



THE BLACK BOX TREASURES (#37)

There is an interesting term called the “black box theory”. It speaks about an object which can be analyzed in terms of its input and output, but there is no knowledge of its internal workings...

The big (and small) dreams of our Founders #37

It is fascinating to read the letters of our Founders. It is fascinating to learn about our Fathers’ joys and hopes. Seeing their different efforts, one may clearly see how great was their love for the Church and Community. One thing is for sure, they were not afraid to think big! They dared to think big while planning the expansion of the Congregation. While they dared to think big despite difficult situations, they were trusting sincerely in God’s providence. They dreamed big about the future of the Community. In spite of the fact that they entertained those “big” they also encountered the “smalls” wrapped up in their personal small plans and dreams.

This newsletter begins a mini series concerning one of those dreams... namely a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The dream that they shared together...

From the letters of Fr. Jerome Kasiewicz, C.R. and Fr. Peter Semenenko, C.R. we learn that the idea of going to Jerusalem was their heart felt desire for many years. In the case of Fr. Peter that dream was fulfilled in 1885, a year before his death. Unfortunately, Fr. Jerome was not so lucky.

One of the first signs of planning to go to Jerusalem is found in the letter of Fr. Jerome to Fr. Peter written on August 6, 1844. When Fr. Kajsiewicz learned that Alfred Bentkowski (one of our members) was planning to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, he writes that he “envies Alfred’s pilgrimage” also saying that he hadn’t even yet visited Loreto or Assisi (neither of which is not very far from Rome). Obviously, at that time, he could not know that his life would be filled with different and fascinating trips.... The proof of those journeys are the different stamps found in his passport which is part of this issue of the BBT.

(Jerome Kajsiewicz, C.R., Letter to Peter Semenenko, dated August 6, 1844, ACRR 5274)

I envy Alfred's pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Oh if this could only take place during my vacation also! I who have not been to either Assisi or Loreto. I have a slight hope that Mrs. Sohyk will keep her former promise. She wrote to me with great confidence concerning an important matter of conscience, and I feel that my reply will calm her a little. If she were to offer me an alms, I would accept a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. But everything, Oh my God: if you wish it so. I do not wish it otherwise. But God is so good, that whatever I wished He gave me, sooner or later. O most dear Jesus, how good it is to serve such a Lord!

1272

Vu au Consulat de France aux Etats Unis
Bon pour la France par le vice
directeur sur le Navire "Perse"

Vu au Vice Consulat de France
Bon pour Constantinople
Andrinople le 12. Aout 1872
Le Vice Consul de France

N° 2591

N° 2591

1872

Le Consul Général



Le Consul Général
de Constantinople
empêché par délégation
de Charcotier.



E. Mallat

Barthand #222

N° 730 687
Art. 18
Droit 5 fr.

Vu à la Légation de France
Bon pour l'Autriche et la Turquie
Rome le 20 Mai 1872.

Visto in nome S. S. Ambasciata
buono per S. S. Stati
Costantinopoli li 20 Agosto
1872

Le Ministre des Affaires
Étrangères
Le Chancelier de la Légation

H. Dreyfus Joffe



Kaisewick
Abbi Jerome

Vu à la légation Impériale de Turquie
Bon pour la Turquie
Rome le 22 Mai 1872.

Baron Cassin de
1872 Aug. 17

Ungyind.



28/5/72

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