

My dear daughter in Jesus Christ

A few months ago when the Lord was trying the house of the Queen of Angels by frequent ailments of the mistresses, Mme Marcelline wrote me these fine words: "Mme Flore is wonderful in her devotedness; she makes up for everything." On my last journey, I was surprised to find Mme Flore had become thin and tired; that was the result of her wonderful devotedness. To avoid the consequences of that excessive fatigue, I charged you with taking care of your dear Sisters. The parents who have seen her recently have been struck by the state of Mme Flore. I am writing to you again, my dear daughter, to draw your attention to the health of that Lady. Be so kind as to tell me what precautions you have taken as a result of my recommendation; what the doctor said or prescribed. It seems to be that complete rest is indispensable for the state of Mme Flore. She will not be able I think, to deal with the young Ladies who will be in retreat, and she herself will not be able to follow that retreat, nor that of the Ladies.

Do me the pleasure, Madame, to give me, without delay, the news and a response to my letter.

Your Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 26th August 1858