

Madame Superior Clothilde

I am delighted to learn that all your dear Sisters vie with each other to give you subjects for satisfaction. I am counting on having the pleasure, in the month of May or even a little sooner, of expressing by word of mouth how happy I am to learn of all the good you tell me about. I do not have the leisure to answer the letters you sent me; I beg you to assure the Ladies and novices who wrote to me, that I am very pleased with their sentiments and the manner in which they expressed them to me. We shall see each other before long as I (word obliterated by the seal) to tell you.

I have read your remarks about Alost and Brussels, both those you sent me, and those you addressed to Mme Superior General. There seemed to be nothing in them to warrant modifying the decision taken during your stay at Ghent. Our plan for Alost will be carried out, and we shall continue following the designs God may manifest to us for Brussels; we will keep our minds and wills in the dispositions required to enable us to follow, with docility, the ever adorable designs of divine providence. That, believe me, my dear child, is the only thing important to you. What use would it be to us to do many and great things, if God does not approve of them, or if he is asking us to do something more modest?

I am always sincerely your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 14th April 1841

I thank you for the news you sent me of the kindness of Fr. Thyphons, etc. The health of Mme Kokaert gives me cause for