

2<sup>nd</sup> June 1807

To Mr G Van Crombrugghe, Brewer in Grammont, Dept of the Escaut.  
Mondidier, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1807

Very dear Father and Mother,

I am writing to you again to send you last month's report; I hope that it will meet your expectations. If not, please write about it to me. I wrote to you this morning by the hand of Mr Turpin who came to place his son here the School, and he said to me that his sister intended making a journey to Flanders. I wrote in my letter, very dear Parents, how astonished I am not to have received any of your news; I really cannot guess the reason. Perhaps you are saying "nihil est mihi, quod scribam"<sup>1</sup>, dear father, but I say "hoc scribe te nihil habere quod scribas."<sup>2</sup> Besides you would still be able to tell me the state of your health, and whatever news could interest me. François is well and is beginning to have a more taste for study. He aims sometimes for the ribbon in his class and has even already won it, which encouraged him. He is very happy that the holidays are coming because he greatly wants to see you; he embraces you as well as our brother and our dear sisters.

Farewell, very dear Parents, please be the bearer of my good wishes to my brother Jean and my sisters, and to my Aunt Huleu. I ask you to remember me in your prayers; I have much need of it, and don't think that it is out of humility that I speak thus; it is, as one says in Flemish, "regt uyt gespròoken"<sup>3</sup>.

Your very submissive son

*C Van Crombrugghe*



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<sup>1</sup> I have nothing to tell you.

<sup>2</sup> You don't need a reason to write.

<sup>3</sup> Truly spoken.