

My dear Child

I am not at all surprised that you slip into faults; I do not consider you as a perfect child, but as one having good dispositions to tend towards and reach perfection, with the help of the grace of God. The experience you are getting of your faults, will prove to you that you have to fight against disorderly inclinations; but you will have the consolation of seeing, that by fighting, you will obtain encouragement, the proof that success will crown your efforts, and that in the long run, your faults will give place to worthy qualities, to virtues opposed to them.

Strive above all to acquire humility. It is the foundation of all Christian perfection. Become meek and charitable in all your behavior. Watch over your heart, so as to prevent it from lingering with creatures. That is absolutely necessary for every person who is thinking of the religious state.

That, my dear daughter, is what your devoted Protector thinks he ought to tell you

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 23rd June 1862