

Praise be J.M.J.

17-43

The good dispositions in which grace has put you, very dear Sister, are a real subject for joy for me. I bless the Lord for the attentions full of love he deigns to have for you, and urge you to correspond generously with the designs of your divine Spouse. May you triumph over the weaknesses resulting from original sin, with the help of that good Mother who, through an unique privilege, did not share in the sin of Adam. I entreat Mary to let us feel the effects of her goodness towards us, today when we celebrate her immaculate conception.

You gave me very real pleasure, my dear child, by giving me good news of your Rev. Mother. You know that I appreciate the grace God grants your convent through the ministry of your superior whom he favors with exceptional gifts. Continue praying with me to preserve for a long time that means of salvation we owe to his mercy. Please, however, without pettiness, have my desires as regards the precautions to be taken carried out. I expressly charge you with this task.

You may now and then send me a copy, or rather an installment, of the work you wrote to me about.

Receive, my dear Child, the blessing given to you with a good heart by

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

8th December 1836

My health is good and I completely got rid of my dental trouble. I have at last managed to get for my friend D. Minne (the rest of the line is obliterated by the paper fold)