

Madame Superior

Although you have felt some natural opposition to carrying out the orders of divine Providence, the Lord will nonetheless bless your humble efforts in the new post to which his hand has led you. You will find the grace and all the means necessary to fulfill your duties, and attain the objective of your mission, every time you follow the voice of holy obedience. To the ordinary motives of working with zeal, you now have this one of adding to the good reputation of your Rev. Mother General, by accomplishing all she led them to hope of you at Brussels. So, whatever nature says, set yourself generously to the work, and success will crown your efforts; be an angel to the Convent of the Angels, and let your Queen find in you that docility that is the distinguishing characteristic of the heavenly spirits. On these conditions, I promise you unflinching happiness and prosperity.

I want it to be for sleeping that people go to bed at your place, and if to achieve that end, another dormitory is needed, tell me where you will find one. If you count on exchanging the two places next to the chapel for the two where your dormitory is, the expense would not be great; I would agree to that arrangement; you will not even have to write to me anymore about it; I will leave it to you with complete confidence.

I repeat my recommendation to you to take pains with your writing. Many words which are not written in full show signs of speed resembling haste. May Jesus deign to send you the favors of the Holy Spirit so that you may become more and more pleasing to his divine heart that is always burning with zeal for the salvation of mankind. And you, my dear daughter, pray for me during these days of grace. The good you will obtain for me will be reflected on you and all your pious and very dear family.

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 1st June 1840

I shall pass through Malines the day after to-morrow, without stopping there, on my way to Tirlemont where our Josephites are going to begin preparations for the (illegible) the establishment.