

My dear daughter in Jesus Christ

Here is a letter I had written for Mme Emérence and that for reasons that no longer exist I had kept back. I am sending it to you because it contains some useful information. I am also adding to it another letter that will be useful to you for directing Mme Apolline.

I congratulate you, my dear child, on the post of responsibility that the Lord has given you. You will work with zeal at forming those elite subjects that Jesus deigns to choose from among thousands to occupy a distinguished place in his heart. Study at the feet of your divine Spouse, the very noble science of supernatural love. Read and reread the rule of the mistress of novices, in order to enlighten yourself and make the fulfillment of your duties in every circumstance easy for you. The little book that Maria will deliver to you will be useful for forming the novices for the direction of your pupils.

I give you my blessing and I promise you to pray for you.

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 1st October 1858

Here are two saying you can apply to yourself and quote to the novices:

When the Mother shows the way,
it is easy for the child to follow the silver path
When someone leads it is easy to follow.