
..... [p1]

18 Rue Jerusalem Street

Dear Father Gezelle.

I write to you simply because I find it the easiest way to convey my sentiments. I will be as concise as I can. When I was tempted to leave the Church by doubts, bewildered by controversy & sleepless nights as S^t Peter so did I pray! "Lord doth it not concern thee that I perish" send me help! and at last that light that illuminates the spiritual darkness was sent me from Heaven through you! Every doubt vanished a calm came & has remained. It is now four years yet still my heart has been grovelling towards Earth! It is my own fault I am so imperfect & restless spirit

..... [p2]

and an over active mind but what consolation that my heavenly Father knows all my "works" & difficulties and the secret spring whence flow those "works" & desires to serve Him & the hidden motives by which they are prompted bowed down with the cares & bereavements of life there is nothing for it but to look forward with hope steadily to that inheritance promised in a brighter World to those who shall overcome & I know that the mercies of God infinitely surpass all the miseries of life but self love is so insidious we are ever apt to make more of the miseries than the blessings, the latter which are sent to support us, as it is the dispensation of Providence to chequer affliction

..... [p3]

with intervals of pleasure were it otherwise the tide of troubles would over come us, the cup is wisely mixed therefore I accept it from the consciousness of our miserable condition nor "seek fruition here but humbly wait that blessed reversion in a future state" I feel as it were stranded on the shore of the great stream of human life & that all around me were intent upon some object and I alone nothing to do! — to me the World has become an empty void tired with its hollowness, and deception. I long to live more for my Saviour & withdraw further from the distractions of the World. I shall find a kindred Spirit in our friend who is coming here and I

..... [p4]

think in the meantime we might go on quietly together under your direction and the rules you give for our guidance I know no other who would act under the same at present unless M^{rs} Fitzgerald it is doubtful, but you could sound her from sad disappointment in past friendships & trusting too implicitly I shrink as it were from trusting too much & thus I fear my fault is now a want of charity I am so soured Poor M^{rs} [Perkins] has been overwhelmed with mental & physical suffering & her health is deranged she is consumptive and unfit, for a situation she requires my care. I hope to get some needle work as I never do see (so far even as I am concerned) where the means are to come

..... [p5]

from my income varies so much but I go on trusting blindly in the God who is the Husband of the Widow consoling thought! should I live to possess my own small fortune then I hope to do something for the glory of God if ever on so small a scale a Home for wandering Widows! & a Converts refuge! — do you think through your influence you could get sufficient to furnish a bed room for M^{rs} Perkins so that she could join me? I have already given away more than would have done this the last year. unfortunately I cannot help my self at present & fear I have been almost improvident in giving however I have always felt God would provide for self as He has ever done

..... [p6]

If we were once afloat I think we would not sink as we are both blest with energy

Now I hope you will pardon me for trespassing on your time &

Believe me to remain your grateful child in Christ

Cecilia S Galbraith

Wednesday noon

Briefbeschrijving

Verzender	De Lisle, Cecilia Sarah
Ontvanger	[Gezelle, Guido]
Verzendingsdatum	xx/xx/[1870]
Verzendingsplaats	Brugge (Brugge)
Annotatie	Jaartal gereconstrueerd op basis van contextuele gegevens ; adressaat gereconstrueerd op basis van de aanhef.
Annotatie	Jaartal gereconstrueerd op basis van contextuele gegevens ; adressaat gereconstrueerd op basis van de aanhef.
Gepubliceerd in	De briefwisseling van Guido Gezelle met de Engelsen 1854-1899 / door B. De Leeuw, P. De Wilde, K. Verbeke, (o.l.v.) A. Deprez. - Gent : Koninklijke Academie voor Nederlandse Taal- en Letterkunde, 1991, dl.II, p.104-106

Documentbeschrijving

Fysieke bijzonderheden

Drager	1 enkel vel; 1 dubbel vel, 210 mm x 130 mm papier, wit, vierkant geruit papiersoort: 6 zijden beschreven, inkt
Staat	volledig

Bewaargegevens

Land	België
Plaats	Brugge
Bewaarplaats	Guido Gezellearchief
ID Gezellearchief	7242
Bibliotheekrecord	https://anet.be/desktop/gga/nl/opacgga/nr=tg:gga_6.13617

Inhoud

Incipit	I write to you simply because I find
Tekstsoort	brief
Talen	Engels

Gevolgde codeerpraktijk

De tekst werd diplomatisch getranscribeerd, en aangevuld met een editoriale laag.

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Colofon

Titel	xx/xx/[1870], Brugge, Cecilia Sarah De Lisle (= Cecilia Sarah Galbraith) aan [Guido Gezelle]
Editeur	Koen Calis; Universiteit Antwerpen
Wetenschappelijke leiding	Els Depuydt
Partners	Openbare Bibliotheek Brugge (Guido Gezellearchief); Centrum voor Teksteditie en Bronnenstudie (Koninklijke Academie voor Nederlandse Taal en Letteren); Instituut voor de Studie van de Letterkunde in de Lage Landen (ISLN) (Piet Couettenier, Universiteit Antwerpen); Guido Gezellegenootschap
Uitgever	Guido Gezellearchief, KANTL/CTB
Plaats van uitgave	Brugge, Gent
Publicatiedatum	2023
Beschikbaarheid	Teksten en afbeeldingen beschikbaar onder een Creative Commons Naamsvermelding - Niet Commercieel licentie.

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Citeren	Een brief kan worden geciteerd als: [Naam van editeur(s)], [brieffschrijver aan briefontvanger, plaats, datum]. In: GezelleBrOn, Wetenschappelijke editie van de correspondentie van Guido Gezelle. [publicatiedatum] Available from World Wide Web: [link]
