



Antoinette Fage and Etienne Pernet

Founders of the Little Sisters of the Assumption

Presented via

- *A portrait*
- *An objet*
- *Writings they loved*
- *A place*
- *Their writings*
- *A manuscript*

A portrait

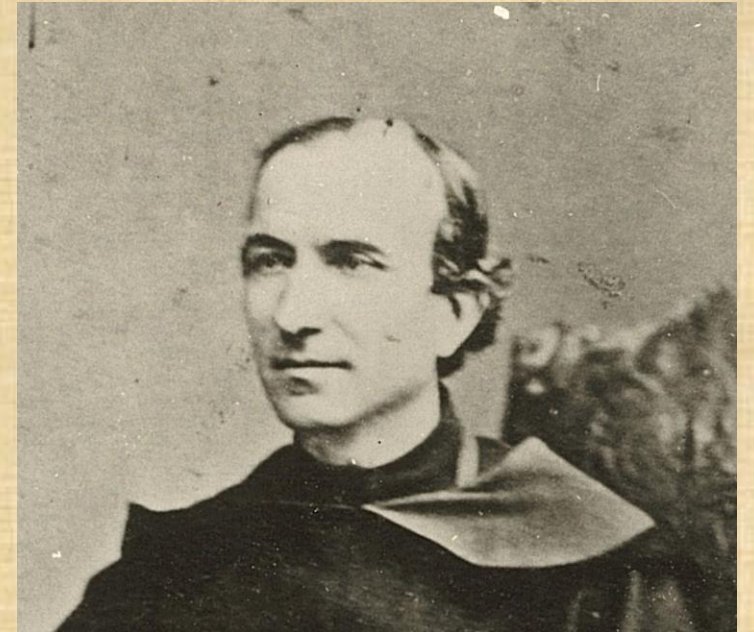
Antoinette



These two portraits date from roughly the same period: 1865, at the time of the Congregation's founding.

Antoinette wears the small bonnet that would later become the one worn by postulants in the Congregation. Both are around 40 years old.

Etienne



An object

Antoinette



Medallion containing a list of the first LSAs

Etienne



Painting by Father d'Alzon which was in Etienne's room on rue François 1^{er}

Favorite text or quote

We lack information about the writings that the founders loved. We must therefore make assumptions about quotes or excerpts that may have touched them or shaped their personality or spirituality.

Antoinette

Letter of Etienne P. to Antoinette on January 22, 1866:

*"I open myself to you, my daughter, you must see it, you are doing the same on your side; **this is a guarantee of a good and lasting understanding. I am convinced that it will be so until the end. until we have***

Etienne

Letter from Father d'Alzon to Father Pernet, September 11, 1849

"I can assure you, my dear friend, that you are the most mistaken in the world to believe yourself a stranger among us [...], and I assure you, I see you as a son whom I love with all my heart."

Un lieu

Antoinette

Grenelle, Motherhouse of the Congregation



Etienne

Velleuxon, native village



A text

Antoinette

Letter to Mrs. Tubino, a young sick woman cared for by
Mother Mary of Jesus, February 1869

*“I am therefore happy, yes, very happy
at this moment to place at your
disposal **this immense need that He
has deigned to arouse in my heart to
sympathize with all the and all the
ills and to strive by all means to
alleviate them.** Thus, dear child, if,
near you, I have the happiness of
being able to do something, you
acquire a right to my gratitude, since
you provide my heart with great
consolation.”*

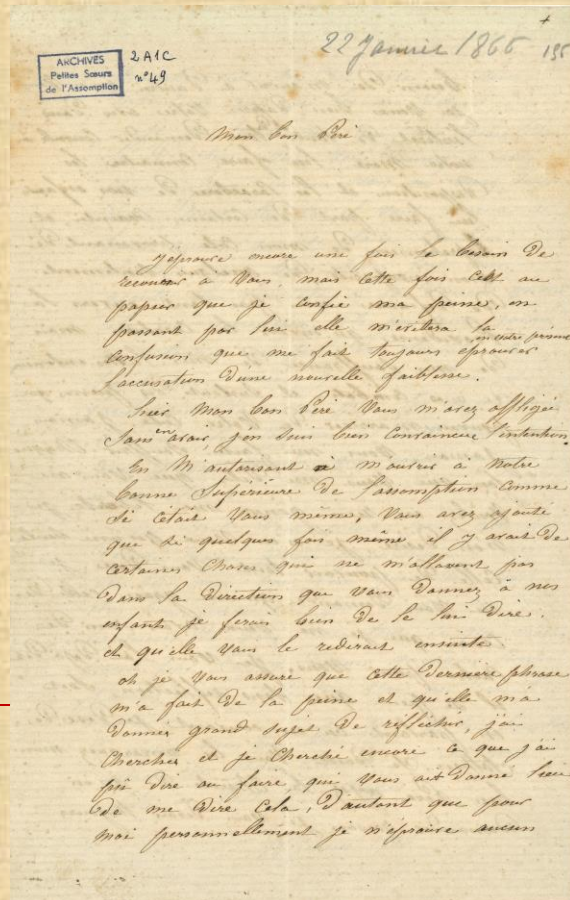
Etienne

Instruction of July 19, 1894

**“Your predilection must be for the
poor and not only must you respect
them but love them with a love (...)
which will have no limits because of
their dignity** which they derive from
the fact that Our Lord wanted to be
one of them and the first.”

A manuscript

Antoinette

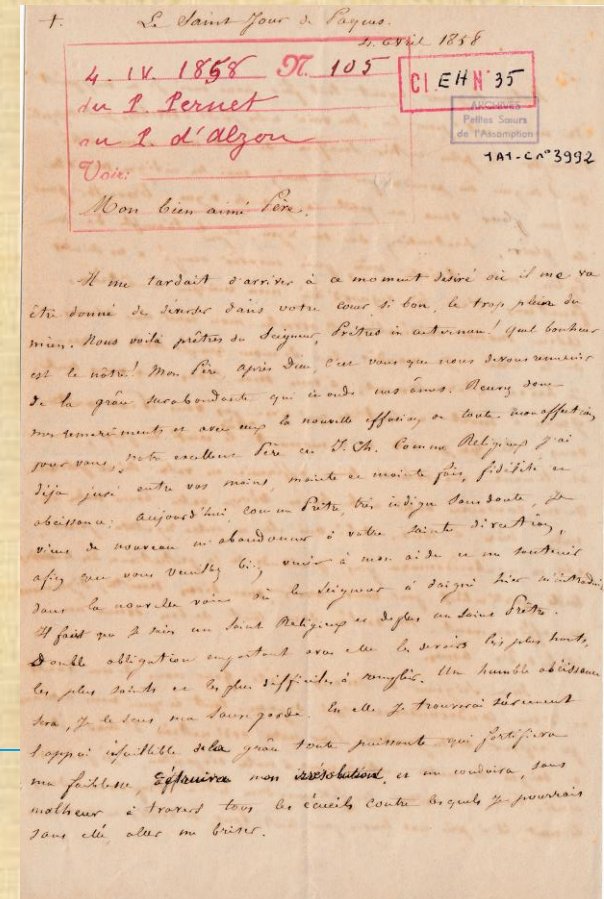


Letter from Etienne Pernet to Father d'Alzon the day after his priestly ordination (April 4th, 1858)

Letter from Antoinette Fage to Etienne Pernet (January 22, 1866)

(voir page suivante pour un extrait de ces lettres)

Etienne



A manuscript

(Extracts from the manuscripts proposed on the previous page)

Antoinette

Je ne trouve rien qui me gêne Dans
la Direction que Vous Donnez à nos
Chers enfants, jamais vous ne serez trop
Doux pour elles car il vaut mieux se
faire aimer que se faire Craindre.
Surtout que Vous sachiez fort bien
ajouter la fermeté à la Douceur quand
Cela est nécessaire. Si pourtant j'avais

"I find nothing that bothers me in the direction
you are giving to our dear children. **You will
never be too gentle with them because it is
better to be loved than to be feared.**"

Etienne

Mon bien aimé Père,

Il me tardait d'arriver à ce moment désiré où il me va
être donné de s'insérer dans votre cœur, si bon, le trop plein de
mien. Nous voilà prêtres du Seigneur, Prêtres in æternum! Quel bonheur
est le nôtre! Mon Père, après Dieu, c'est vous que nous devons remercier
de la grâce surabondante qui inonde nos âmes. Neury sou-

"My beloved Father, I have been longing for this moment
when I will be able to pour into your heart the overflow
of mine. **Here we are, priests of the Lord, Priests in
aeternum! What happiness is ours!**"