

1469: *To the Royal Bavarian Cabinet Treasury*

[December 1842]

J! M!

Royal Bavarian Cabinet Treasury!

Complying with the request made by the royal cabinet treasury, the respectfully undersigned submits her response regarding the candidate, Johanna Meierhofer, who has completed the studies required for a teacher. With the help of God, she will be able to reach her goal after one year of secular probation in the candidature, followed by one year of spiritual probation in the novitiate.

Since she brought no money from home, Johanna will need 200 florin [\$80] for board for two years and 150 florin [\$60] for clothing, bedding, books, and similar needs, therefore, 350 florin [\$140] in all.

In order to be accepted as a candidate into the religious institute of the Poor School Sisters, the young woman must be in good health, be of legitimate birth of respectable parents, and have a good reputation.

She must be between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four. If she is between fifteen and eighteen, she will be prepared for teaching in both theory and practice. A postulant who is over eighteen is required to have completed her studies for teaching, and a postulant who is twenty-four is required to have passed the final legal teaching examination. In any case, this examination must be passed before profession.

Girls who come between the ages of twelve and fifteen will join the boarders. A list of requirements for the boarders is respectfully enclosed.

The young woman also needs the necessary textbooks and school materials for writing, drawing, needlework, and music,

in addition to her bed, linens, clothing, and so forth.

The annual fee for board is 100 florin [\$40], which is payable in advance every six months. This amount does not cover additional expenses due to illness or any other expenses for personal needs, and she must pay for these until profession. If a young woman has already completed the required studies for teaching and is of the legally prescribed age, and if she can reach her goal after one year of secular probation and one year of spiritual probation, the cost of her board for two years is 200 florin [\$80]. She will also need an additional 150 florin [\$60] for her other needs.

The young woman must have promising talent, a cheerful disposition, motherly love for children, gentleness, and a spirit of adventure. Her whole outward appearance must harmonize with these qualities.

She may not take this step out of necessity or force or for the sake of being cared for in earthly things because then she will not persevere. She must have the pure intention of serving God, especially in the little ones.

She must be resolved to go to the mission houses where obedience calls her.

She may not have worn another religious habit.

She must acquire the necessary certificates and then present herself in person at the motherhouse in order to test her vocation.

Respectfully yours,

M. Theresa of Jesus

Superior of the Poor School Sisters of Notre Dame