Repository:  DePaul University, Special Collections and Archives Department  
2350 N. Kenmore Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60614, USA

Title:  Provincial Files 1873-1879: Rev. James Rolando, C.M.  
Creator:  Rev. James Rolando, C.M.  
Dates:  1875-1879  
Quantity: 2 inches (1 half size box)  
Physical Location: 4th floor stacks 16/A/2

History:
Rev. James Rolando, C.M. served as Provincial of the American Province from February 11, 1873 to February 21, 1879. A summary of his administration is included in The American Vincentians edited by Rev. John Rybolt. “Fr. Rolando appointed the first mission band in the province and thus began the work of systematizing the Vincentian parish missions. He also accepted the direction of St. Vincent’s parish in Chicago, Illinois. In 1877, Rev. Eugene Bore, the Superior General, sent Rev. Mariano Maller to make a special visitation of the province. Fr. Maller’s comprehensive report identified that debts were a major problem in the province. The matter of indebtedness in the province was a matter of grave concern. European Vincentians traditionally had a horror of contracting debts. The situation in the United States was quite different. American Vincentians explained to the superiors in Paris that indebtedness carried no stigma and that even the bishops in America were in debt. Nevertheless, the province was in a fragile financial situation. The province did not have a treasurer and the provincial only had a limited acquaintance with the finances of the individual houses. Local superiors and treasurers were free to contract debts on their own. In his report, Fr. Maller pointed out that the debts had been incurred before Fr. Rolando’s appointment as Provincial, though he doubted that Fr. Rolando was the man to remedy it. In 1879, Fr. Rolando resigned, ostensibly because of ill-health and became the director of novices in Germantown, a position he held until his death on 26 November 1883.”

Scope and Content:
The Provincial Files of Rev. James Rolando contain correspondence documenting the administration of the American Province including personnel issues, parishes in need of repair, and financial matters. The collection includes original handwritten letters and notes as well as photocopies of letters written by Fr. Rolando. The photocopies of correspondence appear to be made by Vincentian scholar, Rev. John Rybolt, C.M. as he researched the history of the Congregation of the Mission in the United States and collected copies other archival repositories.

Arrangement of Collection:
The Provincial Files 1873-1879: Rev. James Rolando, C.M. includes three file folders of correspondence. The letters are arranged according to their format (original or photocopies) and then arranged chronologically.

Conditions Governing Access:  Materials in the Provincial Files generated within the last 25 years as of the present date are made available subject to the permission of the current Visitor (Provincial) of the Western Province of the Congregation of the Mission. Permission to publish
records in their entirety of a substantial portion thereof must be requested in writing prior to publication from the Visitor. The researcher has the sole responsibility for obtaining this written permission. (DRMA Access and Use Policies, August 22, 2005)

**Language Materials:** These materials are in English and French.

**Accession Information:** 2001.62

**Processing Information:** July 2009, Ben Martorell

**Related Collections:** Personnel Files: Rev. James Rolando, C.M.

**Inventory:**
**Series 1 – Provincial Files**

The Provincial Files series contains original and photocopies of correspondence dated from 1875 to 1879. The original letters are listed chronologically, followed by photocopies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>PROVINCIAL FILES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence to confreres (24 original letters and notes)</td>
<td>1875-1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correspondence to confreres (18 original letters and notes)</td>
<td>1878-1879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Correspondence (photocopies)</td>
<td>1875-1878</td>
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