My dear Sisters:

It gives me great pleasure to be able to send you Father Bessieux, recently returned from Guinea, who will speak to you about our beloved Negroes, and will show you how great is their wretchedness and want. He will at the same time tell you about the trials and difficulties associated with the work. I feel sure that your hearts are very sad because you are unable to go immediately to help so many unfortunate souls who are perishing because none are found to give them help.

Still, I do not doubt that you have placed your good wishes in the hands of Mary, and that you are waiting with confidence, peace and humility, until it pleases divine Goodness to make use of you in the service of those wretched souls. His divine Providence will arrange everything for the best and will inspire your good Mother to send you, if it be God's will. It is for you to remain in your readiness before God.

Do you remember the laborers of whom Jesus spoke in the Gospel? They did not go to the field of the father of the family until they were sent. Those who remained idle until the last hour, had an excellent answer for the lord who asked them why they remained idle: "No one has hired us for the work." They were ready and anxious to work but they waited until he employed them. They were called at the last hour and received a reward for the whole day.
LETTER TO SEVERAL SISTERS

Be at peace, therefore, training your souls in all the religious virtues. Wait until the divine voice tells you to go and then march on. Do not force God, as it were, to accept your services and especially before the time determined in His eternal decrees. He is the Master, you are the servants. A servant does not force her mistress to give her one particular job, but is ready to do the work her mistress chooses for her and at the time her mistress gives her the order. Now that job, the souls you want to belong to Him, is God's work, and by helping them you serve His glory. Hence it is solely in His interest and for His glory that you desire to work. It belongs to Him to give the orders; it is your task to obey.

If He considers it proper to wait, you cannot question His decision, but must wait also. When He waits patiently, you must act likewise. Surely you will not say that you are more eager to serve His glory than He is Himself? Do you imagine that you love souls more and have greater compassion for their misery than God?

I do not think you make such claims. But I am not thinking about that; I am preaching to converts. Hence, I will content myself with praying for your perseverance in humility, peace, patience, complete submission to the divine will, and abandonment of your entire selves with all your desires, affections and dispositions to Jesus and Mary, in whose charity I am,

Your most devoted servant,

Francis Libermann
Priest of the Holy Heart of Mary