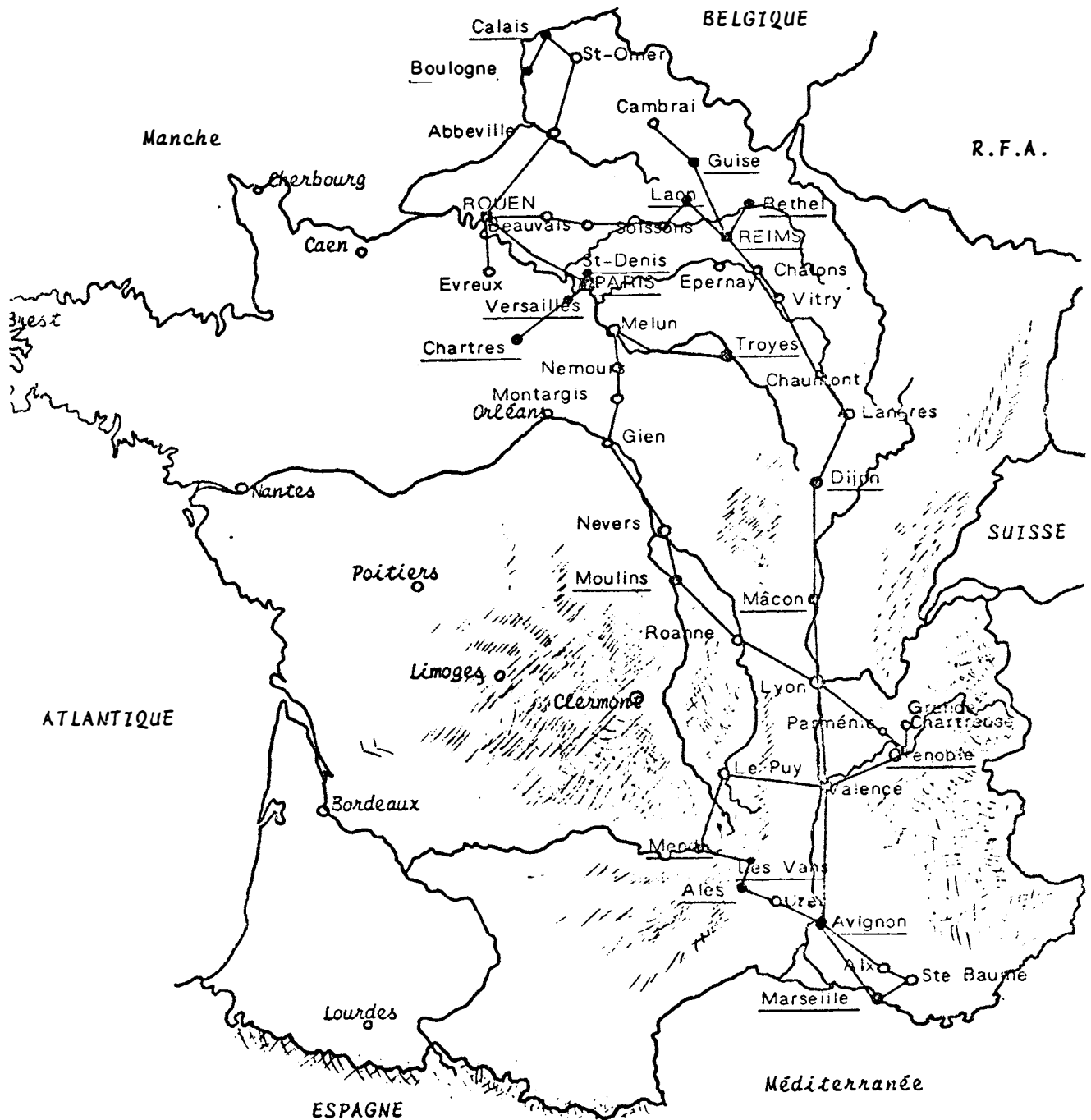




01-A-02

# ROADS TRAVELLED BY ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE JOURNEYS AND FOUNDATIONS



★ An aid to reading the life of St. John Baptist de La Salle.  
 ★ FOUNDATIONS: ● Stopping Places: ○  
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Contrary to popular opinion people travelled a lot in 17th Century. Despite strict controls frontiers were crossed. Journeymen still did the "Tour de France" to improve their professional skills. Traders went to Holland and Italy to find customers. News was brought by travellers. Newspapers had just begun but sound waves were still utterly silent.

Travellers used the mail coach. Transport of goods was organised by the towns, the universities, by coach and carriage companies. Each system had certain privileges. There was constant rivalry and prices varied widely. In Rheims it cost 25 sols a day to hire a horse.

Horses were changed at every posting house. Public coaches covered about 100 km. a day and charged about 15 livres for the journey. That was the equivalent of a month's salary for a schoolmaster. It was 10 times cheaper to hire a horse.

Between Paris and Rheims horses were changed 18 times; between Paris and Rouen there were only 14 changes but between Paris and Marseille there were no less than 93! Taking into account stops at hostelries, a schoolmaster wanting to travel from Rheims to Paris would have to sacrifice 3 months' salary if he went by coach or one month's salary if he went on horseback.

To avoid jolting, rich people went by "water coach." It was much more comfortable but very much dearer.

It is easy to understand why de La Salle and the early Brothers practically always travelled on foot.

