Very dear Parents

The details that you gave about the business Sophie V.C. were very pleasant. I am very happy that she can spend a few more months in such good company.

Mr. Praces would have liked to render you the service that you hoped for, but he does not know enough German to decipher writings where the rules of the language have been disregarded. Please, therefore, excuse him and to receive our regrets that we cannot be of use to you in this matter. As for your letters, he will translate them gladly into German any time that you require.

My Father will be, maybe, astonished by the obvious casualness with which I am answering him about the marble; this is not casualness, but rather my burden of work is the reason of my delay in giving him the information that he wants.

You could, dear Mother, come to Alost with my Aunt De Scheppere whom I know to be still in to Grammont. Charlotte could deal with her business and my Aunt the Beguine could also come with you. You could make the journey in one day in this season, and thus your absence would not be felt. Try to arrange it and as many of you come as possible.

Farewell, dear Parents, please present my respects to my Aunt De Scheppere and believe me Your most devoted son Alost, 26^{th} June 1818 $C\ G\ Van\ Crombrugghe$

