

6<sup>th</sup> November 1812 (date indicated later by a confrère)

To Mr Van Crombrughe, Brewer, Grammont, Escaut

My very dear Father and Mother

You are probably waiting for my news, I would like to be able to give to you but I will not be able to it for some days. I am very grateful for the interest that you take in my affairs and I see clearly that it is the great love that you have for me that makes you want to see me assigned to your part of the world. I am not against the idea but I will let Providence decide; it is the only way to be calm about the future, and to work fruitfully in the vineyard of the Lord. I ask you therefore to curb your desires for fear that if the matter doesn't proceed according to those desires you will have much pain in submitting yourselves to the will of my Superiors. Do not believe, though, that it is certain that I will go elsewhere; on the contrary there is more probability for Grammont than for any other place. I think that Parish Priest is not unfavourable to your wishes, but he fears that he would not get me if he asked for me. I think the opposite, but I would not want him to do anything in my favour, it would give me no pleasure and therefore I ask for no-one's intervention. I want solely that God's will be done, and not men's will if it is contrary. Farewell, very dear Parents, please pass on what I have told you to my Aunt Huleu and believe me to be very respectfully

Your very humble and very devoted son

*C Van Crombrughe*

Priest

PS: I think that in fifteen days I will know my destination, unless some Parish Priest asks for me and gets me before that time.

