

L.S.J.M.J.

18-11

It is indeed a long time since I wrote to you, my very dear daughter in Jesus Christ. The causes of this are numerous, but none of them tells against you.

You give me great pleasure by doing what depends on you, always to appear good humored. You please you divine Spouse by that attitude of mind and heart, and you give your pupils one of the most useful examples that a Mistress can give. You know that towards your sisters you are practicing a virtue, support of one another, by trying to make recreation pleasant. It is such a precious thing to help each other to make the yoke of the Lord sweet and to prove that Jesus Christ spoke the truth when he uttered that saying to us.

I always make it a sweet duty, my dear child, to commend you to the Lord. From your earliest childhood you have received multiply proofs of the goodness of God in your regard, that it must be easier for you than for others to arouse in yourself a lively gratitude and to form yourself with zeal in what you need in order to make our Creator known and loved by your pupils. However, do everything in moderation; no excesses; no bitterness even against yourself; but always meekness, confidence and love of Jesus in your heart and on your tongue. Amen. Isn't that right?

Your very devoted Father in Our Lord
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 21st January 1850