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Natchez, Adams Co. Miss. March 25th 1873

Very Rev. E. S. S. C. S. C.
Superior General

Very Rev. dear Sir

Have you need in any of your institutions of a Priest, of fine English education, & a good writer - with taste for teaching? - There is a Priest of my diocese possessing these qualifications - Rev. Mr. Simonsen who at the same time is not well suited for our Missions. I tell you candidly the reason - he has sometimes used too much drink. His letters to me express excellent sentiments, not only of repentance, but of reliance on divine grace more than on his own resolutions. But our Missions are far separated, & there is a great deal of travelling to be done - & consequently to place him on them, would be to expose him to grievous temptations. Whereas in a house with fellow Priests to encourage him, & Superiors to admonish him & rules to direct him - he is capable of rendering great service to education & religion. -

If you know of any place where his services are desirable, I will be thankful to learn of it.

Please present me to the Rev. Gentlemen around you
& with a remembrance in the Holy Sacrament

Yours servant in Christ

W. H. Elder

Bishop of Natchez