

2nd June 1807

To Mr G Van Crombrugghe, Grammont, Dept of the Escaut.
Mondidier, 2nd June 1807

Very dear Father and Mother

I am taking advantage of Miss Langevin's visit to tell you in a few words, (because I am short of time), how much I am astonished, and François no less, that that we haven't received even any news on your part concerning the business of Jean; however, dear Parents, put yourselves for one moment in our position and I will let you judge for yourselves that it has indeed been too long a time since you wrote to us; perhaps you will tell me, very dear Parents, that it is time that you lack? I accept that, but I believe you will also agree with me that you have at least the time to write to us every month? Please realise that I haven't received more than four letters from you since the last holidays. Please, I pray you, write to us as soon as possible; a few lines, a few words will be sufficient! Perhaps you would also tell me, very dear Parents, that I haven't written to you as often as you told me to. This is because, very dear Parents, of the very little time that I have left after my classes. But that is enough on this matter; you will believe that I was in a bad mood at the moment that I wrote to you. No, not at all, dear Parents, but it is because François' worry is increasing again that makes me speak this way. I have to finish now; I would have many more things to tell you but I only have a half-hour and I have four lessons to learn and I don't know if I will know them.

Farewell, very dear Parents, I recommend myself to your prayers because I have real need of them.

Your very loving and submissive son

C. Van Crombrugghe

François asks me to give you his good wishes as well as to our dear brother and our loveable sisters.

