

Claret and Antonia París committed to giving birth to a “New Order”

BEING IN SANTIAGO... THE INTRICATE WAYS TO THE FOUNDATION...

With all these elements, he put together a dossier and on December 9, 1852, he wrote to the Captain General of the Island, sending him the request for the foundation with all the documentation of the dossier to be submitted to the Queen. “I am pleased to accompany Your Excellency with the file on the canonical and legal creation in this city of the Institute of the Society of Mary (vulgo) Teaching, which has been promoted by four novice sisters from the Convent of Tarragona, who, full of charity and zeal, have left their country and convent to go to render their services where they are most needed, and I am pleased to be able to announce... that I have the best antecedents of them, embellishing them with virtues that make them highly recommendable”, asking him “to raise this file to the supreme resolution of Her Majesty Isabella II... in case she sees fit to approve the formal installation and make this new Religious house a participant in all the advantages that the Government reserves for those that are to be established as a consequence of the new arrangement of the Regular Clergy of this Island”.

The correspondence about the foundation with Bishop Caixal is very frequent. On December 23, 1852, he informed him, “...to let you know how the Nuns are doing well and are very much appreciated and to establish themselves in order, they have submitted a request to the Vice Royal Patronage accompanied by the most favourable information from the general of this department and myself; another from the ecclesiastical council and another from the civil council and we hope for the happiest result; they are all good, happy and cheerful”.

Perhaps because of Caixal's lack of understanding of the delay and the complexity of the procedures, in a letter of 27 April 1853, he reminds him that “I told you at the beginning when we tried to send the sisters that in this part of America there are more difficulties than in the Peninsula in setting up Institutes by reason of the Royal Patronage because they have to follow the procedures laid down in the laws..... But... the Captain General has told me that... once the procedures required by the laws have been completed, the Sisters will be able to open their public schools and teach, etc. They are all very happy and robust”.