To Mr G Van Crombrugghe, in Grammont, Dept of the Escaut Montdidier, 11th June 1808

Very dear Father and Mother

I have just this minute received your letter bearing good and sad news. To please you, I will leave to another time all that I have to tell you, in order to have the time to answer you on only one matter. Sister Julie, whom you mention, is not at all attached to this house, as her institute especially looks after the poor. I am delighted to see my wishes accomplished so well. Mrs Beaumont's house is the best that I know for young girls. As for your asking me if I will have time to see you in Amiens, it is for you to decide; for myself I will always have the time to enjoy seeing you. There is only one slight problem; Verhaeghe would want also to see you and I do not know if it will be possible for him to come with us to Amiens. But whatever your decision, please write to me, not the day that you leave Grammont, but the day when you intend to leave Gent, and we will sort things out from there. Farewell, dear Parents, time is on the wing and I am obliged to be brief, so I ask you to give my good wishes to all the family. Forgive my scrawl.

Your devoted son *C Van Crombrugghe*

