

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

18-158

Madame Superior

I read your last letter with keen interest. I am very pleased first of all to know that you are restored to health, and then that the building works are nearly finished and the inseparable difficulties and those additional occupations are gradually going to be taken from you to let you get on with your ordinary duties.

I am very pleased to learn that all the young Ladies in whom I have a special interest, are giving you satisfaction. Please tell them so when you have the opportunity.

(In the Founder's hand)

As for your personal dispositions, my dear daughter in Jesus Christ be without anxiety. Our good God tries us in various ways. Be generous; do not stop at little things. Go on nobly in accordance with faith and in accordance with reason. Fulfill your duties without troubling too much about judgments or signs of approval. I am of your opinion as regards what should be avoided in the project of the convent for Alost. I will speak in that vein. May the Lord enlighten us and make us prudent!

I do not know if I have answered Mme Angelique. Please tell her that if her visit to Ghent did her good, she has been a subject of true consolation for me. I had nothing on my conscience against that Lady. She can be sure of that. So we are on terms of mutual confidence as we were at the time of that letter, I sent her in the past and that the rain had unsealed. She will understand that. My eyes trouble me very much when I write.

Receive, dear daughter in Jesus Christ, the blessing of

Your Father in Our Lord Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 14th May 1863

Please tell Mlle d'Halluin that you alone and Mme Superior General are aware that I am praying for her. That detail concerns us alone in the Institute.

Since you are pleased with my nieces, tell them that I am so happy to be able to ask you to bear witness to them of my satisfaction.