

### **13. How Clorivière lives his imprisonment**

*Although constantly awaiting a trial date or a release, in uncertainty for the future, and great difficulties in the Societies, Clorivière lives this ordeal peacefully.*

Extract from his memoir to Pius VII (HD p. 308-309)

"By a singular blessing from God, this detention is not at all painful for me, because although I dare not say that I suffer this for Christ, however I suffer as an innocent, which certainly does not give me a slight joy of the heart. And I am convinced that all this happened by a ruse of the devil who tries so hard to prevent the work of God which has been entrusted to me in spite of my unworthiness. However, the Holy Scriptures are a great consolation to me, and I gladly spend all the time of my captivity in interpreting and explaining the two canonical Epistles of Saint Peter, in which the principal tenets of the Christian religion seem to me to be admirably stated "

Extracts from different letters gathered by Morlot p. 166-167 (in the biography)

More than forty letters from this period speak of resignation, and above all of surrender to God.

"As for my freedom, I don't care for it in the least, I sacrificed it to the Lord; the Master will return it to me, when he pleases. "My situation is not too difficult for me. The Lord lightens the pain by consolations, which He makes me taste; and by the satisfaction that I had to do something for his service. "" Let us wait; the Lord knows better than we do, the most convenient time. We lose nothing by waiting with him; and when he delays for a long time to give us what we ask him with perseverance but with resignation, he then grants it in a

way which more than compensates us ... As for me, I can assure you, that I have no trouble in complying my will with his. "What Mr. Lami, of Saint-Malo, says, that one does not easily believe in the behavior that I experience in my prison also has something humiliating for me; for it seems, or that they believe I have very little virtue, not to bear with joy such a small suffering or that I pretend to have feelings that I do not possess, or that I am criminal, or that they themselves , which I do not allow myself to think, do not know the price of suffering. "" It is not men, it is God who retains me here; he will deliver me, when he wishes. I only want the fulfillment of his will. However, I am very grateful for what is being done to give me freedom. "