

L.S.J.M.J.
(Dictated letter)

18-157

Madame Superior

Here are a few notes you will be kind enough to pass on to their respective addresses. I do not know whether the Ladies of Mary are taking advantage of the good opportunities that present themselves for distributing their prospectus. I know that at Grammont a Lady was unable to obtain the prospectus for Alost where she wanted to place her daughter. This matter deserves to attract the attention of the Superior General.

Where is the new recreation hall on which they have been working for a few months? Are you hoping that that building will answer the needs of your house? And will they now find an office for the use of the Superior? Do you think that at the end of May or in the first fortnight of June it will be far enough advanced for me to be able to judge all these alterations? If our good God lets me come to Coloma again about that time?

Please, Madame Superior, give me your opinion of Mlle d'Halluin. Have her good qualities developed as we had hoped they would on her arrival at your boarding school?

I would be very pleased to learn of the recovery of the lay sisters who were unwell a fortnight ago. Will the lay postulant adapt herself to the tiring work of her new state? I have learned with great satisfaction that the novice (name left blank) has had the happiness of pronouncing her vows. I thank God for it and beg you, Madame, to be my interpreter for your new sister by making know to her the keen satisfaction I experienced on learning of the favor she has just obtained from divine goodness.

Please also thank my niece Térèsa for the letter she has just written to me. I found in it the same sentiments of thoughtfulness and gratitude that I have always noticed in dealings with that young relative.

(In the Founder's hand)

Your very devoted Father in Jesus Christ
C. G. Van Crombrughe

Ghent, 16th October 1863