

(Beginning of letter missing) ...

If Clara repeats the performance, I will act in the interests of the family. The discouragement of the governess could produce deplorable effects. (The next sentence is completely crossed out)

You understand that all this is entirely confidential and that Mme superior General is the only person to whom I allow you to divulge any of it.

Please thank my good cousin Gabrielle for the letter she has written to me. I am very pleased with the sentiments she expresses; her style pleases me and everything proclaims that her letters will procure satisfaction, as her behavior has not ceased to do.

I would also like to write to my cousin Victorine now; the report that her uncle made known to me, furnishes proofs that for two months she has been making efforts and applying herself and that she at last understands that she has to persevere in doing violence to herself.

I have just received a letter from Sr. Gertrude from Mouscron. She is complaining greatly about the Mme Superior, towards her Sisters and towards the work people. She says they are talking about this last point a great deal in the district. I cannot remedy this evil, if it really exists. Please ask Mme Superior General to see whether she can do anything about it, without compromising anyone.

Present my regards to Mme Flore and tell her that I am longing to see her and talk with her about the matter of the approbation of our Constitutions and Rules.

Receive, Madame Superior, the blessing of

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrughe

Ghent, 8th November 1861