

Madame Eleanore

Please, dear Lady, pass this letter on to its address. You will know that the interest I have in young Flore is founded on the dispositions with which our good God has endowed her soul. There is something great and there is something weak that shows itself in these sorts of subjects; in Flore, it is an inclination towards affection. God entirely deserves that sentiment. Try prudently to lead up to him the raptures this heart is called upon to produce.

It is necessary that she writes to me by herself and freely.

The same thing must be allowed to the other three, as I wrote to you.

Tell Constance, as coming from you, that it is the proper thing for her to write to me to thank me for the 50 francs I sent her to get herself some clothes, etc. Enter a little into her confidences in order to get to know her and be useful to her.

If they were to give my protégés occupations other than those their education demands, you will prudently inform me.

I am relying, dear daughter in Our Lord, on your experience and docility in carrying out my instructions which you know are in accordance with the designs of our good Master Jesus Christ, whose very humble and devoted though very useless servant you know me to be.

Your spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

4th October 1861