

Attached to the back of 6-319

6-320

Please, tell Mme Emerence that among the various impulses affecting her soul, I clearly recognize submission of the will, and that, in spite of the tendency of a nature that wants to rebel, I find what I want to have in her. Grace will undoubtedly triumph over human weaknesses. Let faith be the guide for our new Superior and it will lead her along the most difficult paths to the goal that the good and generous Master we have in common wishes to indicate to her by our decision. We also have a duty to aid her by our prayers, our advice and our orders.

I accept with all my heart the good wishes you and your dear Children have addressed to me. I find them very pleasing; I know the source from which they come. That source is very dear to me; it is an affection formed and preserved by grace. I will pray with zeal for all of you, and I will have the chance to do so during these beautiful and very opportune feast days. Receive my blessing in advance; I give it to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, through the sacred hands of Mary and Joseph

I am for ever your very devoted Father,
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 8th January 1844