

s- Elet?

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

" Univ. of N.D. du Lac Jany 20th / 51

V.Rev. & dear Sir

Mr. A Coquillard of S.Bend has, this day handed me a letter of the Rev.F.Hoekan, dated Dec last from Bellevue & stating that he will likely go thence to St.Louis. Mr. C. requests me to beg of your Reverence in behalf of the excellent above missionary, leave to come & assist him to gather & move down to the far west a number of Indians scattered around here & with whom he is well acquainted already. Mr.C. has now a regular contract with the Government & will only wait for an answer to this in order to commence. I need not add, how glad we should all feel in seeing again this good father; but I must not conceal from you that unless he comes & speaks himself to those good Indians, many will never move, & when I consider the extreme dangers to which they are just at this time exposed, I cannot hesitate in saying that his visit here must be attended with truly important results. If then in any possible I would entreat your Rev.to grant him & all of us this present favor...Meanwhile I remain Se in J.M.J.
E.Sorin.

(There is nothing to indicate to whom the letter was addressed.Undoubtedly it was V.Rev.John Anthony Elet,S.J., who was then Superior of the Jesuits in the west.

The expression "if then in any possible" is copied exactly;clearly it should be edited:If then it is in any way possible. "Se" probably is for Servant.

Hoekan should be spelled Hoecken. The story of Father Christian Hoecken's visit to Indiana may be seen in Father G.J.Garraghan's The Jesuits in the Middle United States vol.II,pp.626-27.)