

Madame Superior

I thank you very cordially for the good wishes as well as the sentiments that you manifested towards me in your last letter. I know the sincerity of your heart and appreciate what you write.

You will, please, make Mlle Flore understand that one must take pains with one's writing when one writes letters, that one does not use abbreviations, vs, ns, etc., for "vous, nous" in writing of this sort. But do not let the young lady know that these remarks come from me. I am sending you the envelope that the letter of Flore was in when you sent it to me. You will see that it was opened in the post. I took the letter out of the envelope without opening the envelope. You can see that. The letter had already been taken out from the side and put back in the same way. They must have thought, I suppose, that the reports were financial documents.

Receive, my dear daughter in Jesus Christ, with my good wishes for a happy Easter, my blessing and the assurance of my sincere devotedness,

Your Father in Our Lord

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 4th April 1863