

L.S.J.M.J.
(Dictated Letter)

16-9

My dear daughter in Jesus Christ

Your letter gave me the greatest pleasure. The generous sentiments with which you wish to give yourself to God, give me the well-founded hope that you will not recoil in the face of any difficulty. However, we must always mistrust ourselves. It is on mercy of the Lord that we must count in regard to perseverance. Beware of having too much confidence in the present dispositions of your heart. We are all alas! so fickle. Remember the very generous declarations Peter made to his divine Master, and the weakness he showed at the voice of a mere woman. Did he not go so far as to deny his Master?

(In the Founder's hand)

You know my devotedness
Canon Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 27th February 1864