

In 1880 a law was passed in both Houses of France, by which all young clerics were obliged to serve in the army. This law was aimed to direct the young to the religious life by exposing the young applicants to the priesthood to the corruption of the barracks. There was a loophole for escape, however, in an article of the law provided that all Frenchmen out of Europe before the age of twenty would be dispensed from military service in that point. If they did a regular political statement or as residents, etc., on condition that their names would be forwarded to the French consulate in the nearest town and that they would appear before the French consular ones a