

18th October 1810

Mr G Van Crombrugghe, Brewer in Grammont

My very dear Father and Mother

The basket arrived safely, if it were not for the fact that my bathrobe was missing I would now have everything back that I had taken on holiday. I see with great pleasure that you are beginning to get help from my two good sisters. However I am not particularly astonished as they are much too well born and carefully brought up not to feel justice and the happiness of helping the authors of their days, and repaying, if it were possible, by care, attention and the most tender love, all the concerns that they caused.

I am sending you Sister Beaudemont's account; I always forget to send them to you. I do not have the time right now to write to my dear sisters, but I will take the liberty of asking you to pass on my messages. Please say to Charlotte that there is nothing better for her to read than the epistolary art about which she spoke to me; from it she will learn conversation and style, two things of an utility and of a necessity that surpass everything that one might say; when she will have familiarised herself well with this little work I will tell her what she must do to give a final polish to her style. In the meantime I exhort her not to spend a day without some reading; what I say to Charlotte, I also say to Rosalie and more strongly to François.

All the family is well here; I intend to see many of them today. Accept my respects for you all, and please believe that I always call myself with renewed pleasure

Your very humble and very devoted son

Gent, 18th October 1810

C Van Crombrugghe

