

..... [p1]

39. Montpellier Road Brighton

May 9th 1865

My own dear Spiritual Friend

I was delighted to receive your kind letter, I have not forgotten you, I have often thought you had me when you were in London for the Bazaar¹ at the Convent Blandford Square² I wrote to you at your lodging's & from that time I never received a line from you, I have so often said to Agnes I wonder Mary Anne has never written me a line since I wrote to her, I have felt a little hurt, but since I have got your [dear] letter I feel you are still my sincere kind, good spiritual Friend, I love just the same as ever, & ever shall[.] I must now answer your letter it will be no use for me to send this to Ostend, because you say you leave on Wednesday by the train at 5 in the morning I only got [your] letter this morning Tuesday

..... [p2]

the 9 Inst³ so I must send this to you at Cortenberg. Now I must speak on a matter you mention in your letter that has caused me much pain, to think [dear] good M^r Gezelle should feel hurt, I did not know Edmund had not written to him for 2 years⁴ he has spoke[n] of him to me when writing, upon this I can give no explanation about this silence. With regard to myself – I received a letter from my [dear] Father & Friend M^r Gezelle in A[u]gust 1864 he directed it to Portsea where he thought I was, but I had left. So it was sent to me, I think the day I received it,

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- 1 Voor het inzamelen van financiële middelen voor het klooster.
- 2 In dit klooster verbleef de zuster van Mary Anne Macdaniel; Mother Mary Catherine Macdaniel (Londen, 1815 - Marylebone, Londen 1876). Zij werd Sister of Mercy in 1842 en directrice van 'The House of Mercy'. Verdere link met het klooster: het adres van Mary Anne Macdaniel was in mei 1865, volgens "The Tablet" 9 Dorchester Place, Blandford Square, London, N.W.. Op ditzelfde adres staat in 1858 ook Edmund Stonor (1831-1912) geregistreerd. Hij was "chaplain" en spiritueel directeur van het St. Edward's Convent of our Lady of Mercy op Blandford Square. Of Stonor in 1865 nog in 9 Dorchester Place woonde, konden we niet achterhalen.
- 3 "Inst" wordt in het Engels gebruikt met een datum om de huidige maand aan te geven.
- 4 De laatste ons bekende [brief die Edmund Hicks aan Gezelle schreef dateert van 8 december 1862](#) en werd uit Rome verzonden. Uit een [brief van Gezelle aan Van Oye van 24 januari 1864](#) blijkt dat Hicks sedertdien stilaan vervreemde van Gezelle (A. Deprez e.a., De briefwisseling met de Engelsen 1854-1899. Gent: Koninklijke Academie voor Taal- en Letterkunde, 1991, III, p. 164).

I answered it.⁵ I have suffered much anxiety about that letter, & if my [*dear*] Father has not received it I do not know what to think, it was quite private to him & him only it would not do for it to have fallen into other hands than his, I cannot think what I shall do, I have not been able to understand why he never wrote

..... [p3].....

to me in answer, Oh! Mary Anne I could never forget him, I pray daily for him after Holy Communion & for the good Lady he asked me to pray for & he said when he wrote he would ask her to pray for me, and so you have chosen him for your Confessor⁶ now I envy you & how unhappy I feel, to think he thinks I have been negligent Write & tell me what I had better do. My health is bad at present & the [*Doctor*] says Brighton is not the place for me just now, so I may have to leave but it is quite unsettled at present So write to me here my own [*dear*] Mary Anne. My [*dear*] Edmund was ordained Priest on the 4th of March with 4 others. I am now daily expecting a letter to say he is leaving for England The Cardinal's death⁷ makes no difference to him. Agnes I am sorry to say is in bad health You cannot think how changed she is, she will never marry

..... [p4].....

She desires her very kind love to you. I shall hope to see you in July, I may be near London at least I am almost sure to be there because my sister M^{rs} Leigh will be professed in July at the Good Shepherds. I think the 18th of July is the day fixed. I believe your [*Reverend*] friend⁸ is quite well, & M^r Beadon also. I am sorry I cannot look at the Tablet, I never see it- Your book⁹ is sure to sell well it is so much liked. I am sorry I did not know your wish about where to send to get it, I had to get one from London a few days since for a Lady. I am using¹⁰ it this May, it makes me often think of you it is most beautiful. -

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5 Zie [brief van Fanny George aan Guido Gezelle van 01/09/1864](#).

6 Sic: Confessor

7 Wiseman stierf op 15 februari 1865.

8 Mogelijk Thomas Grant.

9 Mary Anne Macdaniel vertaalde religieuze werken uit het Engels om in haar onderhoud te voorzien, soms in opdracht van de Belgische bisschoppen. In "The Tablet" van 6 mei 1865 staat deze korte aankondiging op p.288: "The month of Mary for Interior Souls. Translated from the French, with the Sanction of the late Cardinal Wiseman and other Bishops, by M.A. Macdaniel. Price 2s. Paper; 2s. 6d. fine cloth. Richardson and Son, London, Dublin, and Derby. The work may be had direct from Miss Macdaniel, 9 Dorchester Place, Blandford Square, London, N.W., or from her Agent, Mrs. C. Baker, Lancaster; and is forwarded free by Miss Macdaniel to any part of the United Kingdom upon receipt of the price of the Book in postage stamps." Er verscheen een uitvoerige

I hope by this time your dear aunt is much better¹¹ You must give her my affectionate love, & Agnes also I am delighted the change has done you so much good. I finish this letter May the 10th I am so anxious for you to receive it. So finish it in haste – do answer it soon thanks for the stamp how kind to send it so like

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my own dear Polly¹² Do pray for me often. I do not forget you. I am a poor unhappy Child with no Confessor I go to the Lower Church & the 3 Priest never stays any time it is so sad it makes me feel so unhappy, I much need a father & friend

God Bless you with fondest & much sincere love

believe me ever your affectionate old Spiritual friend

Fanny

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lovende bespreking op p.282 van hetzelfde nummer. Hieruit blijkt dat er al negen edities verschenen in het Frans en dat het boek in hoog aanzien stond in Frankrijk en België. O.m. bisschop Faict van België gaf al zijn goedkeuring voor de tweede editie. Verder: "Miss Macdaniel has done her best; without pretending to be a schoolmistress or great linguist, (...) One Bishop expressed himself thus: (...) Your version appears to me well expressed, and I hope it will be wideley circulated. Though composed for the Month of Mary, its exercises are suited for all seasons of the year".

10 Sic: using.

11 Mary Beck verbleef in een psychiatrische instelling te Kortenberg.

12 Mary Anne

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Colophon

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