

Aug. 7th. Sunday. Again quite a number of visitors. -

Aug. 10th. Mrs. McDowell laying up provisions. I wanted to bear my share of the expenses: but she positively refused to receive anything. She pretended that the presents sent & brought by my visitors was more than compensation: & finally told me to give what I had to spare, to the Orphans. - Accordingly I gave the Sisters $20. & Fr. Miller $5. - Besides provisions - several persons have made me contributions of money -

Aug. 11th. Sisters came over with the smallest Orphans.

Aug. 12th. Feast of St. Clara. About 4 PM. an orderly brought me a communication from Genl. Brayman - Order no. 31. Aug. 12th - suffering me to return home till word shd. be had from Washington - & suspending Order 31 of June 18th. - And so my exile was over, - & the difficulty about the prayer was removed. -

Mrs. McDowell & her mother Mrs. Tipton - & also Mr. Grant were with me. - After congratulations, & little further conversation - I prepared to return to Natchez.
I went down first & baptized Mrs. Crockett’s little daughter who is dying of dropsy - 4 years old.

Mr. Grant accompanied me. Under the Hill Mr. Botto joined us. Some few observed me as we drove through the streets. Several met me at the gate of the house. I went immediately to offer my thanks in Church. - Both bells were rung - & before I got thro’ my visit to the church - persons were coming in both there & to the house: - & oh ! what a greeting those good people gave me. The Sisters came crowding in more noisy than any others. - God only knows the happiness of all those hearts. - All had been praying fervently. Many had offered their Communion the first Sunday. All were now making the Novena of the Assumption - hearing Mass every morning. — What fervent thanks to God, what joyous congratulations to me. — I gave full scope to my joy. Personally I had endured no suffering. But I had seriously feared the dreadful consequences of desecrating the Church, & perhaps banishing all the Priests as the Order had declared. So that there was truly great reason for rejoicing that the cloud had passed & done no harm. -

The true cause is to be sought in the mercy of God, obtained by the intercession of our Holy Mother in answer to all the prayers offered not at Natchez only, but in Vicksburgh, N. Orleans, & no doubt everywhere that the fact was known.

For the immediate human instrument - many attribute it to the inter- ference of Adj. Genl. Thomas, who was in Natchez a few days ago. It appears that he was spoken to by Dr. Page - who has taken a great & very kind interest in my case - also by Mrs. Page - but most earnestly of all by good Nancy McGinnis, who lives at Dr. Page’s. - She has not yet told me her story.
She came running up this afternoon without her bonnet.

The wording of the Order seems to indicate a person acting somewhat angrily against his will. - There were various opport'ies. for the Genl. to recall me with better grace. - Especially when I asked him - July 20th. to take sworn testimony as to whether I had instigated hostilities. -

The reason that he gives for suspending Order 31, is really a severe condemnation both of Col. Farrar for issuing it & of himself for endeavoring to enforce it, because such prayer would have been offensive to God & subversive of sound morality - on the 16th. July when he wrote me that "Military Orders must be obeyed & not discussed" - & on the 26th July when he banished me for not pronouncing them - just as much as on the 12th. of August. —

It is strange too that while he says these prayers are so bad - he only suspends the Order requiring them "until further orders." -

The conclusion about leaving persons free to manifest their hostility, seems more than any other part to betray the petulance of a person doing something against his will. But I am thankful for the change in affairs: & if there were any opening for me to express my thanks I shd. be glad to do so. The wording of the Order effectually precludes it.

Aug. 13th. Visited the Asylums. Had calls from many.

Aug. 14th. XIII. S. After Pentec. Preached on the Gospel. Made no allusion to the events of the week, except to promise a remembrance in the Pontifical Mass to-morrow of all benefactors, especially of those who have been praying for me. - In the Sermon - I remarked incidentally that among the ten lepers were Jews & Samaritans, political enemies, & all united in the same prayer; that the Catholic Church wishes friends & enemies to unite before the same altar & say prayers common to all.

In the afternoon simple vespers. Litany of B. V. sung at Benediction. Daily, daily sung after it.

Sisters began their Retreat at 7 PM.

Mr. Buckley, nephew of Mrs. Arrighi, died at her house about 11 PM. His disease is thought by Mrs. Arrighi & Dr. Lyle to have been the Yellow Fever.


Aug. 22d. Fr. Grignon sent a written application to Brig. Genl. Brayman asking a pass to visit the United States Soldiers sick in the hospital.

Aug. 24th. Sisters’ Retreat closed this morning. At 8 AM. began the Retreat for 1st Communion & Confirmation. - This afternoon Mr. O’Cavanagh who took Fr. Grignon’s application to Head Quarters, read a verbal answer that if the Genl. shd. conclude to give a pass, he would send it.

Aug. 25th. I called on Adjt. Genl. Thomas to thank him for his interposition on behalf of the Cathedral & myself. For I had learned on good authority that he it was that obtained my recall. He received me very pleasantly. He seems to be a reasonable & a kind man. I told him of the refusal of the pass to visit the sick soldiers. He expressed his surprise & dislike: said he could not directly interfere but he would speak to the Commander. I told him also about the pressing of our horses: about our services to
the sick & the colored &c. &c. I told him that the wording of my recall, was illnatured & really insulting. That if there had been any opportunity given me to express agreeable sentiments I should have done so.

*Aug. 27th. Called again on Genl. Thomas. He said Genl. Brayman was disposed to grant the pass. (This was Monday - 29th.) He said Genl. B. thought we were making a triumph over him in the ringing of the bells at my return. I told him there was joy, but no triumph. The bells were rung both for joy & to announce the fact. If the Genl. intended to do a favor, he would feel complimented that we rejoiced & made the most of it.


In the afternoon vows & Consecration read in Sanctuary Bishop spoke before each - from Throne.

Tremendous storm chiefly of wind & lightning - with some rain & a little thunder.

Collection for Orphans to-day $143.

Saturday arrest of Judge Burnet of the Treasury.

Aug. 29th. Called on Genl. Thomas (recorded above Aug. 27.) Last week I began visiting the Louisiana Refugees at the Jefferson Hotel. Some 75 - chiefly women & children - There were more. Some have died & some gone North - or returned home. Great sickness, & poverty & dirt.

(* This entry is written in a small hand, as written after the Aug. 28th entry. Editor's comment.)

(** without followed by sto, which is cancelled. Evidently he started to write “stole” - then cancelled it.)
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Sep. 5th. Sent an application to Genl. Brayman for a Pass to visit the hospitals. Mr. James O'Cavanagh carried it. He was told to come to-morrow for the answer.

Septr. 6th. Mr. O'Cavanagh called this afternoon. He was told the answer was not ready. He then requested the Officer to send the answer whenever it should be ready. (No answer was sent.)

Septr. 9th. Friday. Began Novena for 7 Sorrows. Recited every morning after Mass, the 7 little prayers & Aves, found in the Raccolta no. 99, adding prayer for Peace. Omitted Litany &c. Wrote to Genl. Dana for Pass to visit Hospitals.

Septr. 11th. Sunday. Fr. Grignon still weak. I said the late Mass - & preached on the Love of God & of our Neighbor - the nature & the rules of these loves.

Septr. 13th. Mary Cooksey died at the Asylum. Mary Davis had been taken suddenly sick last week. She was baptized & anointed. She recovered. Cooksey had been in a decline for a good while.

Septr. 17th. Went to Small Pox Hospital - no one in danger.

Septr. 18th. Seven Sorrows. Fr. Heuzé had come in the middle of the week. He remained. Pontifical Mass, Anniversary of conclusion of 40 Hours 1862.
Septr. 19th. Monday. Visited Vidalia again. I have been there several times in the last two weeks to see the Louisiana Refugees. To-day I baptized two children dying. Mrs. Tipton - Mother to Mrs. McDowell is quite sick.

Some of these Louisiana Refugees are living out under trees; some with little shelter, & some with none.

No pass yet to visit hospitals.

Septr. 24th. Gave to Dr. McGraw the note drawn by me in his favor. It came into my hands by accident some months ago. Fr. Miller profited by his entrance into fort, to visit Marine Hospital. None dangerously ill.


Sep. 27th. St. Vincent’s death. Said Mass at the Sisters’. I offered a Votive Mass of the Immac. Conception. Afterwards Sister told me they had a rescript authorizing St. Vincent’s Mass to be said by all Priests in all the Sisters’ Chapels. She says she showed it to me when she first received it. Heavy storms of wind - little rain - at dinner time.

Sep. 28th. At 6 AM. Storm of wind & rain.

Sep. 29th. Baptized Mr. (John) Elmore Guice, at the Jefferson Hotel; & gave him all the last rites of the Church.

Mrs. Tipton is better. She is up.

Octr. 1st. Saturday - Went to the Small Pox Hospital - borrowing Mr. Signaigo's horse. No one sick. - In the afternoon gave Viaticum & Extreme Unction to the colored man Sandy, whom Fr. Charles baptized at the City Hospital. He was too weak for me to do more at the time. - He died the same night.

A vile article in the Freeman's Journal of the about the Commander here & Fr. Grignon.


Advised Fr. Grignon to send to the Natchez Courier a communication over his own name disclaiming all sanction of the various intemperate publications concerning the refusal of a pass to visit sick soldiers; & correcting some of the false statements.

To-day the guards are stopping men of all ages, & requiring them to get papers of either enrolment or exemption under the Order for enrolling the Militia. Old Dr. Lyle, & Mr. Dom. Arrighi were required to get them.


Octr. 9th. Sunday. Instruction on Matrimony: right & wisdom of the Church in making laws & necessity of obeying them: Enumeration of the chief impediments. Vespers at 4 PM.
Octr. 16th. Sunday. Motherhood of B.V.M. Instruction in Mixed Marriages. - Still visiting the City Hospital & the Jefferson Hotel: though there are not many sick. - No organist. Miss Mary Hollingsworth offered her services some time ago: as she did not wish to attend her own Church - Episcopalian. But Bishop Green's visit has altered the arrangements. The prayer for the authorities is no longer to be said - & she attends there again.

Octr. 18th. Visit from Mrs. McDowell of Vidalia, & Miss Forbes.

Octr. 19th. Sudden death of Mrs. William Lambert. She had been sick for two weeks, but not believed to be in danger. Yesterday she was sitting up: to-day she had eaten her breakfast with appetite. -


Octr. 25th. Called to Vidalia to see Mr. Moreau - Raining. Baptized a child of Mrs. Bert. Met Mr. Montpellier.

Octr. 26th. Went to Mr. Arrighi's.

29th. Father's Birth Day - 91 years. Mrs. Casey called to get $200.

30th. Sunday. Instruction on Celibacy & Virginity. Edgar Sweet died during Mass. - During dinner Sister called me to see Frances (Fanny) Snyder - dying. She had been baptized. I anointed her - gave her the Last Blessing & the Scapular. Had to anoint her per breviorem. Rained at times to-day. Called at the City Hospital & baptized Fayette (Joseph) Gibbons. Meeting of D'Evereux. They gave me $10 to be distributed in Charity.


Novr. 1st. All Saints. Fr. Grignon sang Mass. Sisters of Holy Cross with Capt. King of the Hospital Boat; were at High Mass. - Rained much.


Novr. 3rd. Mass for Propagation - at 6 AM. Low Mass by Bishop. Absolutio Tumuli by Fr. Grignon as yesterday. We ought to have had High Mass - but the choir is out of harmony & out of wind - no organist. Raining still. Miss McKenna from Jackson, La., called. Cannot get thro' the lines.
Novr. 4th. Friday - St. Charles's day. Raining yet

Novr. 5th

Novr. 6th. Sunday. Explained the Eight Beatitudes according to Goffini, & Evangile Medite &c. - In the afternoon our annual visit to the Cemetery. Began at 3 PM. ended before 4 PM. - threatening showers, as we had some in the morning, & a sprinkling just as we began. - No Priest but Fr. Grignon. Mr. Capdeville assisted in secular dress as marshal &c.

They are beginning to destroy our cemetery fence: which Genl. Crocker put up last October in consideration of the original one having been destroyed by the soldiers. Fr. Grignon wrote to Col. Preston, Commdg. in Fort McPherson, last Friday.


Much rain last week. Major Farrish & Major Turney, Paymasters arrived last week from St. Louis. Fr. Charles is unwell in St. Louis. I sent his winter clothes last Friday.

Novr. 16th. Requiem Mass for Bp. Van de Velde at 7 A.M. High Mass by Fr. Gr. with Absolutio Tumuli. After breakfast I learned that this is the day assigned by Mr. Davis for fasting & prayers in the Confederacy. Yesterday afternoon Mrs. Perrault's house was inspected by an Officer. - who says the Govt. wants the use of it. Yesterday morning an Order posted requiring disloyal occupants of property to report at Treasury.

Insane woman Giulia Piccoli from Ticino, Switzerland called here with Mrs. Grillo. Had work hard to get her away.

Novr. 20th. Sunday. Instruction on 1st Commandmt. Taken from beginning of Fr. Faber's Creator & Creature. Still raining at intervals.
Novr. 26th. Saturday - Recd. from Mr. Genella of Vicksburgh a Pass to visit V. & return - good for sixty days. By order of Genl. Dana. Sent for to visit Mrs. Lillard. Baptized her.

Novr. 27th. Sunday. 1st of Advent. Preached on the season. Major Turney dined with us.

Novr. 28th. Mr. Randolph & I started for Vicksburgh on the Jos. Pierce. Before starting, a detective - Nutterville spoke to me sociably, & I thought he was some member of the congregation whose face I had forgotten. Mr. R. told me afterwards who he was. - Met on the boat Mr. Drake of St. Louis, & Dr. Miller. - The clerk Mr. Shaw of Vicksburgh introduced himself: & Mr. Randolph introduced me to Mr. Campbell the Steward. All were very obliging.

Novr. 29th. Reached Vicksb. during the night. Mass at 6 1/2. Found the Sisters of Mercy in their Convent with a large school of boys & girls. - Four Sisters; viz. the Revd. Mother DeSales, & Sr. Ignatius Professed: Sr. Philomena, to make her profession in January, & Sr. Antonia, a Novice. - The three latter have each a classroom. Mother helps them by calling out a class to recite whenever she can - very often. I said Mass for them Thursday morning & gave them a Conference the same afternoon.

As their rule prescribes - with the permission of the Bishop - Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament every first Friday of the month in Honor of the Sacred Heart, & all the chief festivals, I gave them permission to have it in their chapel those days. And I promised to lend them an Ostensorly, also a Ciborium (Fr. Elia's,) & a Missal; till they get theirs which their Sisters now have in the hospital, at Shelby Springs, Alabama.

Genl. Dana has been very kind to the Sisters. He sent wagons & guards to bring their furniture from Major Cook's: & he gave them lumber to put up their fence. -

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I distributed the monthly medals & tickets to the boys Friday morning. I also saw the little girls of the Angels' Society - who have not yet made their 1st Communion. Each of them has undertaken to collect for the Orphans at Christmas. Two or three of them are also collectors for the Propagation. There is a beautiful spirit among them.

I was not sorry to learn that the young ladies who were keeping Catholic Schools, still have a large number of scholars, who cannot find room at the Sisters. I promised Fr. Heuzé to visit those schools at my next coming if the ladies desired it.

Novr. 30th. - Had a Conversation with Fr. O'Connor. I reminded him that his coming to Vicksburgh had been only a temporary arrangement, & that he must expect to go out on a Mission as soon as I can arrange for it.

Decr. 1st. Called on Genl. Dana, & asked him if he could permit Missionaries to go out of the lines. He said that only Genl. Canby of N. Orleans cd. grant that.

Yesterday I saw Mrs. Hayes - & the beautiful rochet that she has just finished for me. She began it four years ago.

Decr. 2d. Friday. Took passage on the Gray Eagle to return home.

Decr. 3rd. Reached home at dinner time. Fr. Grignon has been unwell. At 6 1/2 PM. began the Retreat for the girls of the Asylum - to end on the Conception.


Decr. 8th. These last three days I have been engaged from morning till night with the Retreat. Concluded this morning.

A call from Capt. Wright of Gunboat Avenger with Paymaster - & also Mrs. Jones & Mrs.
Decr. 10th. Mrs. Jones - lately from Port Gibson made a long visit &
told me much about Fr. Huber, & Fr. Mouton - as also about Fr.
Elia's congregation. I called on Mr. Cotter - who has had a hemorrhage
this week.

Decr. 11th. Sunday - Solemnity of Immac. Conception. Preached
on the festival, chiefly from Fr. Faber’s & Bp. Ullathorne’s little
books.

Decr. 12th. Mass at 6 1/2 during the rest of Advent.

Decr. 13th. Called on Mrs. Page.

'' 14th. Called again spoke about the poor family camped in our
lot, wanting a pass to go out home - near Monticello - named Garvill.

Decr. 25th. Christmas Day - Fr. Grignon not well. No other Priest
here nor Seminarian. I had to arrange Rubrics to suit circumstances.
I sang both Masses - in Pontifical vestments - with Fr. Grignon in
surplice to assist me. - & the boys to wait on me. Fr. Grignon sang
the Epistle - I sang the Gospel at the Throne. - I preached at both
Masses.

It rained hard the night before - & rained some Xmas. morning.

Our Sanctuary was decorated with the Episcopal Chair & Prié Dieu -
the joint gift of Major Farrish (who was baptized here last Easter
Week) & of the ladies who raised a contribution last summer during
my exile to make an offering.

Major Clark played the organ for us - & the Music was very good.

Decr. 26th. Said Mass at the Asylum at 6 AM. At 10 AM. started on
the Joseph Pierce for Vicksburgh.

Decr. 27th. Reached Vicksburgh early -
1864

Decr. 29th. 30th. 31st. - Gave the Retreat to the Sisters - for the renewing of their vows - & for the profession of Sr. Philomena.
Jany. 1st. Sunday - gave the black veil to Sr. Philomena at early Mass in the Sisters' Chapel. Took breakfast with the Sisters. Preached in Church - Paulist sermon on our Account with God. Instruction to children in the afternoon - on our Lord's love for children.

Jany. 6th. Friday - Epiphany - Mass at 9 AM. Preached on the festival.

During all this week & for several weeks after - I was much occupied with Confessions & Instructions. Heard Confessions every morning after my Mass.

Jany. 8th. Sunday - Fr. Charles writes that he will come in a few days.

Jany. 10th. Tuesday - I allowed Fr. Heuzé to leave the Missions to go to be a religious among the Marists. It is with great pain. He is most exemplary & zealous - a Missionary invaluable. But he has been begging ever since the siege was over: - & he is really unhappy with the delay.

Jany. 22d. Sunday. I baptized Mrs. Theobald, & her Sister Miss Klott; solemnly before Vespers.


Several times during this stay in Vicksburg, I
spent the afternoon recreations with the Sisters - giving them aid in various little ways.

Jany. 31st. A rheumatic pain in my back compelled me to go to bed - mustard foot bath - hot tea - hot bottle - hot liniment - some perspiration - Dr.

Febry. 1st. Did not say Mass but got up for breakfast - & staid up.


Febry. 3rd. Fr. Charles not come yet - but Fr. McCabe from All Hal-lows has arrived in Natchez, & I have written for him to come.

As the Archbp. of Baltimore has given occupations to three of our Missionaries - & he begs me to leave two of them at least - I have agreed to let Fr. O'Connor go there; & have all the others to come on to Natchez. - The draft is to take place in a few days - & it is getting more difficult to get passes - Hence I advised Fr. O'Connor to start at once. Mr. Hall got his pass - & he left to-day.

Febry. 5th. Fr. McCabe not arrived. I had to do every thing & say both Masses. - At night I had a long muddy tramp looking for that case of small pox.

Febry. 8th. Fr. McCabe arrived.

Febry. 12th. I baptized seven Adults - after the Early Mass.

Febry. 14th. Started for Natchez on the Pierce.

Febry. 15th. Reached Natchez. 9 1/2 AM. Said Mass. - Gave Fr. Grignon the Negatives for my
Photographs. - At 11 1/2 went to the Orphans' Fair in Institute Hall - which opened yesterday evening. Genl. Davidson, Commander present. The St. Aloysius Soc. of Young Ladies got up the Fair. Mrs. Izod was chose President. Mrs. A. L. Wilson was present & active - & many other Protestant Ladies - besides the Gentlemen - Mr. Merrick - Mr. Wm. Shields - Mr. Graham - Major Clark - &c. also all labored hard in decorating the hall. - Met the Sisters there. - Was introduced to Rev. Dr. Boyd, Episcopal Minister & Mrs. B. Mr. B. entertained us with some accts. of his visits to the Holy Father & the Holy Places.

Febry. 20th. The Fair continued till Saturday at almost Midnight - five nights. The net proceeds were $5,643.

One of these days I called on Genl. Davidson. He received me very kindly. Promised to have our cemetery fence restored. Consented to let Mrs. Norton come in to see the Doctor. - He was baptized in California, by Fr. Raho: he was impressed with the death of one of his Brother Officers. He has not yet made his First Comm.

Febry. 23rd. John Shehan died in the morning - & John Hughes in the afternoon - both before I could reach them! - Fr. Grignon is unwell.

Febr. 25th. Mr. Musix was killed out in the country. Fr. Grignon went to the Funeral.

Febry. 26th. Sunday - The Bishop alone - had to do all. Mrs. Doran is helping us as Sacristan.
March 4th. Execution of two men for having part in the murder of Mr. Sergeant, last June.

Yesterday afternoon I heard of their case; & went down The Prov. Marshall Capt. Hubbard went with me. It was Mr. Patrick Rush that brought me the word. - Dr. Perry of the Episc. Church had been there and baptized one - & he was to come there this morn.g to accompany them to execution. But they begged me to stay. They wanted religious instruction. They said it was so long to wait till Dr. P. wd. come I staid with them - with an interval for our Church devotion - till 10 1/2 PM. - This morn.g. I went down immediately after taking coffee. I first wrote to Dr. Perry that they had asked me to receive them into the Cath. Church & I had done so. - I gave them Holy Communion. - Dr. Perry came about 10 AM. & claimed prior right. The Lieut. on guard agreed with me, that the men ought to choose for themselves - & they said before Dr. P. that they wanted me. - The Provost Marshall decided in favor of the Dr.'s prior claim. I went to Genl. Davidson, & he ordered that the men be left to choose for themselves. - I accompanied them to execution. They were both very penitent - We talked together all the way.


March 8th. Wednesday - To my happy amazement Fr. Charles Van Queckelberge arrived. He has been in St. Louis since October. Four times he prepared to start, & every time he was taken sick. I had given up all hopes of his coming. I had left Fr. McCabe in Vicksburgh temporarily, intending to go into the interior & bring one of the other Priests. - Fr. Charles has been improving in health during his passage. Installed him at once as Pastor of Vicksburgh.

March 12th. Sunday. II of Lent. First Communion at early Mass. Confirmation after High Mass. Confirmed I believe 104. (N.B. The lighted candles are not only a danger & a distraction - for fear of fire to the veils - but they hinder the children from reading their prayer books. They might be lighted for a little while & then extinguished.)

Renewal of vows between Vespers & Benediction - read by one boy at the railing. - All had printed copies. After Benediction - a little festivity at the Sisters. Rather noisy. We ought to have ended by a little visit to the Chapel or a prayer.

Revd. Mother is gone out to try to see her Sisters in Alabama - & bring in a Novice who is there.

They have begun building a school house - two stories - frame - one room on each floor.

It is wonderful & delightful - what a spirit of piety & zeal the Sisters are giving to the children - & how the children are influencing their Parents - & the other children. There are three Catholic ladies keeping private schools, all in good harmony with the Sisters.

March 14th. Took the Pierce to return to Natchez. On the boat Mr. Wood of Indiana told me of the Carroll children four entire orphans - left on Sergeant's place now staying with Mr. Anderson, near New Carthage. I agreed to take them for our Asylums.


March 25th. Mass at 7 AM. with a brief fervorino on the Annunciation. Fr. Grignon said Mass at the Sisters:

March 26th. Sunday IV of Lent. Fr. Grignon sick. I said both Masses. Sisters of Holy Cross from Hospital Boat, called.

March 27th. Mr. Hugh McDermott & Mr. Monahan brought us a horse, saddle & bridle, spurs & whip: - a handsome present. -
Extract - II

The Colonel Commanding this District, having been officially notified that the Pastors of many Churches in this city neglect to make any public recognition of allegiance to the Government under which they live, and to which they are indebted for protection; and further, that the regular form of prayer for "The President of the United States and all others in authority," prescribed by the ritual in some Churches, and by established custom in others, has been omitted in the stated services of Churches of all denominations, it is hereby ORDERED that hereafter, the Ministers of such Churches as may have the prescribed form of prayer for the President of the United States, shall read the same at each and every Service in which it is required by the rubrics; and that those of other denominations which have such form, shall on like occasions, pronounce a prayer appropriate to the times and expressive of a proper spirit toward the CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Any Minister failing to comply with these orders will be immediately prohibited from exercising the functions of his office in this city, and render himself liable to be sent beyond the lines of the United States forces, at the discretion of the Colonel Commanding.

The Provost Marshal is charged with the execution of this order.

By Command of B. G. FARRAR
Colonel Commanding

(Signed) Jas. E. Montgomery, Ass’t Adjt. Gen.
(Official) G. D. Reynolds, Major and Provost Marshal
Natchez, June 28 - 4t
Extract V. It appears that while the country was at peace, William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez, caused to be read, as a portion of the proper and recognized religious service of the Roman Catholic Church within his ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the usual prayer for the President of the United States, &c., whereby was signified and taught a true and loyal spirit towards the Government and authorities of the United States, and a pious desire for the prosperity and maintenance thereof.

It further appears, that after the establishment of the pretended Government of the "Confederate" States of America, in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States, and in treasonable and armed rebellion against the same, the said William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez, did cause to be abolished and stricken from the proper and usual service of the Roman Catholic Church within his ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the prayer for the President of the United States, &c., and did substitute and cause to be read in place thereof, a like prayer for the President of the pretended "Confederate" States, &c., whereby he publicly renounced his allegiance to the Government of the United States, and declared allegiance to a power then in armed resistance against the same, and compassing its overthrow; such act being in violation of his duty as a citizen of the United States, and of evil example to those under his ecclesiastical authority; he well knowing that thereby was instigated and promoted, rebellion and armed hostility against the lawful authority of the United States.

It furthermore appears, that on the 18th of June, ultimo, a Special Order (No. 31) was issued by the officer then commanding the United States Forces at Natchez, requiring that the prayer for the President of the United States, &c., should be restored and appropriately read as part of Divine Service, (as had been the custom aforetime in the Roman Catholic Church at Natchez.)

The said William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez, being still in rebellion against the United States, and ill disposed towards the government thereof: not having repented of, not retracted his treasonable conduct and teachings as aforesaid, but on the contrary repudiating and denying the authority of the Government, and its officers in that behalf; and having for a long time, though frequently warned, contumaciously refused, and still utterly refusing obedience to said order; thus encouraging the people under his authority in treasonable practices, and impairing the force of discipline! It is therefore ORDERED:
First. That the said William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez, be expelled from the lines of the Army of the United States, not to return without permission, on pain of imprisonment during the continuance of the rebellion.

Second. That the Provost Marshal close, and hold military possession of St. Mary’s Cathedral, situate in the city of Natchez, and all other houses or places of worship within this command, and under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of said Bishop William H. Elder in which the prayer for the President of the United States has heretofore been, but is not now, read.

Inasmuch, however, as the said Bishop William H. Elder, has requested in a respectful manner, that any action under said order No. 31, be suspended “until communication can be had with the authorities at Washington:” It is further,

ORDERED:

That action under said order No. 31, and the paragraphs “First” and “Second” of this order, be accordingly suspended until further orders; and that, in the meantime the Provost Marshal of Natchez, cause the said William H. Elder, Bishop of Natchez, to report in person, within Twenty-four (24) hours after receiving a copy of this order, to the Officer commanding the U.S. Forces at Vidalia, and remain within his military lines under penalty of the immediate execution of the before named orders.

The Provost Marshals at Natchez and Vidalia, respectively, will see to the strict observance of this order.

By order of Brig. Gen. M. Brayman

J. H. Odlin, Capt. and Ass’t Adjt. Gen.
SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 31

EXTRACT:

I. Military Authority having been, for the time vindicated, so much of Special Order No. 11, as requires Rev. William Henry Elder, Bishop of Natchez, to remain within the Military lines of the Post of Vidalia, La., is suspended, and he may return to his home and duties, until the pleasure of the War Department be known, in his case.

And as all solemn appeals to the Supreme Being, not proceeding from honest hearts, and willing minds, are necessarily offensive to Him, and subversive of sound morality, so much of Special Order No. 31, June 18, 1864, as requires public prayer to be pronounced, in behalf of the President of the United States, and the Union, is suspended until further orders; leaving all persons conducting Divine Worship, at liberty to manifest such measure of hostility, as they may feel, against the Government and Union of these States, and their sympathy with the rebellion, by omitting such supplication, if so minded.

By order of Brig. Gen'l M. BRAYMAN
J. H. Odlin, Ass’t Adj’t. Gen.

Official: C. B. Smith, Lieut. and A. D. C.
Natchez, Aug. 23 - - 3t