

Praise be J.M.J.

17-20

Reverend Mother Clothilde

I agree with you, and Mlle Alexandrine will return to your convent after her clothing, if it is the pleasure of the good God. That is how I answer your incorrect phrase, 'would these be of inconvenience?' It should be, would these be of any inconvenience? Since I have begun, I will go on and add that instead of: 'I had to promise them she would return before they are consoled,' you should have said: to console them.

I permit the Rev. Lady Vicar to come and give you her help as you ask me to do. I have written to tell her.

May God be blessed! Yes, Mme Bathilde is quite different and I like to persuade myself that this happy transformation, being the work of grace, will be lasting. I specially recommend that Child, of whom I am very fond, to our good and powerful Mother Mary. Join with me and we shall obtain perseverance. Write to our Mother Superior about it.

I hope to send you a Missal and some altar cards before long.

I strongly recommend you to take pains with your writing which is neither in the English style nor in the cursive; it is a new kind of slanting round hand; but I doubt whether it will be honored by being adopted as a model. You know I am permitted to act somewhat inconsistently with my recommendations, in this matter. You must do as I say, and not as I do.

Good-bye, my dear daughter in Jesus Christ; give my compliments to all your dear Sisters and count on the devotedness of

Your spiritual Father
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 20th September 1838